

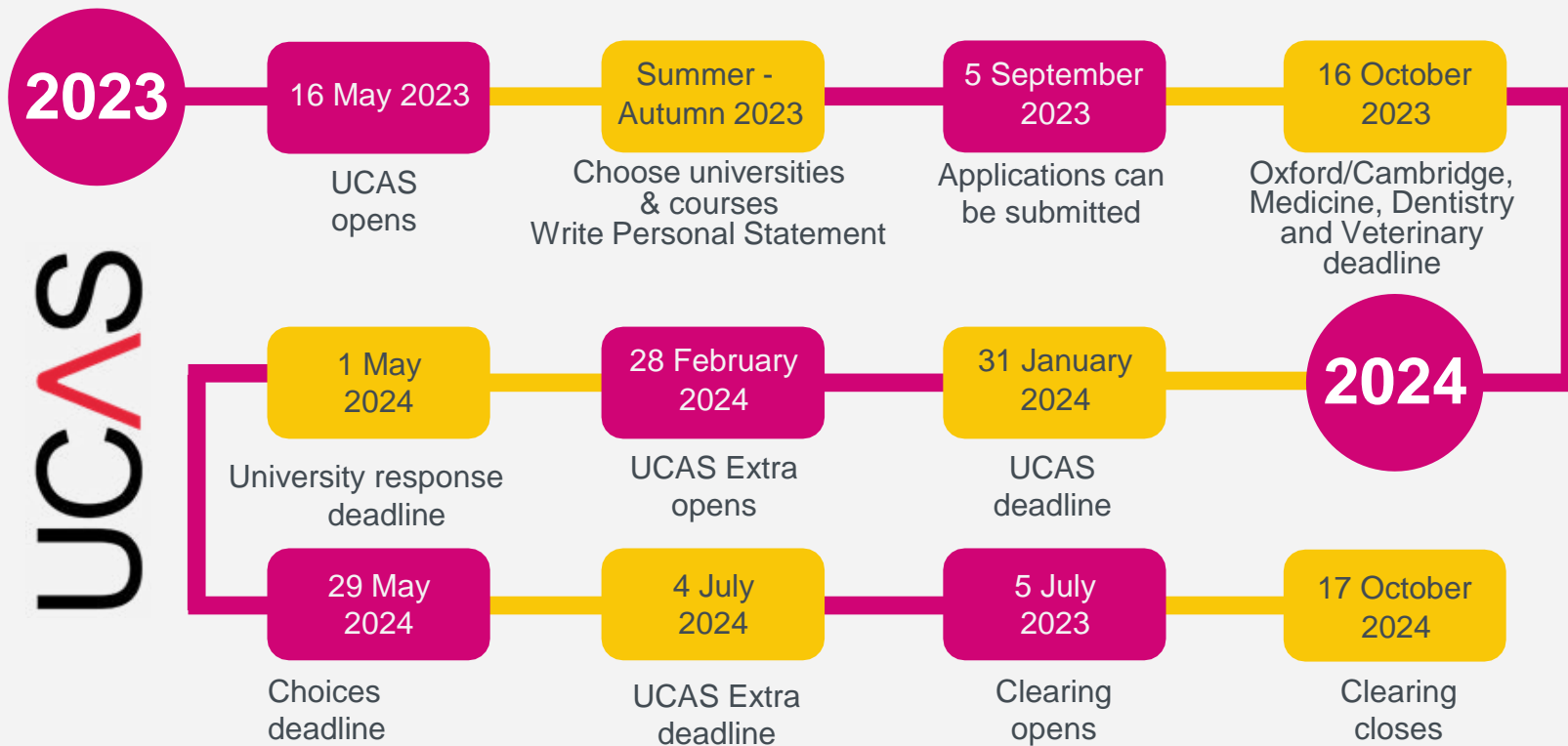


# Writing a Personal Statement

# It's time to discover

- What is a personal statement and why is it important?
- What to think about when writing your personal statement
- Key dates for UCAS applications

# Your Application Journey



# Key dates

16 May 2023

UCAS applications open for 2024 entry

16 October 2023

Application deadline for Oxford and Cambridge, most Medical, Dentistry and Veterinary courses

Check

Your school's internal Personal Statement deadline

31 January 2024

Application deadline for majority of undergraduate courses

# What's the point of a Personal Statement?

- Demonstrate your passion for the course you are interested in
- An opportunity to 'sell yourself' and show your personality
- An opportunity to stand out from the crowd
- Secure an offer, interview, or portfolio request

How long is a personal statement?

