



Admissions Background Statement Form
For Sociology and Criminal Justice BA Degree-seeking Students

Student Name _____ Student ID Number _____
Catalog Year _____ Campus _____
Advisor _____ Date _____

INSTRUCTIONS: Each student applying for admission in sociology and criminal justice must prepare a background statement. Although the essay will not be evaluated for purposes of admission, submission of the background statement is required before a student will be admitted. This statement should be an essay describing the student's personal background, outlining the reasons for selecting this major, and discussing career and personal goals. This student should endeavor to represent his or her highest level of writing skills in this essay. Students may consult the following websites for examples of such essays:
<http://admissions.berkeley.edu/pdf/PerState.pdf> and <http://www.accepted.com/grad/personalstatement.aspx> and <http://www.accepted.com/grad/sampleessays.aspx> for tips and examples. The background statement can be typed and attached to this form, or written in the space below. **IT SHOULD NOT EXCEED TWO PAGES.**

The completed admissions background essay should be kept with the student's permanent file at the local campus site. A copy of the admissions background statement should be sent to the chair of the department, as well as to main campus.