A **Statement of Purpose** is one component of a successful application to graduate school and can be challenging to do well.

It tells the admissions committee who you are and how you would benefit from — and contribute — to their program.

- **Who?** Name the professors you have worked with and those you are interested in working with.

- **What?** Describe yourself, your family, your community, motivations, experiences and expectations.

- **Where?** Describe relevant past experiences: jobs, community activities, leadership roles, awards, honors. Make sure to include how these experiences have added value to you, and how your participation added value to those organizations.

- **Why?** Describe the reasons you want to study in this field. Why this school? This program?

Get others to help — faculty, friends, the Writing Center. Edit your drafts to make it interesting, unique, and tell your story in a way that will captivate the admission’s committee.