

How can effective editing help you? Below are two versions of an application essay. The question the student is addressing is: Why are you interested in studying at XXXX?

**AFTER REVIEWING BOTH OF THESE I AM CERTAIN YOU WILL SEE HOW YOURDEAN.COM'S EDITING CAN ASSIST YOU WITH YOUR COLLEGE ESSAY.**

Version 2 – If you look at this essay, even before you read it, you will see what a thorough and complete editing/revision your paper would receive. This is the kind of scrutiny a professional gives an essay that is different from what your roommate is likely to provide.

The second version of the paper, which you should read first, is different from the original in two significant ways: the opening paragraph is entirely different from the first version and this draft is nearly 20% shorter. If you scroll down to it you will see how cutting and pasting and deleting superfluous words can change an essay. The opening of the second version is one that an admissions committee would notice and remember. The concise and focused style of the second paper suggests that this student knows how to focus his writing and argue effectively.

Version 1 -- The original first draft of essay is clear and for the most part well written. Its opening is to the point but unremarkable. The student has an excellent grasp of the curriculum at the school and knows precisely what he wants to do and why he wants to attend this program.

## VERSION 2 [Edited]

Aristotle admonished the student of politics to study the soul, and pursuing a joint degree with the XXXX is consistent with this aim. I have been putting the philosophical ideas I learned in college and at the WWW into practice in both the private and the public sectors, evaluating their practicality and conferring with my colleagues in their respective fields. When I reflect on my life experiences and outlook, two themes emerge—communication and compassion. I grew up in a military family and spent my childhood moving around, meeting a broad range of people. I learned to recognize the diversity of cultures and beliefs existing in our world, and to strive to understand, empathize, and communicate with those whose attitudes and opinions differed from mine.

The use of language is central to communication; my studies in German, Spanish, Hungarian, and ancient Greek have given me valuable insights into other cultures. My experiences living and working in both Guatemala and Germany, in addition to travels across the globe, have illuminated our world's diversity, helping me understand that no single worldview suits everyone. Navigating Guatemala's mixed cultures last summer sharpened this insight. It reinforced the need for me not only to observe subtle nuances

**Deleted:** I believe we are all born with an internal mission statement and that our primary challenge in life is to identify and fulfill it. My own mission is to help others in the field of economic development, specifically through Microfinance. I have already embarked on this path, and my diverse academic and professional experiences have given me a solid foundation from which to help other people discover and implement methods to make their communities healthy places to live and to flourish. Nevertheless, in order to lead large-scale Microfinance operations, I need to gain a solid understanding of international economic development. -

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that both define people and separate them from **each other**, but also to exercise compassion for perspectives that may **from mine**.

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My current studies focus on the effects of work, politics and globalization on the lives of people within disadvantaged and marginalized sectors of the economy, including the role religion plays in this context. Most of the people I **met** in Guatemala integrate deep spiritual values into **everyday activities**, and I was grateful that my theological education helped me understand this critical dimension in their lives. Additionally, I gained the trust of the people with whom I dealt because of my willingness to sit down and discuss some of the things that matter most to them.

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Last spring, in the search for the capstone to my education, I visited the XXXX Microfinance course taught by AAAA. The discussion of current issues in Microfinance was **especially interesting**, and when AAAA invited me to participate in the small group dialogue, I realized that the XXXX provides a healthy atmosphere to share knowledge, ideas, and **convictions**. In addition to **continuing to work with AAAA**, I **want to study with** Professor BBBB. His seminar on the political economy of reform, growth, and equity, would allow me to explore the influence of a country's resources, political conditions, and policy on economic development. Additionally, Professor CCCC focus on problems in Latin America suggests that the XXXX would help to nurture my continuing search for specific economic solutions to the overwhelming poverty in that region.

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**I believe we are all born with an internal mission statement and that our primary challenge in life is to identify and fulfill it. My mission is to help others in the field of economic development, specifically through Microfinance. I have already embarked on this path, and my diverse academic and professional experiences have given me a foundation from which to help other people discover and implement methods to make their communities healthy places in which to live and to flourish. Nevertheless, in order to lead large-scale Microfinance operations, I need to gain a solid understanding of international economic development.** After completing my studies, I plan to direct Microfinance efforts not only in Latin America, but on a global level. Finding the right place to **strengthen my** knowledge of its underlying principles and effects is crucial to my eventual success. Because of its outstanding program dedicated to training international leaders, I cannot imagine a better place than the XXXX to complete the essential preparation I need to fulfill my life's mission.

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## VERSION 1 [Original]

I believe we are all born with an internal mission statement and that our primary challenge in life is to identify and fulfill it. My own mission is to help others in the field of economic development, specifically through Microfinance. I have already embarked on this path, and my diverse academic and professional experiences have given me a solid foundation from which to help other people discover and implement methods to make their communities healthy places to live and to flourish. Nevertheless, in order to

lead large-scale Microfinance operations, I need to gain a solid understanding of international economic development.

When I reflect on my life experiences and outlook, two themes arise—communication and compassion. I grew up in a military family and spent my childhood moving around, meeting a broad range of people. Doing so taught me at an early age not only to recognize the diversity of cultures and beliefs existing in our world, but also to strive to understand, empathize, and communicate with those whose attitudes and opinions differ from mine. The use of language is central to communication, and my studies in German, Spanish, Hungarian, and even ancient Greek have given me valuable insights into other cultures and thought. My experiences living and working in both Guatemala and Germany, in addition to extensive travels across the globe, have illuminated the diversity of the world we live in, helping me form the view that no single worldview suits everyone. Navigating through the mixed cultures in Guatemala last summer underscored this last point. It reinforced the need for me not only to observe subtle nuances that both define people and separate them from others, but also to exercise compassion for perspectives that may run counter to my own convictions.

Aristotle admonished the student of politics to study the soul, and pursuing a joint degree with the XXXX is consistent with this aim. I have been putting the philosophical ideas I learn from academia to the test in both the private and the public sectors, evaluating their practicality and conferring with my colleagues in their respective fields. My current studies focus on the effects of work, politics and globalization on the lives of people within disadvantaged and marginalized sectors of the economy, including the role religion plays in this context. Most of the people I encountered in Guatemala integrate deep spiritual values into everything they do, and I was grateful that my theological education helped me understand this critical dimension in their lives. Additionally, I gained the trust of the people with whom I dealt because of my willingness to sit down and discuss some of the things that matter most to them.

Last spring, in the search for the capstone to my education, I visited the XXXX Microfinance course taught by AAAA. The discussion of current issues in Microfinance was a particular draw for me in light of these interests, and when XXXX invited me to participate in the small group dialogue, I realized that the XXXX provides a healthy atmosphere to share knowledge, ideas, and passions - such a vital component to an effective graduate school. In addition to working with AAAA, I am also interested in studying under Professor BBBB. His seminar course on the political economy of reform, growth, and equity, would allow me to explore the influence of a country's resources, political conditions, and policy on economic development. Additionally, Professor CCCC (focus on problems in Latin America) suggests that the XXXX School would help to nurture my continuing search for specific economic solutions to the overwhelming poverty in that region.

After completing my studies, I plan to direct Microfinance efforts not only in Latin America, but on a global level. Finding the right place to gain a deep knowledge of its underlying principles and effects is crucial to my eventual success. Because of its

outstanding program dedicated to training international leaders, I cannot imagine a better place than the XXXX to complete the essential preparation I need to fulfill my life's mission.