

MSC Computer Science

I find it fascinating that computers have the potential to do so much, with applications ranging from artificial intelligence assisting medical professionals in the early diagnosis of cancer to teaching astronauts how to behave in space through virtual reality programs. I think it would be remarkable to be part of a system that could create artificial intelligence which can improve cancer diagnosis and cure rates or to write the embedded software for robots which can perform complex and minute surgery, the operation of which is thus far impossible for human doctors. Having chosen to study medicine at school, I now feel that my desire to help people would be better suited in more of an IT-focused route.

Kommentiert [L1]: Shows enthusiasm about the subject.

I believe my studies in Medicine, which involved multiple research projects and culminated in a lab project in my BSc year, have helped me develop my analytical and logical thought processes that allow me to learn and understand programming languages efficiently and quickly. I have started to put my interest into practising learning Python and JavaScript and have begun building a website for a successful online jewellery business, which has only reinforced my desire to study computer science.

Kommentiert [L2]: Autodidactic skills and independent working are highly valued in the industry.

Furthermore, while studying medicine, I have also been able to develop my skills in self-directed learning as medicine is such a large area of study, it cannot be taught only through lectures and seminars. These skills will also be exceptionally useful in studying computer science, in particular when pursuing a software development career. The fast paced and constantly changing nature of technology means that I will be required to be learning throughout my career, something I have already experienced at university and am confident I can continue to do in the future.

Additionally, the importance of self-directed learning means that I have become very adept at managing my time and using that time to its maximum capacity. This will be important whilst studying an MSc in Computer Science due to the vast array of topics taught both in the core modules and the optional modules. I believe that with my ability to manage a large work load, I look forward to getting the absolute maximum out of the course.

Alongside my studies I have also been a keen rugby player, having represented and captained Sidmouth RFC and Devon RFC before attending university, and also representing the university. Rugby is a rather unique sport as it requires high discipline under challenging circumstances. There are strict rules which sometimes can be hard to adhere to whilst being put under pressure and in the heat of the moment. Added to this is the difficulty of thinking tactically and logically about what one is personally doing while also considering the team's actions despite being both physically and mentally tired from a match. It is through playing years of rugby that I have been able to develop strong personal discipline and to further my ability to work efficiently and think clearly under pressure.

Kommentiert [L3]: He is connecting sports (a leisure activity) with his desire to study.

I am particularly keen to study computer science at the University of Swansea for a mixture of reasons. Firstly, I am excited by the variety of optional modules that Swansea offers. Whilst many courses offer a basic Java programming core set of modules, Swansea also has options that would allow me to tailor my learning towards my end goal of working with embedded systems.

Furthermore, having studied in London for four years, I am very keen to study outside a large city and by the sea. The location and the sporting options for someone who enjoys sailing and rugby would mean I would also be able to excel in extracurricular activities and become fully integrated into life at Swansea University.

After successfully completing the MSc in Computer Science, I would like to pursue a career in a biotechnology company as a software developer where I can combine the knowledge acquired in my first degree with the skills learnt through computer science to help make a difference to people whilst also doing something I thoroughly enjoy. I believe the impressive career prospects that Swansea can boast of mean that this course is the best choice for me to start my new path.

University of Southern California
Annenberg School for Communications and Journalism

Letter of Motivation: Markus Miller
Applicant for September 20XX admission to the Master's in Communication program

Dear _____,

I am currently completing my bachelor's degree in North American Studies with a minor in Media Communications at the University of Munich, Germany. Since my focus has increasingly centered on communications, I would like to continue my studies in a graduate communications program in the United States.

After considerable research, I am sure that the Annenberg School with its international reputation for excellence, and worldwide network of alumni is the best fit for my interests and future career. Your faculty expertise in new and social media is especially important to me. A great deal of the literature I have read on the subject has been written by professors of the Annenberg School. I hope to work in corporate communications for an international company. Although organizations are beginning to understand the increasing impact of new and social media, real expertise in the area is just developing.

What I can contribute to the program, in addition to my great enthusiasm for the field, is an international perspective from my studies in Germany as well as varied communication internships in London, Montreal and Munich. I worked as an intern for three months in the London offices of Ogilvy Public Relations Worldwide as an assistant to the social media team designing and implementing social media programs for international clients. Two months at Weber – Shandwick Communications in Montreal, working in their corporate communications group, gave me hands-on experience and an increased understanding of the complexities of corporate communications in a digital world. In my internship in the communications department of HypoVereinsbank in Munich, I was able to help create internal communications for employees during a transition period when the bank changed from a locally owned enterprise to a subsidiary of an international company.

