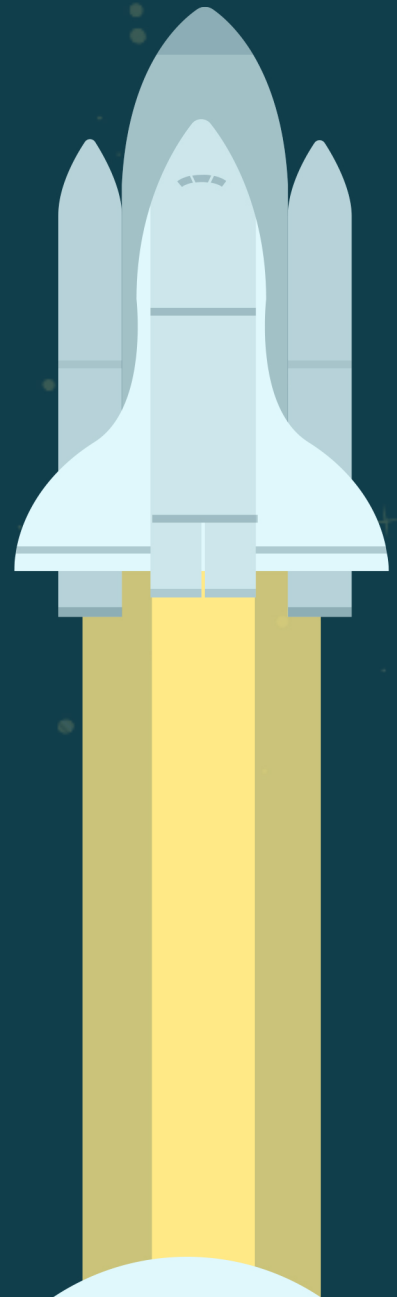


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Undergraduate: COMMON APP ESSAY - Transfer Application

Please provide a statement that addresses your reasons for transferring and the objectives you hope to achieve. You can type directly into the box, or you can paste text from another source. (250-650 words)

I already go to a great business school at XXX. Situated in the heart of London with access to a great network of alumni and amazing faculty, XXX offers one of the best world class business education. I am seeking a transfer to one of the top schools in the US because 1. I want to enhance my education experience by studying in a different learning ecosystem and 2. I want to be a part of a large university with vibrant campus life that I do not have at XXX.

I aim to be a part of an inquiry-based education system which is applied in nature and allows me the flexibility to explore dimensions over and beyond business studies subjects. My current program at XXX has a broad research based component and are driven by extensive self and peer learning. However, it has limited correspondence with the larger university environment. I believe business education has to be holistic in nature and should provide opportunities for cross-subject exposure. I am specifically interested in psychology, design-thinking, and consumer behaviour related disciplines. I believe this is possible in a top school in the US education system, which not only provides freedom of learning different subject areas within the respective school, but also promotes the understanding of other subjects and activities within the university and larger community across its different schools. I am also at a stage of education, (also the discipline that I am a part of - business studies) where I want to conduct my own experiments and develop a practical orientation to my learning. I am looking for a school which allows me to try out new models, test novel ideas and supported by a network of like-minded peers and best-in-class faculty go on a journey of self-development.

I intend to be a part of a campus and community. A campus based school which provides me a safe zone to push my learning envelope and forge long-term relationships is very important for comprehensive learning and all-round development.

I hail from a business family. Right from dinner-table conversations, to internships in different business entities, I have been exposed to business nuances right from the childhood. I have had the opportunity to incubate new businesses (website link)work on the factory floor (website link), draft and execute complex contracts (website link), recruit new consumers (website link) and develop client retention and growth strategies (website link).). Through all of these experiences, I have built a very strong operational understanding of businesses.

I aim to further my understanding by giving a strong academic orientation to my experiences. I have had the opportunity to study in India, Switzerland and UK. Further on, I am looking to come to the US and experience a new system, challenge my existing beliefs and evolve newer patterns. I hope to deepen my academic and professional experiences and go on a journey of iteration and discovery.

