Pre-Professional Seminar Fall 2019 Professor Grace E. Young

# Writing a Personal Statement: Assignment #2

Everyone must prepare a personal statement. It is due on Monday, September 23rd. The length of the statement should be no less than two double-spaced pages. Please staple the Rubrics (provided on the next two pages) to the FRONT of the assignments.

If you are preparing this personal statement for a job, then you should answer questions 1 through 5 below. Remember that it should be an entry-level job; one that you could possibly be employed in upon graduation. If you are preparing this personal statement for entrance into graduate school, then you should answer questions 1a. through 5a. below.

For this assignment, you should NOT write out the questions. Rather you should formulate the questions into statements and each should begin a new paragraph. Every question should be addressed in at least one paragraph.

1. What aspects of sociology (criminal justice, social welfare) interest you and why have you decided to pursue employment in this field?

a. What aspects of sociology (criminal justice, social welfare) interest you and why have you decided to pursue a master’s degree (law degree, doctoral degree)?

1. What personal challenges have you overcome (do you face) which shape your decision to pursue a career with \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_?
   1. What personal challenges have you overcome (do you face) which shape your decision to pursue a master’s degree (law, doctoral degree)?

(If you feel your life has been fairly seamless (with few or no significant challenges), then answer the question: Who have been your role models who have influenced you on this track?)

1. What academic/employment and/or volunteer experiences prepare you for entering our agency?
   1. What academic/employment and/or volunteer experiences prepare you for entering our master’s degree (law degree, doctoral degree) program?
2. How will you contribute to our agency?
   1. How will you contribute to our master’s degree (law degree, doctoral degree) program?
3. What do you intend to do with your life professionally? What is your long-term career objective and how does employment with our agency further your plans?
   1. What do you intend to do with your life professionally? What is your long-term career objective and how does our educational program further those plans?

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**Rubric: Personal Statement**

**30 points**

Assignment #2 Due: Monday, September 23rd in class.

Please staple this Rubric to the FRONT of your assignment.

I will use this rubric for grading your Personal Statement. Please read through it to make sure that you are submitting work that meets the rubric guidelines.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Points: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

(3 points)

\_\_\_\_\_ Provided a thoughtful answer to each question

\_\_\_\_\_ Provided a document with answers in full sentences

\_\_\_\_\_ Provided a personal statement that was compelling to read

\_\_\_\_\_ Provided transitions between paragraphs to help your reader follow you

\_\_\_\_\_ Provided a personal statement that was not repetitious (of a word or of an idea)

\_\_\_\_\_ Provided information about the skills, talents, abilities you would contribute

\_\_\_\_\_ Provided a document with no spelling or grammar errors

\_\_\_\_\_ Met the requirement of no less than 2 pages

\_\_\_\_\_ Numbered the pages of your document (1 point)

\_\_\_\_\_ Stapled with appropriate rubric attached (2 points)

\_\_\_\_\_ Handed in on time in class (3 points)

Comments: