

# NUAMES Capstone Personal Statement Rubric

Student Name - 


<b>Explanation of the Personal Statement</b>
<p>A personal statement is designed to introduce you to a college admissions office, scholarship board, or sometimes an employer. It is your opportunity to describe who you are and why you are uniquely qualified for a program beyond what your GPA and standardized test results show. The statement gives you an opportunity to advocate for yourself.</p> <p>In your personal statement, you will include personal details of your life such as; challenges overcome or on going, goals or progress toward goals, etc. This is not about bragging. It is a statement of what you want to be and where you want to go in life.</p> <p>A personal statement should engage the emotions of the reader.</p>
<b>Additional Instructions</b>
<p>Write a one - two page, single spaced essay. (Some will be much longer.)</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Aim for 500 - 750 words.</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- You will probably revise your statement many times. Start early.</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Let your personality shine through, but be professional.</li> </ul>

<b>Presentation Checklist</b>	
	<b>Within your personal statement:</b>
	- Have a clear beginning, middle, and end.
	- Introduce a focused theme - the point of the paper.
	- Show commitment and passion.
	- Make sure your opening sentence/paragraph "hooks" your reader.
	- Never complain, whine, or blame.
	- Avoid politics, travel, your greatness, and religion.
	- Remember, this is not a journal entry, a confession, or philosophical creative writing.
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Visit these (and other) websites for "Personal Statements That Worked" and got their authors into college:                      Johns Hopkins <a href="https://apply.jhu.edu/application-process/essays-that-worked/">https://apply.jhu.edu/application-process/essays-that-worked/</a>                      University of Chicago Law <a href="https://www.law.uchicago.edu/news/their-own-words-admissions-essays-worked">https://www.law.uchicago.edu/news/their-own-words-admissions-essays-worked</a>                      Tufts University <a href="https://admissions.tufts.edu/apply/advice/past-essays/common-application-essays/">https://admissions.tufts.edu/apply/advice/past-essays/common-application-essays/</a> </li> </ul>