I hope to bring my experiences to add to the richness of the cohort at your school. I draw in a unique blend of academic and professional experiences along with a deep desire to build brands and businesses. I believe that I can add context and colour to the class of 2018 basis my experience across varied business situations. I hope to learn and contribute in equal measure!

Undergraduate: Supplementary Common App Question

College of Engineering: Cornell Engineering celebrates innovative problem solving that helps people, communities... the world. Consider your ideas and aspirations and describe how a Cornell Engineering education would allow you to leverage technological problem-solving to improve the world we live in.

I intend to pursue BS in Computer Science and build capacity to deploy the power of information technology to solve real world problems.

When Cornell Engineering talks of 'breaking rules' - it is essentially talking about applying non-conventional thought to solving problems. I am particularly excited about *manufactory* (Cornell Makerspaces) and building prototypes of my attempts at solving the problems that are important. Situated in Ithaca, one of most vibrant campuses in New York with access to one of the best faculties in the world and an unparalleled network of peers and alumni and offering a wide array of majors, Cornell offers me one of the best opportunities to hone my engineering skills.

This year, during my summer vacations, I spent time at an NGO, (Website link) helping kids learn Science and Mathematics.

XXX has the largest population of school going children in the world. These same kids, in terms of extremely poor learning outcomes, indicate the worst possible result of an education system that has gone broke!

The challenge for my class was to achieve the right learning outcome in a fun, engaging way. Also, given the fact that it was a mixed class (consisting of students from grade 1 through grade 5), I needed to ensure that the learning process is customized to the needs of every student and is attuned to his or her specific level of understanding. A larger objective was to create a systemic intervention that is both effective (in terms of efficacy and learning outcomes) and low effort (easy to design and implement, and low cost so that it can work in government and society schools).

I achieved my objectives through '*tinkering*'. Given the poor condition of children and infrastructure in these schools, I created a system (based on *Experimental Play*) wherein the child could develop the capacity to learn by herself. I set up a small low-cost, self-sustaining *makerspace* where kids could *make* their own experiments. We left the kids alone with learning material – cardboard, glue, scissors, abacus toolkits, etc. and ensured that they are *not actively taught*.

Counterintuitive that it may seem, kids learnt very effectively in that setting. Not only they mastered the concepts, they worked together in an effective and reinforcing group-dynamic, helping each other and supporting the functioning of a multi-level class. Initially it was difficult to get kids to get started on their own. Especially Grade 1 children needed help with certain motor skills and understanding of a few concepts like cutting of a cardboard, usage of glue

gun, making 3-D models etc. Once they got a hang of it, they were on their own and enjoyed themselves!

At the end, my kids had a rock-solid understanding of concepts and they did not want to go home even after the class was finished. I could not ask for more!

It was an extremely satisfying experience. Not only was it the joy of teaching 20 kids Science and Maths, but also the satisfaction of having created a system that was both workable and effective. I had read about makerspaces earlier. I was able to implement them in a low-cost setting and drive excellent learning outcomes.

I think this could be one of the ways in which we tackle the epidemic of learning disability in the impoverished urban environments across the world.

At Cornell, I hope to further sharpen my problem-solving skills and intend to build a foundation based on logic, creativity and a bias for action. I will add value through my specific interests and variety in thought.

Undergraduate: Common App Answer

Some students have a background, identity, interest, or talent that is so meaningful they believe their application would be incomplete without it. If this sounds like you, then please share your story (650 words)

I am a gamer and have practiced the art of abstracting real world problems through this pragmatic, fun approach for over ten years now.

