

Individual Student Profile

You should have completed this in your first course. If you did not here are guidelines to help you complete this requirement.

This is the location for an introduction. In APA, the introduction is not labeled but expected at the beginning of a new work, section, or portion of a document. An introduction sets the stage for what will follow in the body.

Personal Philosophy of Learning

After the introduction, your personal philosophy would follow, describing aspects of your own learning, and if you are an educator, how you see learning as an aspect of teaching. What critical components are essential for the learning process to be successful? At this point, the instructions call for a thesis statement.

This portion of the profile is unique to your thinking, addressing basic tenets of your belief. Learning, by its nature, involves change. How does this aspect factor into your philosophy? Asking yourself questions or making statements is one approach to creating a philosophy. Even though you may have done this numerous times, defining what you think today is important to measure how you might think tomorrow.

Goal Statement One

The directions ask for three to five goal statements. These can be simple or complex but either approach should welcome the ability to measure accomplishment. If fluency in another language is a goal, we measure fluency by an action. Considering how you might measure growth towards your goal is one way of helping to define the goal itself.

Goal Statement Two

Various reasons exist for wanting to pursue a graduate degree. Be honest. Be thoughtful. Each goal statement should be reflective of what you actually want to achieve. These define what you are willing to accomplish to reach graduation, much like stepping stones help to cross a stream to reach the other side.

Conclusion

Placing the stepping stones in the stream for others to cross becomes a metaphor for graduate studies. Someone may have placed them there for you and now, it's your turn to determine where to cross and what stones are needed to be successful. The Individual Student Profile is one component of your capstone. It can be a springboard for your Leadership Impact paper.