

Sample Paper: College Essay

Thursday, 27 January 2011

Last Updated Thursday, 27 January 2011

The University values an educational environment that provides all members of the campus community with opportunities to grow and develop intellectually, personally, culturally and socially. In order to give us a more complete picture of you as an individual, please tell us about the particular life experiences, perspectives, talents, commitments and/or interests you will bring to our campus. In other words, how will your presence enrich our community?

I believe the University of Wisconsin-Madison is the perfect fit for me. For quite some time, I have had my eyes on attending this university and have prepared myself for doing so. One of the most important aspects of myself is my mind. I make my best effort to challenge myself in every way possible in academics. Even if there is a daunting task, I do whatever possible to approach the problem in the most logical way. Setting goals for myself is vital to my success and achievements. For instance, throughout my high school career I have had a most rigorous course selection, with challenging classes relevant to my interests and future. I have taken almost all honors and AP classes throughout high school in an attempt to help me in my future studies. I know I want to be a doctor, so I have taken the most challenging science classes my school has to offer, while keeping a balanced schedule including other subjects. Most people try to just get through a certain class to get it over with. I have a certain hunger for knowledge and learning. This desire for further learning has expanded my mind further than the school setting. I am always thinking of things beyond current incentives. I try to look at a certain event or decision and see what effect it will have in the future. I do my best to think in-depth about all my decisions. I enjoy reading about current issues such as the environment and other subjects like socioeconomics. Not a moment goes by where I am not soaking up knowledge.

The world has so much out there to experience, and I want to do the most I can. Traveling is one of my favorite things to do and I would love to take advantage of study abroad programs. I am open to traveling a lot of places and have no specifics in mind yet. There is only so much you can learn while sitting in a classroom. In the last couple years, I went to Italy and Switzerland and am going back to Europe again this year. Being immersed in a different culture is not only incredibly fun, but sometimes challenging. So much can be taken away from such experiences. Learning about a completely foreign culture completely fascinates me. There is so much to learn from others with a different point of view than your own. Looking at something from another person's point of view is a great way to understand many situations. The diversity and opportunities of cultural learning in a university of Madison's caliber has me excited for the future.

My love for music may be the most significant part of myself. Music allows me to express myself and also have a good time interacting with other musicians. I have jumped at the chance to play saxophone and bass in a group almost every single chance I get. Wind Symphony, jazz band, school musicals, ensembles, mentoring, private lessons, and countless special events offer me a chance to share my talent with others. In the past I have organized jazz combos, rock bands and even an electronic group. Interacting with musicians while playing or going to a show or seeing The Milwaukee Symphony Orchestra is one of my favorite things to do. I don't see any way I could stop playing music and look forward to continuing my musical experiences in college jazz bands or wind groups.

Throughout my high school years I have done my best to prepare myself for life. My effort is shown in my grades and many activities. I participated in the Future Business Leaders of America, Student Council, and National Honor Society, to name a few organizations. The complete list of activities on my application represents my dedication of time to many causes and organizations. I am always conscious of what my actions have on other people and my community. I am open to new things and keep my mind as open and unbiased as possible. I am incredibly excited for my future learning and my journey to becoming a doctor. Knowing who I am affirms the University of Wisconsin Madison is the place that can help me live to my fullest potential and in turn I can hopefully contribute to the overall wellness of the community.