Games have helped me understand my academic concepts better. As an example, many of my friends have struggled with probability calculations. Despite having fluency in statistics, they could not understand concepts like Conditional Probability and Bayes' Theorem. In grade Eleventh, I could use *Halo Wars* (a strategy-war-game) to create a decision-making environment wherein we could make probabilistic choices and reflect upon our decisions. Earlier, teachers used to work with dices and coins to help us understand probability. With *Halo Wars*, they had a more engaging tool which could help us learn more effectively.

I have played in various game modes and have given my learning a new dimension through each of those. Sandbox environments like Kerbal Space Program helped me understand the nuances of rocket propulsion and gravitational theory. Role Playing Games (RPGs) allow me to understand human behavior. I am particularly fond of Sims through which I have lived the role of my future self in a social setting. Open world games like Grand Theft Auto (GTA) allow me to practice survival strategies in make-believe world scenarios. Through hours of gameplay, I have not only learnt my subjects, but also have gleaned practical insights into the workings of the world and society.

I played games because they were fun. However, over a period of time, I have come to realize that they have shaped my personality and helped me acquire a very specific set of skills. I often play games with my friends in an artificial construct where you have to take split-second decisions or respond to a life-threatening situation. It has provided a fertile ground to hone my communication and team-working skill. I have solved difficult problems in many gaming situations. For instance, in 'The Escapists', which is a prison-break game, I have to escape out of prison while avoiding attention and rivalries. It is hard, given that you are dealing with people smarter than you. And in the process, I learn and sharpen my problem-solving skills. I have played many other games as well - Strategy games like the World of Warcraft, Red Alert, etc., card games like the Hearthstone, First person shooting games like Call of Duty, Racing Simulation Games like Forza and Puzzle games like The Famous Portal.

Through these games I have built lasting friendships, acquired valuable life skills and have had tonnes of fun! I think that a gamer is highly industrious - I can spend hours playing; is extremely goal focused - I will try all methods to complete a level; is a spontaneous problem solver - I like to take difficult objectives in challenging gameplay environments, etc. These are essential ingredients for becoming a great gamer. Over the last ten years, that I have been gaming, I have come to build these skills at an extremely nuanced level.

Undergraduate: Applying to Top Design Schools - Parsons, New York

Discuss an accomplishment, event, or realization that sparked a period of personal growth and a new understanding of yourself or others

"She is a quiet girl and takes a while to open up": this was every teacher's report, until the summer before my high school.

In spite of hailing from an army background, I shied away from extroversion and making friends. The fear of people judging and critiquing me confined me to my room and my thoughts. I took solace in my small A5 size sketchbook. Surprisingly enough, as I grew a little older, the idea of exploring different places, experiencing different cultures, and knowing the unknown, featured 'traveling' on my wish list.

On my 16th birthday, I gifted myself the 'courage' to venture out my shell. But it was not until I began researching foreign exchange programmes, that Diverbo caught my eye and propelled me towards it. But getting there, as Steve Jobs said, "wasn't all romantic".

A two-week summer program to teach English to Spaniards in the countryside of Spain: "It's my time to shine", I thought. 'Communication skills' were the mandatory requirement and I was already willing to challenge my introversion. My mother was waiting for this moment as she knew that I needed to fly out of my cocoon and experience independence. Like any father, my father was reluctant at first but he agreed when I reassured him about my safety. The universe was putting things in order; preparing me mentally to fly out alone and seize the world.

Counting the days in anticipation to embark on a trip that I knew little about, I was oblivious of a lifetime of learning that awaited me. As we took off, my nervousness gripped me and amidst the bright blue sky, my apprehensiveness kicked in. Excitement aside, I was scared. In a few hours, I was to be in a part of the world I was completely unfamiliar with, amongst strangers and most importantly, without my parents. I fought the tears in my eyes with a forced smile of my intuitive courage.

As I landed on an alien airport with no English signage to guide me to the luggage counter and no signal bars on my phone, I panicked. My wisdom complied; teary eyed, I waded through the sea of unknown faces towards the information desk. The lady at the desk understood my plight even with the language barrier between us and helped me with her compassionate concern and guidance. My first lesson indeed! People are nice and they help if you seek it.

