

The Personal Statement

a personal narrative to show readiness for graduate school



Write to Your Audience: Do your research

- What is their mission? How do your values align with theirs?
- Which professor's research interests you?
- What resources does the program offer?
- Why is this program the right fit for you?

Consider Your Goals

- What are your career goals?
- What have you done so far to reach your goals?
- How will the program help you reach your goals?



Create Your Story

- Tell a single story, not your life story
- Show how your academics, extracurricular activities, and your undergraduate research have prepared you for graduate school
- Explain how the program you are applying to fit into your story



Edit. Edit. Edit.

- Read your statement aloud to find errors
- Visit the Writing Center and get feedback from peers
- Share your statement with your professors