

# Application for exchange studies, International office

## Academic Purpose Statement

Ever since my early age, I have always been amazed of our surroundings; why is the sky blue, how does the earth orbit the sun, how could the small interactions between particles give me consciousness? It was not long after I first learned to speak that I started asking the question “why”, and so my mother was not surprised when I told her that my dream is to one day become a scientist. Fast forward a few years and I have almost completed my third year at the Master Programme in Engineering Chemistry, and my amazement and wonder of the world is still as strong as ever. The questions have become more complicated and in-depth, but they keep nourishing my ambition of an academic career. To study at one of Australia’s top universities would give me proximity to international research that I want and take me one step closer to finding the answers to my questions.

The University of Melbourne is a research-led university with a high academic reputation worldwide. It is ranked among the top universities in the world and renowned in fields such as medicine, chemical engineering and climate studies. But even so, their high ratio of international students and research output is the most attractive aspect to me. It presents an opportunity to network with like-minded students and researchers that share the same interests and goals as me. Also, their prominent focus on research extends to the courses that they offer: SKIL90004 Project Management in Science and CHEN90034 Research Methods, that gives you the necessary tools for a successful career in the academic world. SKIL90004 covers the processes and techniques in project management as well as the ‘soft side’ of interacting with people in groups. This course will give me key attributes to manage future projects as a PhD student. CHEN90034 is an introduction to the processes of research in chemical and biochemical engineering and would give me invaluable experience for continuing higher-level research in chemistry at the university.

Apart from subjects focusing on the methods and management in research, I would like to read BMEN90029 Soft Tissue and Cellular Biomechanics and MREN90003 Electronic and Magnetic Materials. Both courses aim to further advance my knowledge of materials and establish a foundation for continuing studies in biomaterials, and materials for artificial photosynthesis. Developing materials in medicine has been one of my goals for a long time, and my interest for a sustainable future has ascended from today’s environmental issues. Reading both courses at a university renowned for both medicine and climate studies, would give me a valuable combination to solve the global challenges of tomorrow. Additionally, since BMEN90029 has a prominent focus on the fundamentals of cell signalling it would be a great complement to my studies in Uppsala where such a course is not offered.

In conclusion, studying at The University of Melbourne would provide me with the tools necessary to fulfil my long-time dream of becoming an international researcher and scientist. The relevant courses, and the proximity to eminent research and like-minded students would give me both an academic as well as personal development. I sincerely hope that I will be considered for this opportunity and I am determined to make the best of it.