Should I take this analogy to my fixed ideas about people and their perception? A thought that stayed with me over the next two weeks, I did things that I never thought I could. From checking into a hotel alone to meeting new people without getting awkward; from making friends to voluntarily participating in group activities; from trying newer cuisines to experiencing the starkly different culture of the country. Did I finally wake up my dormant gregarious self?

A trip, hinged also on its cost-effectiveness was an invaluable experience that only made me discover myself. The various opportunities to listen to different opinions, of different people from different parts of the world awakened my senses towards the bias I held. Opinions are

not judgments – they are simply thoughts of people that I perceived as negative criticism and disapproval for my inner self and avoided. A second revelation!

It was a smooth transition thereafter from listening to participating in opinions ranging from culture to politics, arts to psychology and philosophy to the sciences. I learned the value of friendship: Of staying connected. I am not a shy girl anymore whose favourite spot was the corner of the class but I am a confident, sociable student who is rarely quiet. Vulnerability is strength not a weakness. I dare to be seen by my friends who I can talk to, laugh with, cry in front of and hang out with, every now and then. However, not compromising on my 'me-time' – my final learning.

Undergraduate : Common App – Industrial Engineering.

Some students have a background, identity, interest, or talent that is so meaningful they believe their application would be incomplete without it. If this sounds like you, then please share your story.

Following is an excerpt from the checklist that I submitted to the global eBird database: (website link)

Location: XXX, XXX District, XXX

Date/Time: Wed Mar 29, 2017 7:00 AM

Protocol: Hiking

Group Size: 4

Duration: 3 hour(s)

Distance: 10.0 mile(s)

Observers: XXX and 3 others

Birds spotted: 43 species in total:

10 Gray Jungle fowl, 1 Little Grebe, 2 Little Cormorant, 1 Oriental Darter ...

I have passionately watched and recorded birds for over 8 years now and have been contributing to Cornell University's eBird world database for over 5 years. The checklist above, for example, was compiled after trekking through 10 miles of dense deciduous forests and scrub jungles in the heart of XXX National Park with heavy camera equipment and powerful spotting scopes in blistering heat and humidity. Birding is a painstakingly nurtured interest which requires fortitude, planning and attention to detail. It is a labor of love, one which allows me to be in complete communion with nature.

Birding requires extensive team skills. Last September, in the XXX, we were trying to spot the rare white bellied Blue Robin. Since the area was large, we split into 3 teams of two each. Each team consisted of a photographer and a spotter. After a few ours, we found it, but was unsure if it was Blue Robin or Nilgiri Flycatcher. So we took a picture, and sent it to another CNS team member for verification. Eventually, we together identified it as the Blue Robin. We also learnt that one distinguishing feature of Blue Robin was the striking Orange colour of its eyes and that helped us identify it correctly. During a bird-race, each person of the team contributes with his unique talent - someone is an expert spotter, another is good at identifying calls, someone else keeps records, etc. In our group while I am good at identifying water birds, others are experts in Raptors, butterflies etc. I have learnt to rely on my fellow birders for successful sightings and understood the value of collaboration and team-work.

Birding has helped me develop my photography skills as well. Initially just taking record shots of birds, I gradually started learning finer aspects of photography. I learnt about composition, exposure control and metering along with editing and other post-production skills. I particularly like to click motion photographs of birds - they are hard to capture and test my skills to the fullest. I have waited for hours to capture one single picture! My photographs of *Blue Capped Rock Thrush*, a *family of Owlets* and a *Dhole* were shortlisted in the international '*Outdoor Photographer of the Year*' ([website link](#)) competition.

