



Admissions Essay

Professional Studies Admissions

Please respond to the essay prompt for your intended major. All responses should be 1-2 pages (unless otherwise notated), double spaced, in Times New Roman 12 point font. **Please note that for the Business prompt, your format is different.** Each essay will be evaluated on the following areas: Use of correct grammar, composition, and format; clarity of thought and presentation; and alignment with the three basic pursuits of Vanguard University which are truth, virtue, and service.

Upload completed essay(s) to your account at: <https://apply.vanguard.edu>

Business

Vanguard University is where transformation happens and where your story really does matter to us. We have a culture where professor-mentors interface with students in dynamic classroom settings and where our self-motivated students take an active role in their academic degree program and the university community. To help us get to know you as you are applying to the Professional Studies Business program, please **pick one of the following essays** and provide a one page, single space (500-650 words) response:

1. Why is a bachelor's degree in business a critical next step toward your short- and long-term career goals? Why is the Vanguard University Business program the best fit for you and your goals and why are you the best fit for Vanguard?
2. The ability to solve complex problems is a highly valued skill. Discuss a problem you've solved or a problem you'd like to solve. It can be an intellectual issue, a research-based challenge, or an ethical dilemma – anything that is of personal importance. Explain why it is significant to you and what steps you took or could take to identify a solution.
3. We learn from both our successes and our failures. Often, what we learn from a failure can be foundational to future success. Discuss a time or incident when you experienced failure. Recount how it affected you and share what you learned from the experience.

Psychology

At Vanguard University, your story really does matter to us, and we want to get to know you as you are applying to the Professional Studies Psychology Program. Please **provide a one page response to each of the following questions:**

- 1) Discuss your life's journey and how it has led you to the place of applying for our Psychology Program.
- 2) Our Psychology Program is structured to allow students to progress through their education with a specific group of classmates (called a cohort) who complete the program together. Please tell us how you see yourself contributing to the cohort environment.
- 3) How has your life experience shaped you to be the person you are today? We encourage you to highlight any ministry, military, work, child-rearing, or other life experience that may be relevant.



Religion – Scenario:

You are the new pastor of a growing, thriving church. A large and significant group in the church believes that access to a particular clinic doing abortions needs to be blocked by people who are against abortion and believe that abortion is killing young children. However, anyone who deliberately blocks access to this clinic is breaking the law and will be arrested for their actions. Is this a legitimate case of civil disobedience and why? Would you participate in the blockade?

Early Childhood Education – Scenario:

You are a teacher educator working with a child in your early learning center on behavior and motivation issues. The child exhibits defiance when asked to follow basic directions and is aggressive toward other students in cooperative play groups. What is the role of parents/guardians in your comprehensive approach to supporting this child toward success? Specifically discuss your communication strategies involved with partnering with parents/guardians in the plan of success for this student. How will you use your personal and professional strengths to advocate for young children as well as the overall field of Early Childhood Education? Include specific ideas about communicating the importance of a creative and nurturing educational experience for young children birth thru age eight.