

FINAL PERSONAL STATEMENT 1

I am applying for Psychology because I am interested in the behaviour of people and how the mind works. In the future, I would like to focus my study on criminal psychology, and I have an ambition to complete a PHD in this area. The area of criminal psychology fascinates me as I am intrigued by the thoughts processes of criminals and want to understand what interactions they have in life that leads them to such behaviour. With these skills that I will get at university, I hope to have an opportunity to work in this area as I believe that our society should not be controlled by illegal behaviour. Working towards a better society is an important driving force for me future ambition. Furthermore, I want to be a researcher in this field to gain more experience through research and analysis of different cases. Hopefully in my future I could combine my knowledge and work experience to work on writing books in this discipline.

To achieve my goals, studying Psychology at university will give me a good foundation in the key concepts of psychology before specialising in criminal psychology. With this degree, I will be better able to understand human emotions, perceptions, brain functions and overall the main contributors to an individuals personality. I believe this to be the best route for me as there are many skills needed to succeed in this profession and this course and university will allow me to have a professional career that combines my interests and passion.

However, there are other skills that a student of psychology must have, some I feel I have already acquired. For instance, as a student in Hong Kong, I was on the committee of the Youth Club and Student Activity Association in Secondary 3 and Secondary 4. I helped organise a number of activities such as a Junior Training Programme, which is a camp organised for form students to develop their leadership skills and to become a responsible senior by working on some community services namely the Lunar service. In this service, I had an opportunity to communicate with some elders and play games with them. Through these activities, I developed my team working skills due to the cooperation with other schoolmates, as well as my communication and interpersonal skills. In addition, it was important for me to develop my problem solving skills as many issues and differences in people's opinions arose.

On the other hand, there are skills I still need to acquire such as research skills, analysis skill and I.T skills. It is for this reason that I am now studying in a University Preparation Year with particular focus on science. In this year, I am focusing on improving my academic English in preparation for university. As well

as this EF provides courses on Assistive Technology for acquiring computer skills, critical thinking and research design classes to enhance my capabilities in analysis and evaluation of research in science. In addition to developing new skills, I will enhance the skills that I already possess by studying and living in a multi cultural environment that has high demand for growing as independent learner. In this foundation year, I am going to also choose Psychology, Pure Mathematics, Mathematics, Statistics and Experimental Science as my specialist modules as they can help me have a good grounding in science which will help me to be successful in university. During this year I had the chance to be part of a 'Brain Day' which was an interactive day run by a neuroscientist; we learned about mental disorders and dissected a sheep's brain. This day allowed me to see what lies ahead in university and has enhanced my aspirations to work in this field.

I have moved to the UK to further my education because I want to become more independent and mature, it is important for me to stand alone and broaden my mind. Secondly, integration into a new culture will help me enhance my English level through, this is a great time and place for me start my career and achieve my goal.