



CENTRE FOR RESEARCH & DEVELOPMENT

OFFICE OF DOCTORAL RESEARCH

PhD Statement of Purpose Template & Guidelines

Note: This template provides general direction and structure for your statement of purpose. Feel free to modify the organization, word distribution, and approach according to your personal circumstances, field requirements, and individual strengths. Use this as a starting framework, not a rigid formula.

In any case, the SOP shall not exceed 1000 words.

Template Structure:

- **Opening Paragraph (50-100 words)**
 - *Provide a compelling hook that sparked your research interest, establish your research focus, and briefly state your PhD goals.*
- **Academic Background & Research Experience (100-200 words)**
 - *Describe your educational foundation, key courses you have taken, research experiences (undergraduate and postgraduate level) with supervisors and outcomes, plus any publications or presentations. Connect these to your PhD preparation.*
- **Research Interests & PhD Goals (200-300 words)**
 - *Articulate specific research questions you want to pursue, identify knowledge gaps in your field, and explain how your proposed research could contribute new insights.*
- **Program Fit & Faculty Alignment (100-150 words)**
 - *Explain why this specific program suits your goals, mention unique resources, and identify 2-3 faculty whose work aligns with your interests.*
- **Career Goals & Broader Impact (100-150 words)**
 - *Outline your long-term professional objectives and describe the broader societal impact your research could have beyond academia.*
- **Closing Paragraph (50-100 words)**
 - *Tie together your qualifications and program fit, express enthusiasm for contributing to the academic community, and state your readiness for PhD work.*