

Personal Statement

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Course applied for: Artificial Intelligence BSc

Thinking about the course that I wanted to study has taken a while. I constantly learn new skills, take up new experiences and engage in various activities. I was destined to study in different schools and meet people from all over the world. I was born in Manchester, and lived between Riyadh in Saudi Arabia, Manchester, Lancaster, and Cardiff. This helped me to develop a multicultural mindset, and I became more inquisitive about everything around me.

My interest in technology was sparked when I was a child, and I have always been a “tech-savvy”. I have seen how bulky phones turned into multifunctioning smart ones. I remember I had a conversation with my mother about the evolution of TVs. The picture resolution of the 90s that looked like Minecraft intrigued me! I was then introduced to the concept of “pixels” and how it varies to affect the picture resolution. Joining King Abdulaziz and his Companions Foundation for Giftedness and Creativity (KACFGC) after passing their tests has given me the opportunity to broaden my experience and the confidence to believe in myself. Over four years, I learned many life skills, such as discipline, leadership and critical thinking. Alongside these skills, I had the opportunity to experiment with various scientific fields through their programs, including biomedical sciences, computer programming and Artificial Intelligence (AI). All of which helped me to improve my analytical and evaluative skills. They have also given me an insight into the working environment I can join after completing my degree.

Programming courses have allowed me to explore the endless possibilities that computer science can bring to the world. I now know most of the basic commands in Java, and I am comfortable putting together small pieces of code. The debugging part of programming has helped my mind to become a problem solver. I worked with a team from KACFGC to develop an app for online appointment registration using Android Studio. This process proved my ability in this field and boosted my teamwork morale. I have also learnt how to build PCs for myself and helped family and friends to do so. This has strengthened my practical ability and knowledge of how operating systems work with different components. My programming experience will be an asset when I go to university.

I understand that computer science is not just about programming and hardware. I want to explore computers further. It is truly fascinating that AI makes it possible for machines to learn from experience and adjust to new inputs and perform human-like tasks. In the last decade, technology has exponentially grown, and it has great power to replicate human thoughts. AI is everywhere, and we use it daily for many tasks. Whether on our phones using Siri or Amazon’s Alexa, both use AI to complete tasks and answer our questions. My interest in computers and programming can be better strengthened and developed to work on the human mind if I study AI, which is not offered in any university in Saudi Arabia. It is a wide-ranging tool that enables us to rethink how we integrate information, analyze data and use the results to improve the decision-making process—and already, it is transforming our lives.

Recently, our country announced a bunch of megaprojects, AI has become a fundamental element in developing of a better, smarter future for our generation and many generations which inspires me a lot. My objective is to participate in this development process. The Kingdom has launched projects that adopt and implement ultramodern telecommunication systems and ICT technology supported by the Saudi Data and Artificial Intelligence Authority (SDAIA). The country also announced the development of NEOM, a smart city that will be located in northwestern Saudi Arabia, and AI will be the 'beating heart' of NEOM and THE LINE. THE LINE is another project, a linear smart city that puts humans first, providing an unprecedented urban living experience while preserving the surrounding nature. It will run on 100% renewable energy and prioritize people's health and well-being. There will be a huge demand for specialists in AI. The government will continue hiring people who align with these values, which I desire to have.

With all the benefits we have from AI, the future is promising. Studying subjects such as Neural Networking and Human-Computer Interaction, I opine that a new world of opportunities will be open to me. I am confident that my enthusiasm and determination will be valuable assets throughout my journey to graduation at your university. I want to study AI because I want to gain the knowledge needed to participate in shaping the future of my country. I want to be able to find solutions with the use of efficient computer technology. The knowledge and skills that I will gain from this course will help me turn my creative ideas into reality and make the world a better place for everyone.