

STATEMENT OF PURPOSE - FORMAT TEMPLATE

Standard structure for a study abroad SOP (800 to 1,000 words)

Paragraph 1 - Introduction & Hook

Open with a specific hook that shows your motivation. State the program and university you are applying to and your core goal. Avoid quotes and cliches.

Paragraph 2 - Academic Background

Your degree, key subjects, projects and results relevant to the program. Show how your foundation prepared you for this course.

Paragraph 3 - Professional / Practical Experience

Internships, jobs, research or projects. Use specific outcomes and skills gained, and link them to the program.

Paragraph 4 - Why This Program & University

Name specific courses, professors, labs or facilities. Show you have researched the program and how it fits your goals.

Paragraph 5 - Short & Long Term Goals

Clear career goals and how this degree bridges where you are and where you want to be. Be specific about the role and industry.

Paragraph 6 - Why This Country & Conclusion

Reason for choosing the country, and a confident closing that ties your goals to the program.

Keep it to 800 to 1,000 words on one to two sides. Use simple, specific language. Tailor to each university.