As you near graduation, thoughts about the next chapter in your life come to mind. The Personal Statement Requirement is a writing assignment completed your senior year. It allows you to work with your faculty advisor and connect your UW-Madison experiences to your future goals. Some examples include a personal plan for graduate school, a cover letter for a job or internship or your own personal statement that reviews your educational, and professional history while also looking towards your career direction.

**REQUIREMENTS**

Meet with your faculty advisor at the beginning of your final year or earlier to talk through the personal statement expectations. Through your conversations and writing, you will be assessed by your faculty advisor on your ability to express the following learning goals:

1. Explain the basic concepts of ecology and evolution and how they underpin and apply to the science of conservation biology.

2. Demonstrate the capacity to investigate and communicate the connections between the biological and social sciences and humanities as they affect conservation programs and activities.

3. Identify, interpret and communicate conservation ideas, needs and programs to others.

**RESOURCES**

**UW-Madison’s Writing Center**  
www.writing.wisc.edu  
Call 608-263-1992 to make an appointment

**Conservation Biology Student Services Coordinator**  
Ginny Jackson  
vjackson4@wisc.edu

**Letters and Science Career Services**  
Go to www.careers.ls.wisc.edu/students and choose “Resumes & Cover letter” or “Graduate School Prep” for additional information  
Visit www.careers.ls.wisc.edu/Undergraduate-Advising to schedule an appointment

*Between every two pine trees there is a door leading to a new way of life.*  
- John Muir’s marginal note in volume I of Prose Works by Ralph Waldo Emerson