Over many years of photographing birds, compiling checklists and contributing them to eBird, I have come to appreciate and understand patterns and trends from large datasets. Eg: Predicting occurrence of winter migrants like sandpipers and plovers and passage migrants like gulls at birding sites around Coimbatore based on past data is only possible by collaborating across hundreds of sightings across multiple locations. We also need to correct for possible sighting errors while providing for varying level of spotting accuracy and non-standard patterns. I could realize the power of statistics, and data collected over a long periods of time and come to see Maths in a new light!

Birding is an all consuming hobby. It has been a window to the world around me. Be it my love for math, photography, experiments with science models or passion for conservation, I owe it to birding. As I continue to observe, record, click pictures, wonder and marvel, I get absorbed in a silent conversation between nature and the human spirit.

Undergraduate: Common App Essay

Some students have a background, identity, interest, or talent that is so meaningful they believe their application would be incomplete without it. If this sounds like you, then please share your story.

I love Mathematics and over time, fluency with numbers and mathematical concepts has come to be my greatest skill. I have worked hard, applied Maths across various projects and have made it a part of my day-to-day problem solving. My scores in SAT (800/800), Subject SAT – Maths Level II (800/800) and grade XII (95/100) are a testimony to that.

I have diligently applied myself to reach this level of confidence in Maths. Not only did I use to be very attentive in the class and submit my assignments in time, but I also used to stay back and help my friends and other students with the problems that they were facing. Earlier, to build up my calculation speed, I learnt Abacus and XXXMathematics. In the process I have been able to gain an intuitive understanding of Mathematical concepts as well. I also applied Mathematics across multiple projects to build a practical orientation of the subject. A few examples are in order -

1. Student database: I worked on a project to make a student database using C++ in grade XI. While it was a Computer Science project, I could use mathematical modelling and linear optimization heuristics to speed up data retrieval and was able to reduce the complexity of the program by an order of $\log n$. It was heartening to see the use of Mathematics across other subjects

2. Learning Statistics and Probability using online card games: Probability and Statistics are considered difficult disciplines. Our teachers would use coins and dices to teach probability but that did not work out for our class. At that point, I designed an online game-based environment using card based games. That was not only very engaging, but also could explain concepts like conditional probability.

Learning Mathematics has been a constant journey. Over the last 12 years of learning the subject, I have gone from strength to strength and now aim to apply it in my chosen majors – computer programming and algorithm design. I am sure that the immersive environment at the undergraduate program at my university would help me go further with my journey.

Undergraduate : Supplementary Essay

Explain your interest in the major you selected and describe how you have recently explored or developed this interest, inside and/or outside the classroom. You may also explain how this major relates to your future career goals. Limit your response to 300-400 words.

I want to do a BS in Computer Science Engineering University of XXX. Within Computer Science, I want to focus on Artificial Intelligence and Machine Learning.

XXX houses one of the best Computer Science departments in the world. It has some of the best professors, cutting-edge research facilities and an unparalleled cohort of peers. I follow Professor XXX at Quora and have been fascinated with his ability to explain difficult concepts in a simple way.

XXX education is rigorous. I aim to pick up an Honors project and through courses like CS361, CS440 and CS 446 give grounding to my learnings in AI and Machine Learning. I am sure that learning at XXX shall be an amazing experience!

Earlier this year, as I embarked on a gap year focused on community work and professional immersion, I could build upon what I have learnt at school, albeit in a more practical, applied context. Therein, I could use Mathematics in more sophisticated and powerful ways.

I have had amazing learning opportunities in the mere six months that I have working. For instance, I worked on building machine-learning tools to execute chat-bot-integration to resolve student queries in a community school. Since volunteers were hard to come by and many queries of the students were fairly basic and could be resolved through 'deterministic' responses, I contributed with programming for the chat bot integration. At another assignment, I worked on providing advanced modeling support for algorithm development at a large-health-care provider. The hospital faced long queues at critical service counters like Dialysis, MRI scans, etc. This was particularly truly at some specific times during the day, while during the afternoon and better part of the night, these counters were empty. I was part of a team that built out an optimization algorithm to reduce queuing. Interestingly though, the problem was solved in large measure by incentivizing people to avail these services at off-peak hours. Through these assignments, I am able to understand that solutions to complicated problems need not be complex. Simple solutions which can readily be implemented are critical for achieving the desired outcomes.

