

Statement of Purpose

Having completed my Bachelors of Engineering in Information Technology from the Savitribai Phule Pune University, I have decided to pursue a Masters in Computer Science. I wish to gain in-depth knowledge in Computer Architecture, Distributed Operating Systems, Algorithms, Database Systems and Programming Languages. That is why I chose the INTO Mason pathway course to develop my English language skills and also pursue my masters in Computer science at George Mason University.

While pursuing my engineering course in Information Technology, I was introduced to many subjects related to Computer Science as well as programming. I learnt languages like C, C++, Java, Visual Basic and Machine Language. Also being an Information Technology course, I became familiar with operating systems like Windows XP, Windows Vista, Windows 7, LINUX, Windows Mobile OS, Android as well as Apple OS. I also built my expertise in Oracle 10, SQL and MS Access databases. In my third year of college, I designed a mini project on subject DBMS. I chose the topic of bus ticket management system where I designed a system which allowed a user to book or cancel bus tickets and the information was stored in a database. I used VB & Oracle for the same. In my final year first semester, I designed a payroll management system which used to calculate salary of an employee based on his attendance using UML diagrams. We used JAVA and VB coding for the same. The final year project which I had undertaken, is about designing a web controlled robot for surveillance. In this project I designed a robot which can be used for surveillance. I used PHP, HTML & ARDUINO software. Working on these projects has given me a varied range of design and programming skills in different technology platforms.

During the pathway course I had the opportunity of studying two CS courses along with the pathway subjects. Fundamentals of system programming helped me develop my knowledge in C language and UNIX systems programming. The knowledge gained in Mathematical foundations of Computer Science was useful in problem solving and basic reasoning.

I did certified course on C++, Java and LATEX from IIT BOMBAY. I also did certified courses on Core and Advanced Java from SEED InfoTech, one of the top computer training institutes of India. I also participated in a workshop on internet threats and security. All these

trainings and courses were done to improve my understanding of computer science subjects further.

I understand that gaining a master from your prestigious university is not going to be a cakewalk and would need a disciplined and team approach and hard work every day. Being part of our college student forum, I learnt how to be a team player. It has taught me to be a good team leader and work with my team in mutual cooperation. Also being a General Secretary of the student body has helped me to build familiarity related to issues of management, teamwork and finance. Before being elected as a General Secretary, I had to do a lot of campaigning in my department, which helped me build confidence as well as persuasive and speaking skills. I also developed management skills when I was a volunteer at blood donation camp and when I was the overall head of a national-level event. I have always tried to balance my extracurricular activities with my college education. I am an avid chess player and was ranked fourth in the university level championship. I also participated in zonal-level chess competitions.

Getting a thorough knowledge about my branch and programming in particular, striking a balance between theory and practice of computer science and getting excellent knowledge in my field about current research and future trends are some of my top goals for my masters. Post my masters, I aim to join back the industry as a software consultant in a technology company or pursue a PhD in a suitable and upcoming research field in Computer Science that has industry implications as well. My long term goal is to start my own technology firm and work as an entrepreneur. I am excited at the prospect of studying at your university and being able to discuss the latest trends in subjects like algorithms, database systems and programming, with fellow students and faculty. Finally, I would thank the admissions committee for going through my statement of purpose.

Sarthak Sheth

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