Guide for writing the letter of motivation for Cognitive Science

The evaluation of the Quota 2 application for the BSc programme in Cognitive Science is based on three criteria:

- A grade average calculated on the basis of the particularly relevant subjects
  - English B
  - Mathematics B
  - History B or History of Ideas B or Contemporary History B or Social Science B
- Other particularly relevant documented qualifications.
- A motivation letter

The purpose of the letter is to ensure the best possible match between Quota 2 students and the degree program and study environment – over and above applicants’ grades. Motivation letters should therefore tell us something about individual applicants’ personal backgrounds; their interests; their expectations about cognitive science and the degree programme; and their probability of success in the degree and on the job afterwards.

Your motivation letter should demonstrate that your motivation to study cognitive science is based on knowledge of the topics and methods covered in the degree, as well as some awareness of cognitive science as a field of knowledge. Your letter should also inform about any previous experiences – from previous educations, previous work, or life more generally – which would help you to become a good cognitive scientist. The letter may also contain information about how you want to use the degree after you graduate.

Your letter should be written in English. Language is important. Your letter should be clear and expressive, with no grammatical or spelling errors. It must be no longer than 1200 characters (without space), and it should contain only text. The letter should contain no formatting or images.

OBS: Remember to write your CPR-number on your motivational letter. You can find your CPR-number on www.optagelse.dk where you have made your application for admission to Aarhus University.