

Psychology is something I have good reasons for studying, and not just because I was opportune to be introduced to its possibilities through the deep learnings of Abnormal and Social Psychology which I acquired during my Undergraduate studies, but because my young cousin was born with down syndrome and in my culture not only is the child stigmatized but the family as well.

Growing up in Nigeria, The average Nigerian parents expects their child to study either Medicine, Law or Engineering and nothing less, My parents wasn't excluded in this societal norm and believe, The always use this phrase "since she's so brilliant she will study medicine" I die a little every time I hear them proudly tell their Friends, colleagues and relatives this, knowing that I have already made the decision to study psychology but lack the courage to tell them about my decision not that they won't support me but am scared of the disappointment the may feel.

But I pushed myself to be better, by learning the basics of Developmental psychology, Social psychology and Abnormal psychology, during the course of my undergraduate degree and I read the Scientific American Mind for an insight into the latest areas of research in this field and have become the first editor for this area in my college magazine, keeping students aware of the latest research as well as recommending and reviewing books.

I am fascinated by neurodegenerative diseases such as Alzheimer and Parkinson disease. Personally, I would like to further understand the diminishing neuropsychological capabilities of the said sufferers and its effects on cognitive, affective, and motor functions, with this question in mind and the desire to find answers, I graduated with a first class in Bachelor of Arts degree in Psychology, English, and Journalism from Bangalore university India.

While studying in India as a foreigner I was faced with a lot of discriminations and limitations in my studies, but I didn't let that discourage me. I may not be that impressive and I may lack exposure to broader scientific lab experiments and testing, but I believe that my inquisitive mind, quick learning ability; self-motivation and determination will enable me to acquire the skills and knowledge necessary to successfully complete this master's program.

Besides, I am also independent, analytical, result-oriented and a pragmatic person, and apart from engaging in academic undertakings, my life revolves around social work, and I also enjoy listening to music and travelling.

Finally, if I offered an admission, it would be a chance of a lifetime for me to be considered to work under the auspice of Dr Bruce Milliken or Professor Richard B Day as my research interests corresponds closely to those of theirs, however, I am also open to suggestion.

I hope to attend McMaster university this coming fall enrolling in Cognition/Perception because of the holistic approach of your department. I feel strongly that my diverse undergraduate studies have provided me with an excellent foundation for graduate study in Cognition/perception.

I am a very diligent and attentive person so for me this is a spiritual as well as a professional calling for me. Through McMaster university I hope to learn how to optimally understand, interpret and apply cutting edge theory in cognition/perception and I believe it is the best environment for me to receive the intensive training that is necessary for me to have the professional skills that will help me carve a niche for myself.

Cognition is an intriguing and exciting field with tremendous potential, as Cajal stated, "The brain is a world consisting of a number of unexplored continents and great stretches of unknown territory." I look forward to the opportunity to explore this unknown territory in my graduate studies.