MSc in Clinical Psychology
Statement of Purpose

Please write a personal statement describing your reasons for applying to the MSc Clinical Psychology Programme. Describe your area(s) of interest within the field of Clinical Psychology. Outline your personal and professional goals. Please attach a copy of this sheet to each copy of your application form.

NAME: VANESSA SHARAY ANEITA REID

For as far back as I can remember, I have always had an interest in understanding how things worked, and why they worked the way they did. This passion initially directed me into studying Experimental Biology during my first three years at university. Overtime, however, it became clear to me that merely working with plants and animals would not be enough for me. I had developed such a keen interest in people and trying to explain away their behaviours, that I realised I must truly have been in the wrong field of study; thus I opted to pursue a degree in Psychology.

While my professional experience may be somewhat lacking, I have had considerable experience working with and around people, especially children and teenagers. Having served as youth leader, mentor, teacher, and confidante to inner-city children and teens, I have developed a passion for contributing positively to the lives of these individuals. I have also encountered a number of these persons who would have appeared to be troubled in some way. The most common problems that I have had to deal with among this particular group were behavioural issues. The challenges varied from child to child, but it was evident that the majority of these children were merely acting out as a result of having to deal with other issues at home or in the community. As they are usually unable to deal with, or to express these problems, many of these children act out, and often do so around persons who fail to understand, and who are not equipped to deal with them.

Obtaining certification in the field of Clinical Psychology will equip me with the necessary knowledge and skill set to venture into my life’s passion of working more effectively with children and teenagers. It is my desire to get to the root cause of the behavioural issues of these young ones, primarily those that affect and hinder learning in school. I want to be able to help them deal with their personal/familial problems, and channel their emotions more positively and effectively.

I envision that while my career will not solely be research based, I will still be working in the field, being able to contribute to the literature in the psychological community. I want to work directly with children and teens, making contact with them in person, talking to them and getting to their level, while being able to assess and possibly help to correct the effects of the issues that
may be plaguing them.

I already possess the drive and the passion for this particular venture; this is my attempt at being qualified to enter into this career path.

Signature: Vanessa Reid

Date: January 27, 2016