

### **Sample Personal Statement: Business**

"That's not right." "We're going to have to change things up." "This could really turn into something." "How about that!"

I can still hear the voices of my father, his thoughts almost overlapping, as he focused on how to grow his business, how to fix problems, and how to keep moving forward. When I later studied business in school, I learned the technical aspects, the theories, several dry subjects and often tedious tasks. But this was not the business world inhabited by my father. His was a world full of exciting challenges. He seized opportunities when they arose and worked to create opportunities where there were none. This is the business world that I came to know growing up, and by joining Exeter's MBA program, I hope to get closer to this world.

As I have seen from my past studies in Taiwan, there are vast differences between the education systems in different countries. Taiwanese students are expected to listen passively and memorize facts. The education system can often seem almost robotic in nature. Fortunately, I was exposed to the education system of the UK at an early age, when I studied English for one month in the summer before my senior year in high school. What I saw transformed me. I was challenged every day, and the people I met seemed to be operating on a whole different level than I was used to. The teachers asked me to think critically, even *to challenge them!*

I know that I have the fundamental knowledge and the passion for a career in business, but I need an education that is more dynamic than what I have had in the past. Studying Business Administration in the university was a chance to learn about all facets of the business world, from marketing and management to accounting, finance, and supply chains. But I know that this is not enough. I need to be surrounded by people from different backgrounds, with different assumptions about different problems. I want to go far from my comfort zone and learn from professors who have established names for themselves in the international business world. The program at Exeter is exactly what I have been looking for.

When I told my father that I planned to apply to business school at Exeter, he almost jumped out of his shoes. He was always visibly proud that I emulated his career goals, yet he wanted so much more for me. This, in its core, is what Exeter represents. By studying in your MBA program, I can develop a new vision and a new skill set that I could never fully develop in my native Taiwan. Armed with the talents cultivated in your school, I will have a new range of options for my career: I can help my father with his company or help another company in my native Taiwan, or I can work abroad, helping multinational companies with international operations. In short, I will use the skills and the flexibility derived from an education at Exeter to continue the path forged by my father, all while considering how I can make the world a better place for people and for businesses alike.