De Montfort University | International Student Applicant Guidance | Personal Statement & Interview Preparation

Personal Statement Preparation Guidance

Your personal statement should help the admissions team understand why you want to study your chosen subject, how your previous education has prepared you, what you have done beyond education, and why you are ready to study successfully in the UK.
It will also help us to see that you are a genuine student with clear motivation to study and a solid plan for your future.
Your personal statement may also be reviewed by the relevant academic course leaders before admissions decisions are made.
Your statement should be personal, truthful and written in your own voice.

A strong personal statement should demonstrate:

Genuine interest & motivation
Academic preparation
Relevant experience
Future direction

Please ensure you complete all four sections of the standard personal statement.
Please use the word counts below to guide you on the required content level for each section:

- Question 1: ~150 words
- Question 2: ~150 words
- Question 3: ~150 words
- Question 4: ~150 words
- Enhanced Personal Statement Extension: 300 words (If required)

Q1 - Why do you want to study this course or subject at DMU?
Explain what genuinely interests you about the subject, why you have chosen this course, why specifically at DMU and what research you have done to determine why this course is the best fit for you.

Q2 - How have your qualifications and studies helped you to prepare for this course or subject?
Explain how your previous education has prepared you for degree-level study, focusing on what you have learned, (e.g. related modules or projects) and the skills you have developed rather than simply listing your qualifications.

Q3 - What else have you done to prepare outside of education, and why are these experiences useful?
Explain what you have done outside your formal education, what you have learned from these experiences, and how they have prepared you for university and your chosen course. Examples might include work experience, internships and volunteering, but are not limited to these.

Q4 - How will this course help you achieve your academic, career or other post-study plans?
Briefly bring together why you are ready for the course, what you have learned so far, and how the degree will support your future goals. What consideration have you given to funding, accommodation and living costs?

Enhanced Personal Statement Extension

Where an applicant has a significant gap in time since their last period of study it is normal practice for DMU to request a more detailed personal statement to ensure the applicants motivation to study is genuine.

- The DMU threshold for requesting additional information due to a gap in study at Undergraduate level is 2 years
- The DMU threshold for requesting additional information due to a gap in study at Postgraduate level is 5 years

Additional information may also be requested in circumstances where an applicant has a complex immigration history.

In either of the above circumstances you will be asked to submit the standard personal statement and respond to an additional question which asks you to give more detail about why you have now decided to re-enter education and whether you have considered the following:

- Why you wish to re-enter education
- If you have studied at the same level previously, what will you gain from studying at the same level again?
- What are your current financial commitments and how will you manage this whilst taking time out of your career to study and with no guarantee of future employment?
- What is your long-term plan for your career and what evidence do you have that achieving this qualification will enable you to progress to that?
- Where relevant, do you have any commitment from a prospective employer who supports your study and is willing to offer you opportunities when your studies are complete?
- Is there any additional information you can share regarding relevant immigration history?

Please ensure you address these questions as fully as possible.

DMU Personal Statement

Name	
Student ID	
DMU Course	
Country of Education	
Why do you want to study this course or subject at DMU?	
How have your qualifications and studies helped you to prepare for this?	
What else have you done to prepare outside of education, and why are these experiences useful?	
How will this course help you achieve your academic, career or other post-study plans?	

DMU Enhanced Personal Statement Extension

Please explain why you have decided to re-enter education and what impact you expect this to have on your future prospects and career aspirations. Where relevant, please provide additional detail regarding your previous immigration history **Please refer to the above guidance when answering this question to ensure you have provided sufficient detail**