

Sample UCAS Personal Statement: BSc Computer Science

Fictional Indian applicant (CBSE, Class 12), written in the three-question format. A style reference: never copy sentences.

1. Why do you want to study this course or subject?

My interest in computer science stopped being casual the week our school's attendance system failed. I rebuilt it as a spreadsheet with scripts, and watching teachers actually use something I made taught me what code is for: removing friction from real lives. Since then I have been drawn to how systems scale, why a program that works for 40 students collapses at 4,000, and how data structures decide that outcome. I want to study computer science because the questions I keep asking, about efficiency, reliability and design trade-offs, are exactly the questions the discipline is built around, and I want to answer them properly rather than by trial and error.

2. How have your qualifications and studies helped you to prepare for this course or subject?

I study Physics, Chemistry, Mathematics and Computer Science under CBSE. Mathematics has given me the habits the course needs most: in calculus and probability I learned to sit with a problem until the structure shows itself. In my Class 12 computer science practicals I built a library management project in Python with SQL, and pushing it beyond the syllabus, adding overdue-fine logic and search, taught me the gap between code that runs and code that holds. Physics practicals trained me to log what I change and measure what happens, which is debugging by another name. My teachers would describe me as the student who asks why the method works, not just whether the answer matches.

3. What else have you done outside of education to prepare, and why are these experiences useful?

Outside school, I completed an online course in data structures and built a expense-splitting app my family actually uses, which taught me that users break assumptions faster than any test I write. I reached the second round of a national coding olympiad, where timed problems taught me to choose an approach and commit. As secretary of our school's science club I organised a coding workshop for juniors, and explaining loops to someone meeting them for the first time sharpened my own understanding more than any revision. These experiences matter for this course because they are the course in miniature: building, failing, measuring and explaining.