

Scientific Writing in Astro

Lecture #6

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NCU, 19 Dec. 2020

Jobs.

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- CV ✓

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- CV ✓
- Motivational letter / Cover letter ✓

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- CV ✓
- Motivational letter / Cover letter ✓
- Statement of research experience
is not the same as
- Research proposal / Future plans (depending on the job)

Statement of research experience

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- Writing: is it similar to writing a paper?
 - **NO.**
 - well, there are common things. But mostly, NO.

Statement of research experience

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- list everything, add emphasis on things that are relevant for given job
- be honest while showing competence!
- Writing: is it similar to writing a paper?
 - **NO.**
 - well, there are common things. But mostly, NO.
- visual appearance...

Statement of research experience

- Example sentences:

- I am an expert in / I have become an expert in
- It is my pleasure to apply
- I am enthusiastic about
- I am excited about
- As an expert in X, I am in the perfect place to do Y
- My goal is to
- with great interest
- I bring a unique contribution to X institute/group
- I would be delighted to contribute
- I have exceptional skills in
- I am a perfect candidate
- my experiences in X provide me with the unique qualifications needed for this position

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Some “don’t do”s:

"I am interested in"

- weak.
- You should sound mindblowingly excited to do your research.
- US and UK people will...

“This job would provide me with the opportunity to work with XY.”

- no.
- What can *you* give *them*?
- be confident with your skills and value

Two examples...

- ...from my past ;)

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Notes on visual appearance
& formatting:

EXTREMELY IMPORTANT

- elegance
- professionalism
- visually pleasing
 - standing out
 - add figures!!
- be uniquely distinguishable
from the other 300 applicants

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Research proposal / Future plans

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PhD positions: *no*
Regular post-doc: *depends*
Fellowship: *impossible without*

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- Edit it.

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“independent, innovative and hard-working” →

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“despite my young age, I have developed a clear scientific vision, as evidenced by...”

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**Thanks for
being here!**