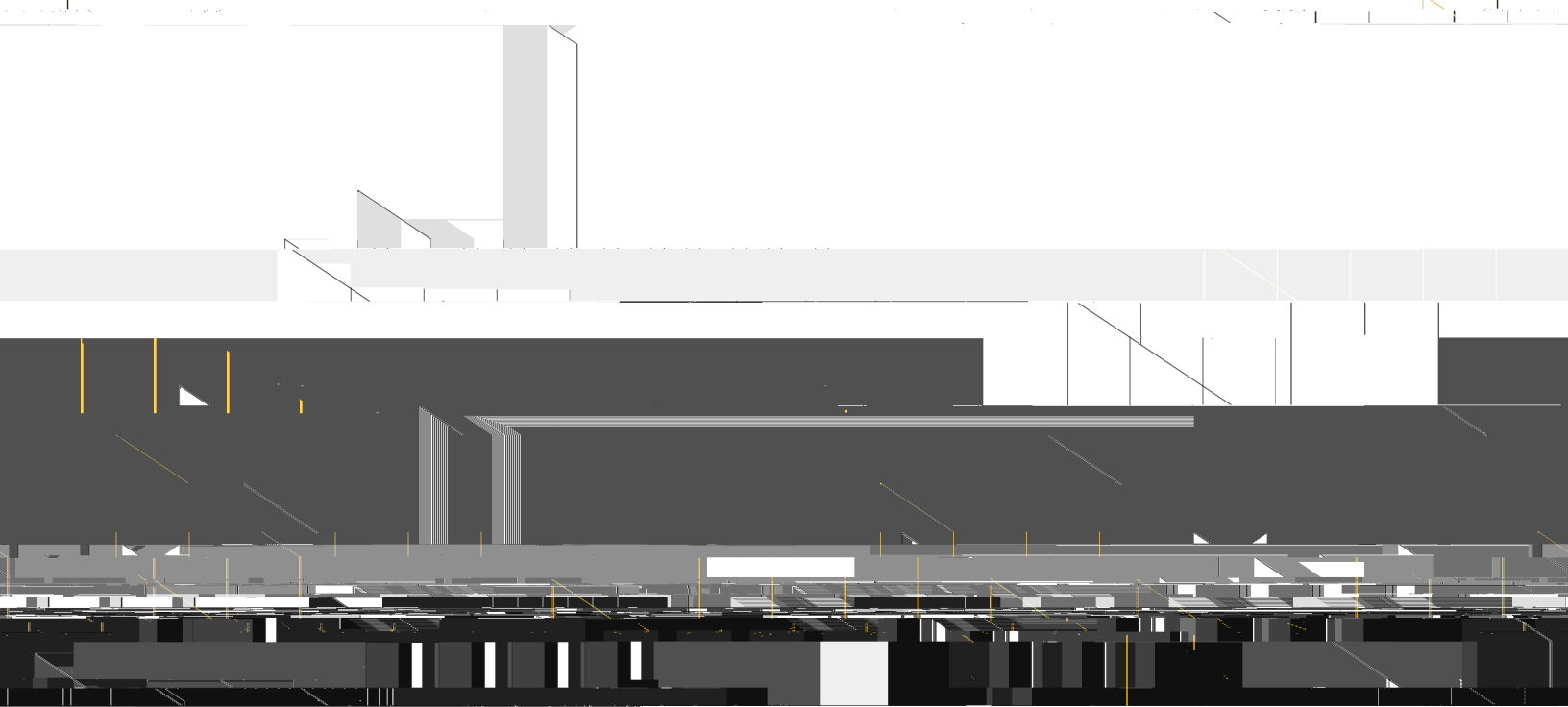


# *Guide to Writing a Personal Statement*

P. 10 e of



**Career  
Center**

## Suggested Content

**R** - What is the role of an individual? What are the most significant experiences, events or relationships that have shaped your overall perspective about the purpose of challenge or hardship experienced?

**D** - How did you enter in the field of professional degree program and career development? When did you decide to pursue advanced education? If there are any significant role models or role models who have influenced your career goal, describe how. What appeal do you have about the program?

**O** - What are your legal, ideal, or objective in the profession? In what profession do you imagine yourself working? If applicable, which area of concentration in the program or profession would you like to pursue and why? How have you prepared for this field? Describe an "aha" moment (e.g., article, computer language, skill) or knowledge that demonstrates the depth of your experience in the field. Explain how the "aha" knowledge applies.

**O** - Be open about an obstacle you have encountered and overcome or a high point of your application (illness, family issues, financial issues, workload, etc.). If there are any inconsistencies in your academic record (marked low grade one term) or administrative code, explain how in a brief, factual, positive, non-apologetic, non-defensive manner.

**C** - Summarize briefly the key elements of your statement (e.g., motivation, strength, and goal).

## Style

**O** - Avoid language "gimmicks" or clichés. Focus on informing, not entertaining.

**O** - Feature your most important information. End with a strong statement or a memorable thought. Develop your major idea in an ordered fashion; see examples here for appropriate. Briefly state of