



# How to Write Your Statement of Interest

*Honors students are **not** required to write a Statement of Interest.*

## 1. Brainstorm / Marinate / Talk



Your statement should offer a sense of who you are and what you want to accomplish.

Questions to get you started:

- What meaning have you drawn from any Grady courses so far? What Grady courses are you excited to take?
- What aspect of your major attracts you?
- Why is Grady College the place for you?
- What professional goals do you have? How will Grady help you attain these goals?
- What related experience do you have? In other words, how have you invested your time? This can include clubs and volunteer work.
- What will make someone say, "This is a great candidate!"
- Is there anything special/interesting about you that stands out?
- What is your story about how you became interested in your major?

## 2. Free Write



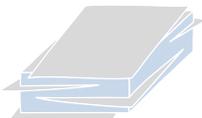
- Take a break after composing.
- Look for claims requiring evidence.
- Make sure everything is doing some kind of work.
- Read your work aloud.
- Read on a different medium.

## 3. Aim for a Unique Start



- Use readable sentences that are clear, interesting, detail-driven, and concrete rather than abstract.
- Don't use generic phrases.
- Don't repeat information from the application.
- Show a distinctive and compelling interest in the major, career, or field.
- Tell *your* story about why you want to apply to this major.

## 4. Create Several Drafts



- Plan ahead. Before your appointment, make an outline of the main points you want to cover and the examples you want to use for each.
- Don't try to memorize your statement word for word.
- Practice writing in a timed environment. For example, open a blank document and set a timer for 90 minutes. Try not to get distracted or leave the document.
- Focus on your first major choice.



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## 5. Ask for Feedback



- Make an appointment with the UGA Writing Center.
- Schedule a time to meet with the Grady College Career Consultant in the UGA Career Center.
- Ask friends or older students for feedback.
- Ask graduate students to review it.
- Try out multiple versions and get feedback on ideas.

## 6. Know the Grading Rubric and Testing Environment



- The Statement of Interest is 25% of your application scoring. The other 75% of your application score is your GPA in 24 hours in Areas I-V of the general education core curriculum.
- Scoring is based on:
  - **Content and Credibility (10 points)**
    - Credible investment in major, goals, or field and/or shows relevant professional experience.
    - Content is trustworthy: experiences and facts are discussed in detail and their significance is articulated.
  - **Style and Execution (10 points)**
    - Demonstrate overall organization, structure, and style that is competent in written communication.
    - Risks in approach or style do not undercut credibility or effectiveness.
    - Sentence-level issues don't undercut or interfere with the message.
  - **Overall Effectiveness (5 points)**
    - Shows evidence of promise of study and work in mass communication.
    - Showcases a student who can introduce and communicate interests and ambitions persuasively.
    - Statement represents an effective piece of communication.
  - **Total: 25 points possible**
- Schedule your Statement of Interest at University Testing Services in Clark Howell before the deadline.
- **The Statement of Interest is:**
  - Timed for 90 minutes.
    - If you have Disability Resource Center accommodations, let Testing Services know.
    - If English is your second language, email [gradyabj@uga.edu](mailto:gradyabj@uga.edu).
  - Typed on a computer using Times New Roman sized 12 font.
  - Two pages, double-spaced.
  - Written without Spelling and Grammar Check.
  - Notes and drafts cannot be used.
  - About \$30. The price is set by University Testing Services.