I am hoping to be a part of the learning community at XXX and go on a journey of development and growth.

Undergraduate: Personal Statement - Oxbridge Application

I want to build upon my educational experience and my internships and go on to be a business builder. I have been a first-hand witness to my father building his business. Alongside, I had the opportunity to work at XXX (website link) and the XXX (website link) Through these I could identify different areas of value creation - brand leverage, working capital unbundling, new sectors like tech-logistics, convenience food, etc. In the process, I found my true calling. I enjoy business situations wherein I am able to bring out my problem-solving capabilities to fore. I am particularly fascinated with how capital is deployed to drive growth. That is why I want to work in the investment offices of a PE/VC firm in the short term and armed with this experience, run my own family's investment office in 10-12 years' time frame. Of course, ahead of that, I want to build deep academic experiences which could support my career aspirations.

I have concentrated on creating a solid academic and research background. While I have picked up Business as my majors for my studies at school and am predicted at XXX in my grade A levels, I have simultaneously pursued active research interests as well. I spent more than 10 months researching the impact of Gold and Oil prices on XXX Stock markets. It was a powerful learning experience – with inputs from a variety of subject areas, specifically Business, Econometrics, and Decision Sciences. I could, for instance, look at the time-series data and use advance software like SPSS to conduct statistical analysis to draw out meaningful conclusions and insights.

I have complemented my academic efforts through practical experiences in domestic and international markets as well. My first internship, in the summer of 2017 was at XXX Bank, in their Merchant Banking division. I did extensive interviews with their B2B clients in Middle East. My key learning was in understanding the flexibility of the B2B financial products as opposed to retail products. The sheer number of customizability options was mind-boggling! I also could note, for instance, that the cost of funds for a large client were at least 100 basis points lower than the corresponding smaller client. It was fascinating to observe the theory learnt in the class and correlate it with the real-world scenarios. My last internship, on the other hand, was in the Sales and Marketing department and focused on the design of incentive structure. I worked in XXX and worked on long-term maritime contracts. During my

work, I understood contract drafting and engaged with customers, sales team and other stakeholders in the commercial team as well. Through this engagement I could also understand the associated human angle and appreciate how short-term incentives drive the behavior of sales team. I am very keen to study Psychology and human behavior in the context of business and markets. I think that I can exponentially enhance my business impact as I include behavioral elements in my academic journey along with hardcore business subjects like Finance and Management.

I want to get into a high-quality business program consisting of top faculty and students from across the world. I would like to take full advantage of this intense learning period and be immersed in a setting wherein I can complement theory and practice. I would expect to be challenged, engage in meaningful contribution and work on challenging projects, not just through my cohort participants but also the local community, and learn. This program will enable me to access a diverse knowledge pool, encompassing all facets of business organization such as finance, marketing, strategy, etc. I look forward to be a part of a committed ecosystem of faculty and students at the university and create a truly enriching experience!

Common App Essay. Undergraduate. IVY Leagues.

The lessons we take from obstacles we encounter can be fundamental to later success. Recount a time when you faced a challenge, setback, or failure. How did it affect you, and what did you learn from the experience?

One year back, I stood for the Head-Boy elections at the school and lost. That loss, however, was one of the high-points of my learning journey, and I grew as a person and a leader through that.

I was sure to win! I had strong and deep connections with students across various grades which were built upon years of solid work that I had done through the various associations and school-clubs that I was a part of. I was also able to mobilize more than 50 students who contributed by way of organizational support and canvassing for my candidature. Many teachers, having witnessed my work in the Round Square Association, the MUN Society, School's Newsletter, and many other organizations, were also openly supportive of me. (I still don't think that I could have lost from that position.) However, my opponents ran a slander campaign against me. I was labelled as a 'Teacher's Pet.' And all my success was attributed to favouritism and chicanery. While I got to know of it through my network and fellow friends, I discounted it, relying on people's judgment of my work.