I am an outgoing person and an enthusiastic participant in sports such as soccer, tennis and mountain biking. I have coached a youth soccer team in my hometown near Munich for the past five years. After my graduation in June, I plan to take a 'gap year' that will include a solo backpacking trip through Southeast Asia and nine months as a volunteer English teacher at a refugee center in Thailand.

I appreciate you considering my application and I would be honored to be part of your Master's in Communication program in September 20XX. I understand that you will attract the best candidates in the field and I am confident that I would flourish in that environment. Working and sharing with other highly motivated students would be a joy. The recommendation letters you requested have been sent directly to you. Please let me know if you would like any additional information.

Sincerely,

Kommentiert [JO1]: This student has done her homework. Make sure you read through the website or other information of the institution you are applying to

Kommentiert [JO2]: This is a great opening to a paragraph. It shows how the applicant is interested in a give and take philosophy. She shows how her experience will help the program and does not emphasize what she will get out of it

Kommentiert [JO3]: This shows the applicant has done as asked and does not hesitate to mention it again

University of Manchester Medical School

John Matthews: Personal Statement

Applicant for September 20XX admission to Medical School

Having grown up surrounded by doctors, I know the rewards and achievements to be found in having a positive impact on people's lives. I have also seen some of the lows doctors experience and how things don't always go according to plan. My desire to become a doctor was strengthened when my best friend's father fell ill with a brain tumour. His family has suffered as their father slowly became permanently mentally handicapped. The entire experience has shown me how the interpersonal skills and expertise of the doctors helped reduce the pain for all the family. It showed me again the satisfaction doctors can gain.

Kommentiert [JO1]: Personal experience helps to make it more relatable

After witnessing this illness I began voluntary work at a local charity, *Mind*, where they care for mentally handicapped people who are also deaf and/or blind. I helped the carers tend for the patients by performing tasks such as helping a patient write a letter or reading to a blind man. Through this I have seen the challenges that the patients and their carers face every day. I was immensely proud of a particular friend of mine, a deaf man called Rob, when through a great deal of using sign language, told me about the mother bird and her chicks he had seen on a recent trip into the local town. This really brought home to me the patience and communicative skills required but also showed me again how rewarding it can be to help someone in this situation and see their joy as a result.

Kommentiert [JO2]: Show your engagement with your dream.

I felt I needed to reinforce my insight into medicine as a career at a higher level by working for three weeks at the University of Manchester Hospital. Here I shadowed consultants and junior doctors in three specialties, *HPB, Neuro and Orthopaedic Surgery*. The need for them to work together was most apparent to me in the operating theatre where I observed many operations. Watching Mr Jones, a Paediatric Surgeon and Mr Taylor, an *HPB* surgeon, combining their extensive knowledge to remove a tumour from the liver of a 4 year old child was quite simply an incredible event. It showed me the teamwork, trust, resilience and the determination required by doctors. I also recognised the huge importance of being able to listen and speak to patients. I saw the distress of a patient whose doctor would not listen to his problems; the doctor simply would not take on what the patient was saying, and the patient's pain relief and treatment was not forthcoming.

Kommentiert [JO3]: The applicant already knows of a number of fields in medicine, which shows preparation.

My voluntary work at Newtown Scouts and Newtown Rugby Club has allowed me to obtain not only strong communicative and interpersonal skills but also showed me how to positively interact with and support the local community.

Sport is an extremely important part of my life. I was captain of my rugby team last year and play for the club and school teams. Whilst captain, I needed to develop the ability to lead with confidence, work with my team and remain strong under pressure, especially when not performing well. Alongside this, I sail regularly at Newtown Sailing Club and I walked the Blue Hills expedition in the 35 and 45 mile teams, an event held every year where teams walk set distances (35, 45 and 55 miles). These sports allow me to push myself beyond the norm, as I have to work very hard for the achievements I gain through them, showing my ambition and determination. Having seen the stresses put on doctors, I believe I will be able to cope with the intense demands of Medicine helped by the stamina and strength my sporting activities have given me.

Kommentiert [JO4]: A healthy balance to work and voluntary work is sport. This paragraph shows leadership skills and commitment as well as teamwork

I am a highly driven individual who wishes to rise to the challenge and enjoyment presented by university and more specifically by a course in Medicine. I realize the extreme demands made on a Medical student and Practitioner but believe I possess the qualities and skills to become an excellent Doctor.

Kommentiert [JO5]: Show your confidence!