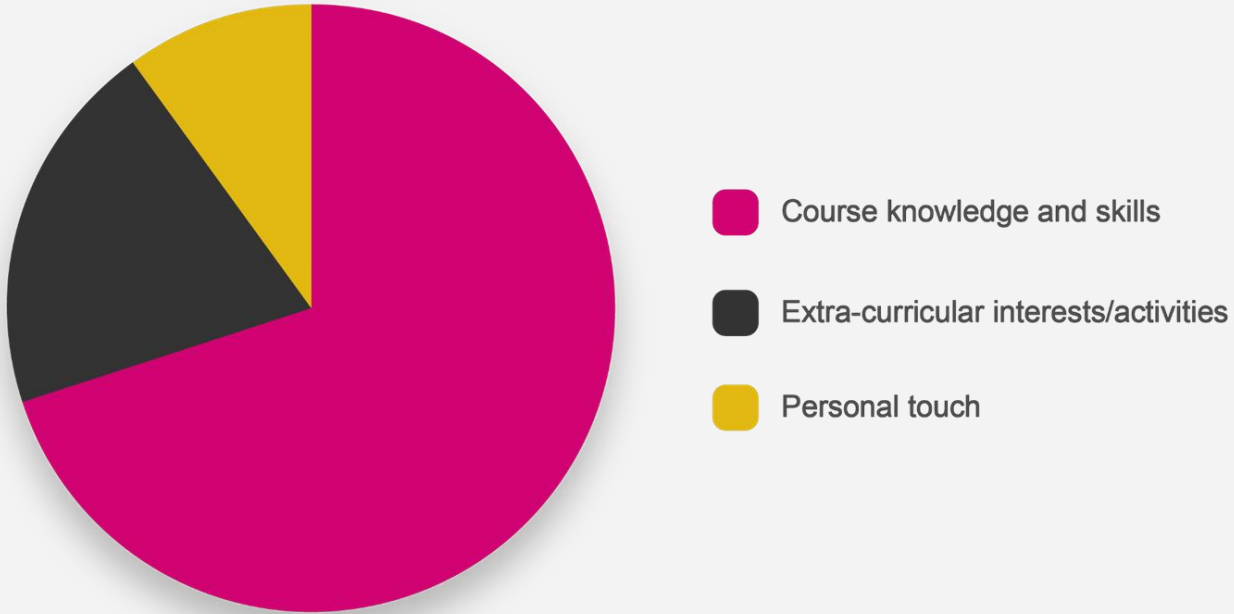
# 4000 characters

...or 47 lines of text

In other words, roughly...

- 500 words
- 1 side of A4

# My Personal Statement





**Where do I start?**

Write down what you're good at

Write down what you've done at school

Write down what you've outside of school

Write down what made you want to study this course

How can you demonstrate your interest or passion in a course?

# Examples of Super-Curriculars

- University taster/experience days
- Online courses (voluntary)
- Visit relevant place(s)
- Speaking to someone in the sector
- EPQ
- Do wider reading
- Documentaries
- Social media
- Hobbies
- LinkedIn
- Work experience/shadowing
- Part-time work

# Examples of Extra-Curriculars

- School clubs or societies
- Hobbies and personal interests
- Part time employment
- Sports and recreational activities
- Taking care of family members
- Work experience and Internships
- Volunteering

# Make sure to use the ABC method

A

Activity; what have you done?

I'm part of a debating club at my school.

B

Benefit; what skills have you gained?

Debating has given me lots of experience in presenting arguments and communicating my ideas clearly.

C

Course; how will this prepare you for the course?

This has shown my ability to use information to evidence my points, which is necessary in law in both defence and prosecution.

# Example

Following my experiences of European travel, I am looking forward to further developing my management skills and knowledge of the international hospitality sector on this course to pursue a career in hotel management in Northern Europe.

# Top Tips

## Avoid...

- Leaving it to the last minute
- Writing a list of what you have done
- Starting every sentence 'I...'
- Boasting or lying
- Being funny or controversial
- Using quotes

## Instead...

- Draft, draft, and draft again
- Do your research
- Be passionate
- Be honest and authentic; focus on real strengths and successes
- Use formal but normal language
- Ask your teachers to proofread



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