Well, it did not work and I lost the elections. Fair and square.

It was a great learning in terms of management of public perception and overall organization. I also got to really understand the principles of Game Theory from my Economics course, albeit in a hard way! I had many one-on-one conversations after my defeat and almost everyone resonated with a voice in my support. They however were also candid enough to admit that they got swayed at the moment and cast their vote in favor of my opponents. I learnt that we are emotional beings and often do not act through logic and reason.

Thereon, I ensured that along with hard work and sincerity, I also include emotional cues in my approach to people. After the defeat, I assiduously tried to cultivate empathy, and connectedness. Through extensive outreach and advocacy, I have tried to socialize the goals and the work of the organizations that I am associated with. Today I am the student head of the Round Square society of the school, and am leading projects such as E-Newsletter, the MUN workshops, Commerce and Entrepreneurship Festival, House Captaincy, and many others. This would not have happened without the head-boy election setback and the learning that it led to.

Undergraduate: Personal Statement - NUS, Singapore

I was initiated into the world of Business and Economics through my dad who is a first-generation entrepreneur. Over time, I was able to internalize the principles that help the business thrive. Going forward, I want to build capacity to lead this business into the 21st century and scale it appropriately.

Driven by access to a larger market, we got our business listed on Amazon three years back and it turned out to be a phenomenal success. However, I realized that while our top line grew, the impact on bottom line was moderate. In fact, over the last couple of years, our growth has declined severely and the local markets have become unserviceable. This made me understand business dynamics and the need to innovate to stay relevant to our customers.

Alongside these practical experiences, I have built extensive rigor in Economics during my Senior School study. In order to cement my learning further, I researched on XXX. This coupled with my internships at XXX and XXX have given an applied orientation to my learning.

I have been an academically driven student throughout my entire school-tenure. Not only have I consistently topped my class since grade 1, but also have been able to cultivate empathy, and connectedness. Today I am the head of the Round Square society of the school, and am leading projects such as E-Newsletter, MUN workshops, Commerce and Entrepreneurship Festival, House Captaincy, and many others. All of this is attributed to my ability to connect!

I am convinced that I need solid grounding in Economics and Business to develop business acumen. National University of Singapore is uniquely positioned to support my educational goals with its dedicated faculty and global alumni.

I hope to be a part of the 2019 cohort in Business, Economics and Entrepreneurship at NUS and go on a journey of learning, self-discovery and growth.

Undergraduate: Economics Program - Oxbridge University

I am very excited to take various financial products to more than 3 billion people in Asia, Africa and Latin America who currently do not have access to even the basic financial services. I believe that in order to drive meaningful impact, governmental entities, private investors and innovators along with Institutions such as World bank and NGOs need to come together. I want to work with such an aim and build credentials in Management, Policy and Decision Sciences to build myself up for such a journey.

I recently did a research on marginal economies of Europe. While I ended up suggesting an economic solution for the respective economies, consisting of things like budgetary support, IMF aid, etc., the root of the problem was socio-economic. I am particularly impressed with the Kenyan case study of M-Pesa – the largest financial services provider in the country and Nobel laureate Mohammad Yunus' Grameen Bank in Bangladesh which provides microcredit to its various rural and urban poor constituents. I recognize the value of management systems, and institution building in ushering in growth and development. Hence, I want to go on a journey of learning and development with Management at its centre so that I can sustainably drive this change.

Participation in MUNs has been pivotal in developing this thought process. I have participated in MUNs across the globe including the popular New York MUN and have recently won the prestigious Harvard MUN. While, I have engaged in conversation with people from across the world holding very different viewpoints, and have won in the face of extreme competition, the most seminal impact of these MUNs have been in sensitizing me to the need of global management efforts to systemically address growth objectives of these economies.

