Student's Name

Professor's Name

Course

Date

Why NYU

My signature characteristic may be curiosity. I have a restless mind that always wants to learn something new, and is frequently occupied by the visions of future. Learning does not only help me satisfy my curiosity but it also becomes my safe haven durng periods of depression and anxiety. In such moments, studying keeps me calm and fills me with optimism about the future.

I developed an interest in astrophysics in the middle school and have taken particular interest in science courses since then. I must credit Stan Lee and Jack Kirby for igniting my interest in sciences as the characters in their comics explore the vastness of the universe. These comics take us to worlds that are quite different from our planet earth yet not any less fascinating. We meet other species whose intelligence far surpasses that of oursand whose histories hold valuable lessons for our comparatively primitive species. I believe the long-term survival of our species depends upon scientific advancement so that we can finally venture out into the space and establish homes beyond earth.

I have struggled to fit in my culture because it places huge emphasis on conformity and respect for traditions. Even though I come from a collectivist culture, I have exhibited individualistic traits throughout my life. My curiosity is only matched by my conviction that each one of us is capable of truly amazing things if we are given the freedom to explore our

strengths and interests. As Steve Jobs reminded us, life is too short and too precious to live according to the expectations of other people. This may be why I feel at home in America because one is encouraged to carve his own path and shape his own destiny.

I am always reinventing myself. I am not afraid to step outside my comfort zone because that is how we grow as individuals. I do experience social anxiety at times yet that did not discourage me from teaching basic programming and film making in the U.S. I believe the best strategy to face fears is to embrace them, not run from them. I have a similar approach to risktaking because it helps me discover new things about myself. I developed a taste for risktaking early in life when I disassembled my first computer. I did not disassemble it because there was an issue but only to learn about the internal components of the computer. I have been building computers since 6th grade, and even conducted an information session for the fellow students in the 10th grade to teach them about different components of a computer.

NYU is an obvious choice for me because it is one of very few schools to offer dual major in physics and computer engineering. I have chosen to study physics and computers because together, they will shape the future. The advancements in computing technologies are helping us uncover more secrets about the universe, and even inspiring developments of space technologies that could lead us to build space colonies. I also believe in promoting science to the public so I intend to take courses in arts such as filmmaking. NYU's strategic location in NYC also holds great appeal to me because it is a cosmopolitan city with countless options for students to explore arts, sciences, and culture. I also want to learn more about people because we run this world together. At both NYU and NYC, I will have numerous opportunities to interact with people from diverse economic, social, cultural, political, and professional backgrounds. Such

interactions should expand my thinking horizon, and may even evolve my views on the roles of science and technology in the society.