

POSTGRADUATE PERSONAL STATEMENT EXAMPLE

MANAGEMENT

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Personal Statement Example: Management

My interest in studying Management was sparked when I worked as an intern at the Slater Investment Corporation. Seeing how the Integrated Strategies Group worked with the Real Estate team to trade a live deal and how global offices collaborate across a large multinational company, I realised the importance of effective management within an organisation. Given the ever-changing nature of globalisation, particularly in the context of unpredictable market conditions, learning how to establish profitable and motivational management mechanisms within a corporation is a concept I find compelling. Consequently, I aim to develop a career as a portfolio manager in an investment management company, and I am confident that this MSc is a critical next step in my professional development.

Marshall's educational philosophy, which holds that theory and application go hand in hand, particularly resonates with me, and as a research-oriented university, Marshall is at the centre of both quantitative and qualitative innovations in management. The complexity of management makes it both unpredictable and alluring, and I am particularly interested in studying the Business Research module. I am eager to investigate business issues by conducting academic research, reading and developing case studies and designing and elaborating new business plans. Gaining knowledge and experience in research design, business plan design, data collection, data analysis, synthesis and reporting will allow me to understand how managers develop and manage corporates. Equally, by studying Decision and Risk Analysis, I will learn how to make business decisions rationally, communicate reasoning structures to meet competitive challenges and make presentations that illustrate evidence of thorough analysis. Importantly, I will also strengthen my practical skills by applying financial ideas and principles in the context of work-based scenarios when using the knowledge gained from the Financial Frameworks course. I aim to utilise my graduate studies to develop my capacity to critically analyse and evaluate the theoretical underpinnings and the outcomes of practical applications. I find Professor Jackson's research into Strategic Performance Management and Coaching particularly interesting and hope to discuss with her how to reform, innovate and create greater corporate profits using management and coaching methods.

I have built a solid economic and financial knowledge foundation as an undergraduate. To develop the knowledge gained during my internship at Slater, I studied the Advanced Corporate Finance module in my final year. This course provided a theoretical and empirical perspective on some of the core decision-making issues in corporate finance, including raising capital, capital structure decisions and the 'agency problem' effects of conflict which can be understood by different types of stakeholders within an enterprise. Teamwork was an essential aspect of the course, and I took the initiative to become a group leader. Through active communication and group meetings, I distributed the workload of each group member according to their relevant skills and experience, maximising our strengths. We also created a detailed weekly schedule to avoid any delays in progression, significantly improving our ability to collaborate and manage our strategy. Consequently, I gained a deeper understanding of using financial instruments and models and learned how to analyse company statements and data whilst improving my collaboration and communication skills. Although my undergraduate studies have prepared me well for the discipline of Corporate Finance, which is a core module in this master's programme, the teaching and learning approach was more analytical than mathematical, with the intuition behind theoretical concepts emphasised throughout. Consequently, I intend to join the Finance Pathway of this MSc and gain experience in applying quantitative methodologies, such as real options analysis, to manage and develop companies.

Understanding that to become a professional portfolio manager, I need practical experience as well as academic theory, I undertook several additional internships during my undergraduate degree, enhancing my skill set and developing my professional potential. During my internship at Slater, I worked with teams in the London, Singapore and New York offices on three live deals. One of these involved DEXOPHARM, a leading international platform for well-established branded medicines which received growth capital of €550 Million from Slater and another leading global investor in October. My responsibilities included using CapitalIQ to extract financial information, using SOTP to make valuations, understanding the reasons behind the evolution of historical capital versus investment expected and contributing to the trading team's decision to maintain or exit the investment. This internship helped me understand the factors that large investment institutions consider during the investment process and how different groups work together before making an investment decision. These are valuable contextual insights relevant to my master's degree and subsequent career.

Serving as the Head of the Secretarial Department of the Students and Scholars Association whilst an undergraduate allowed me to collaborate with peers, enhance my ability to cope well under pressure and develop my management skills. Leading a group of 13 students, my current responsibilities include planning for the staffing at regular events, arranging different tasks according to the qualities of the group members and reviewing the results. I have organised four recruitment cycles in the past two years, including reviewing over 500 applications, interviewing over 100 people and making final decisions on appropriate recruitment into the association. Additionally, I have organised 15 new student welcoming meetings over two years. I was responsible for coordinating the staffing, supervising the progress and resolving any urgent issues that arose. Thanks to this leadership experience, I can quickly adapt to changing environments and make decisions proactively and without procrastination. I am confident that these transferable skills will be of significant value to my graduate studies.

After graduation, I aim to work for one of the world's leading sovereign wealth funds, such as Buckley Bank Investment Management, the LLA Investment Board or the Bloom Investment Corporation. To further my goal of providing better investment advice to clients, I intend to gain experience handling complex cases, improve my analytical skills and prepare for further qualifications such as the CFA. Moreover, since my undergraduate and graduate studies focus on economics and finance and I have lived and studied in an English environment for a long time, I would like to use my bilingual background to work on global investment projects.

This MSc in Management is a practical, comprehensive programme. I am confident that my internship, extracurricular projects and the courses I studied during my undergraduate degree will help me transition into the course successfully. With access to Marshall's comprehensive management programme and world-class faculty, I hope to gain an integrated and holistic approach to private equity investing, which will help launch my professional career. I look forward to playing a positive and engaged role as a valued member of your learning community.

