

## Guide to writing your motivational letter

This guide is relevant, if you have to write a motivational letter in connection with your application for admission to the bachelor programmes at Roskilde University.

We cannot guarantee that you will be admitted if you follow this guide, but it is a good idea to find inspiration in the advice stated in this guideline. The motivational letter must not exceed 1-1½ pages.

The motivational letter for the international bachelor study programmes should be written in English. If you want to apply for admission to the bachelor study programmes taught in Danish, the motivational application should be written in Danish.

### The motivational letter should contain the following points:

1. Why did you decide to apply for admission to the bachelor's programme?
2. In what ways are your previous qualifications and experiences of relevance to the bachelor's programme?
3. If you are admitted as a student to Roskilde University, how do you imagine the course of your studies and life as a student at Roskilde University to be in general and at the bachelor's programme in particular?

### 1) Why did you decide to apply for admission to the bachelor's programme?

As a preparation, it is a good idea to thoroughly familiarize yourself with the field of study, programme structure and work method of the bachelor's programme. In order to this, you can e.g.:

- Read about the main objectives and competency profiles of the bachelor's programme.
- Read about the programme structure.
- Read the individual course descriptions, which e.g. contain information on the composition of theory, methods and practical elements, as well as the intention concerning the structure and work methods of the programme. You can find course descriptions at <http://kursus.ruc.dk/>
- Talk to the student counsellors, and if possible, visit the university and attend the open house events where you can meet students.

In addition, consider where you first came across the bachelor's programme, why it caught your attention and why it appeals to you:

- What is it about the programme that inspires you and makes you curious?
- Why and how?
- What seems particularly challenging or relevant to you?
- Are there certain aspects of the programme that you already now know that you would like to explore in detail?

### 2) In what ways are your previous qualifications and experiences of relevance to the bachelor's programme?

Perhaps you have worked within the programme's academic field in different contexts. Although, you may also find that something completely different can qualify you for this programme, such as work experience, stays abroad, a stay at a folk high school (in Danish *højskole*), hobbies and/or voluntary work.

- Describe the activities that are relevant for your interest in the academic field of the programme or that have given you specific competencies that you can draw on during your studies.

**3) If you are admitted as a student to Roskilde University, how do you imagine the course of your studies and life as a student at Roskilde University to be in general and at the bachelor's programme in particular?**

You can choose to include any relevant aspects that you believe will help to describe you as a student and a person, e.g. certain ambitions, your commitment or interest in other aspects of the bachelor's programme and Roskilde University. Try to formulate your expectations to the programme at both an academic and a personal level. Below are a few questions that may give you some ideas:

- How do you imagine the day-to-day life at the programme, how will you participate, what can you contribute academically and personally?
- How are you going to cooperate with your fellow students, influence the study environment, the programme, Roskilde University, etc.?
- Exactly how do you imagine your studies will proceed?