

Template for the “Statement of Purpose (SoP)”

SIM Applications – MSc Bioinformatics, Saarland University

Your Statement of Purpose should not exceed **two pages (minimum 11 pt Arial, standard margins)**.

Your name: Firstname Lastname

Your GitHub repository: [https://github.com/\[your_username\]](https://github.com/[your_username])

First Paragraph – CV and Educational Background

Provide key information about your academic background and relevant experiences.

- Type of bachelor’s degree, year, name of university (link) and city
- Title of your bachelor’s thesis, plus two sentences relevance for the bioinformatics study program
- Up to three internships or work experiences most relevant to the MSc Bioinformatics program
- End this paragraph with 1–2 sentences explaining why these experiences motivate you to pursue this degree.

Second Paragraph – Proof of Required Competencies

List the courses from your previous studies, including grades and credit points (CP), grouped under the following competency areas:

- Basic knowledge of mathematics (at least 18 CP)
- Basic knowledge of computer science (at least 18 CP)
- Basic knowledge of bio-/cheminformatics (e.g., sequence analysis, protein structure; at least 18 CP)
- Basic knowledge in life sciences (e.g., chemistry, molecular biology, genetics; at least 10 CP)

Third Paragraph – Familiarity with Bioinformatics

Describe your exposure to bioinformatics. Address the following questions:

- Did you take bioinformatics courses at your university? If yes, what were the main topics?
- Did you complete online courses and obtain certificates in bioinformatics topics? If yes, which ones?

Fourth Paragraph – Programming Proficiency

Explain your programming experience, ideally in the context of bioinformatics or cheminformatics.

- Do you have verifiable programming experience supported by a project in which you wrote code?
- If yes, provide: The project title, 1–2 sentence description, a link to the code (e.g., GitHub repository)

Fifth Paragraph – Justification Letter

Provide a letter of motivation (maximum 1000 words, or till the two pages are filled) explaining:

- Why you are applying for this degree program?
- Which skills, competencies, and interests make you well-suited for the program?
- How your personal background has influenced your decision?
- Why Saarbrücken?