

# HOW TO WRITE POWERFUL HKU PERSONAL STATEMENT

Each personal statement is unique. No two are created equal. After all, it is about you! When writing a personal statement, you should put your best foot forward. Besides, it is your story that gives the admissions committee a glimpse of your thoughts, aspirations, plans and life goals. In the following, let's discuss how to write this important admissions requirement.

## What is a Hong Kong University Personal Statement?

It's a reflective essay you're writing to highlight the reasons you're the right candidate for the degree to which you're applying. This essay is a key component of your application along with other documents or requirements. According to the an HKU PDF source, your personal statement must include the reasons for applying to HKU along with your extracurricular activities and chosen curricula.

## Tips in Writing the HKU Personal Statement

*Don't think about the character or word count, not just yet with the first draft.*

Even if it is tempting to write with the character or word counter on, it may be an obstacle that can interrupt your thoughts. Otherwise, it will make you panic, thinking that have exceeded the required length.

*Don't rush.*

Take your time in writing. Your personal statement isn't something you write in one sitting. Some students even claim that they take up to one month to finish their essay. Perhaps, you should leave it first once done and do not think about editing it yet. Thus, you might even consider of taking a break before setting your eyes on the HKU personal statement again for proofreading and editing.

*Think of the perfect expressions and words.*

If you're an international student, you might find it even harder to think of the words to use in your reflective essay. So if you think that you didn't use the perfect words or expressions in your personal statement, you might want to consider asking help from our pros.

*Focus on your strengths*

Within the required word length and count, you should be able to sell your strengths, highlighting what makes you a unique and desirable student for the degree. You can write about your future plans, knowledge and experiences related to the course you want to take up.

### *Write a catchy introduction*

Think of a great opening sentence. A few examples can be something interesting, surprising or unusual. This will help you leave a lasting and good impression. However, don't try to sound funny or humorous if it's forced or offensive.

### *Highlight your voice, ideas and work*

While you can use online samples, you should only take inspiration from them. Do not copy or emulate someone else's voice, tone or style. You are your own person, so focus on yourself, highlighting your voice, style and tone.

### *Be honest*

Don't claim something you're not. For example, don't say you're an expert in the Mandarin language if you can only utter basic Mandarin greetings.

### *Proofread and edit*

Read your personal statement a couple of times and listen to awkward sentences and statements. Delete those that do not sound right and replace them if possible. Read your paper over again until you achieve perfection. Alternatively, you might want to consider having someone read the Hong Kong University personal statement for you.

## **What to Include in the Hong Kong Personal Statement**

- Explanation of why you want to study in the university and why the course
- Motivations, aspirations and inspirations for taking the path
- Experiences, achievements and accomplishments relevant to the course desired
- Explanation of your uniqueness and why you deserve to be chosen
- Things you've done outside the classroom – can be volunteer work, etc.
- Relevance of your experiences to the chosen career
- Demonstration of transferrable skills useful for the course; leadership and critical thinking skills
- Long term plans – after the course, would you research or use your gained skills and knowledge to work in the industry

## HKU Admission Essay Mistakes

The following is only an overview of the common mistakes committed by the applicants to the Hong Kong University. Avoid committing the same mistakes if you don't want your application to go straight to the trash bin.

- Not customizing the essay based on the requirements – length, format and content
- Not making use of a strong introduction and ending
- Not writing with coherence and flow
- Not highlighting one's selling points – related experiences, accomplishments, achievements and aspirations
- Not keeping their essays positive
- Namedropping or choosing a controversial issue surrounding any faculty or other people or the field itself
- Copying from online sources, committing plagiarism
- Not proofreading and editing the paper

If you don't think that all of these things are doable, don't fret! You can always ask help from the pros who can write an impressive Hong Kong University personal statement or provide you with samples.

**Refer to this HKU personal statement guide today!**