Personal Statement

I am inspired by my father. In 1990 he founded a B2B logistics company, beginning with just two trucks. With no formal business education, he grew the company into an industrial logistics leader with forty trucks, a centralized warehouse, and headquarters building. I inherited my father’s ambitious, “can-do” attitude toward business, and have developed a foundation of academic knowledge by pursuing undergraduate business management at Cardiff University. I am motivated to pursue graduate level business management training not only because I enjoy the learning process, but also because I know that a strong background in management will be crucial to carrying on my father’s legacy in an increasingly competitive marketplace. I expect to face many professional challenges in the course of my business career, and need to be well-equipped to handle whatever comes my way.

The Master of Science in Management programme at University College London is very appealing to me, not only because the academic curriculum is strong, but also because the programme offers many valuable opportunities to put classroom knowledge into practice. Classes such as Business Strategy and Financial Decision Making would be immensely useful to me as I work alongside my father to manage the growth of the company, which has recently signed a large shipping contract with an important client in a new industry. As I ascend through ranks, I will need hands-on experience with business in order to competently assist my father and ultimately take full responsibility as CEO. I consider the consultancy and business plan projects offered by UCL to be excellent opportunities to develop my practical experience with business at a functional level. I have selected Route A of the programme because I am seeking to bolster my knowledge of finance and accounting, in addition to deepening my experience with project management. The Strategic Project Management course is particularly relevant to me because, upon graduation, I expect to join the family business as a mid-level manager. It is crucial that I strengthen my capability to successfully oversee projects and competently manage a team of employees. I consider Route A within UCL’s Master of Science management programme to be the ideal curriculum to complement my undergraduate business management education.

I have approached my undergraduate academic career with a very ambitious attitude. To enrich my knowledge gained in the classroom, I pursued and obtained a competitive internship opportunity with Wales’ Monmouthshire County Council, which selected me in group of twenty students from a pool of 120. I also completed two study-abroad terms that were fundamental to my undergraduate experience. On scholarship, I embarked upon a year-long academic program at the University of Mannheim. While in Germany, I pushed myself very hard academically. Most exchange students complete 10-12 academic modules during the program; however, I completed twenty. I also studied abroad at the University of California, Los Angeles, on scholarship from the Global Opportunity Center.

My experiences as an international student, first as a freshman business major in Wales and later during my study abroad programs, have been central to my learning. Not only have I benefited from acquiring business knowledge from academic institutions around the globe, but also I have learned a lot about different cultures and myself. I am fluent in English and conversational in German, and capable of adapting well to many different circumstances and environments. I greatly enjoy learning about the history, technology, and art of other cultures. As an international student attending UCL, I would welcome the opportunity to enrich the educational experiences of my fellow students, in addition to immersing myself in London’s rich cultural heritage.

My ultimate career goal is to translate my passion for business management into a successful career within the family business and eventually become CEO. I have watched my father build a growing, profitable company; however, much of that success has been based on the trusting, productive relationships that he has established. In the future, I cannot simply rely on my father’s relationships, but rather need to be well-equipped with my own business knowledge and experience to competently handle any challenge that may arise. I expect that there will be many unforeseen obstacles to be overcome, in diverse functional areas such as accounting, finance, business strategy, logistics, human resources, and regulatory compliance. I am seeking graduate-level management training at UCL to ensure my readiness. I also am excited for the opportunity to expand upon my natural passion for business management in an international setting, especially in a city culturally as rich and diverse as London.