I am convinced that well managed economic activity is the way to growth and development. This became clear to me in the summer of 2018 when I interned at the XXX group – a leading footwear manufacturer in XXX. XXX group's ability to mobilize high quality, specialized manpower was the key reason for their success and continues to be their main differentiator from competition. At the fundamental level this reinforced my belief that the right management would help businesses which are sustainable and job-accretive.

I have been able to develop a mature point of view on these matters through academic rigor and consistent application through my school years. I have regularly finished at the top of the class every year. I am predicted at 97% in my Grade XII exams. I aim to do better!

I have been fortunate in receiving unstinted support of my teachers and mentors and have participated in a number of national and international events on behalf of my school. I have particularly relished the opportunity to mentor many junior students as future MUN participants. As I passed on the baton, and have seen the new crop of MUN delegates take charge, it felt very special. I am sure that many of them would take up global issues in a similar fashion in the coming years.

As I enter into another period of intense learning, I want to set myself in a rigorous applied setting. Specifically, I am focused on 'building organizations of future.' At the same time I want to strike a balance between theory and practical real life experiences through rigorous coursework and industry exposure, internships, community projects and immersion opportunities. I hope to be a part of the 2019 International Management class at XXX and go on a journey of learning, self-discovery and growth.

Undergraduate: Common App Essay

Some students have a background, identity, interest, or talent that is so meaningful they believe their application would be incomplete without it. If this sounds like you, then please share your story.

A drop of red enveloped in Sienna, rich tinted strokes through the Cobalt-blue veins manifest an eternal glow, XXX (meaning of my name); that's me. Like a ballerina, my paintbrush dances with the chimes of love on the canvas of life, creating a creator with its passionate strokes.

I am a fortunate fresher in adulthood, who could not forego the characteristic honesty and the ceaseless creativity of early childhood. Art in any form enthralls me; while many of its forms make the building blocks of me as a person. Deeply involved with arts ranging from crafts and visual arts to literary and performing arts, I am drawing the contour of a fine humane character for me to paint the world with vibrant hues and fill it up with the melody of love.

For elementary education, I went to a unique open curriculum, free progress school, XXX, which is built on the educational principles of Sri Aurobindo, the great philosopher. He had said "Nothing can be taught", which made me a self-learner, a thinker. From seventh grade, I joined XXX, a boarding school, which was built by another eminent philosopher educationalist, Jiddu Krishnamurti, who believed that the aim of elementary education is to make a good human being.

At XXX, you will see large murals on a few walls painted by me along with different sets of friends over the years. I am always a prominent part of plays, dance and musical performances of the school. I have been the co-judge with the music teachers for the school musical evenings. I have even written and directed a play which got many accolades. I enjoy painting, sketching, paper crafts, woodwork, thread work, clay modelling and plasterwork, fabric arts like Batik and Kalamkari along with singing, dancing, play-writing, acting and producing stage performances. I have formally learnt XXX classical vocals for seven years and Tabla, the Indian percussion drums, for four years. I have also self-learned the rudiments of violin, bamboo flute, drums and piano. I love singing western sentimental vocals accompanied with piano or guitar. I have formally learnt XXX classical dance, XXX for five years, thereafter XXX and western folk dances for another five years in school.

The school assembly is something of prime importance to the tradition of XXX, which is led by the senior most music teacher. In the absence of our teacher, I have often been asked to conduct the assembly; an honour that in recent years has been offered only to me.

Theatre invokes my innate passion. In the summer of 2017, I attended an Oxbridge programme in Drama with Photography minor at Cambridge University, with Scholarship. The grand exposure refined my understanding of creativity, primarily in the field of theatre, made me more articulate.

I have the aura of determination to make this planet a better place to live in, with my artistic creativity. I am shaping my life for it.