
Begin your PhD Goals and Research Question essays with these identifying points in a cover page or at the top of the document:

- **Last Name**
- **First Name**
- **University ID number**
- **Submission Date**
- **Title: “PHD Goals and Research Question”**

Write the essays according to instructions below. After completion, save as a PDF document for your records, and then upload your PHD essay to your Admissions Profile in [MyUI](#).

The doctoral program in social work at the University of Iowa seeks to develop scholars who will assume academic and leadership positions. Like most PhD programs in social work, we have a strong focus on preparing students to conduct research.

Part I – Goals

Describe in detail three things you would like to accomplish with a PhD in Social Work from the University of Iowa? Why will this degree serve these goals? (1 page)

Part II – Research Question

What is one research question you might pursue in your PhD program? How did you arrive at this research question? Why is it an important question? Which faculty in Social Work would you like to work with to help you develop your thinking, substantive knowledge, and methodological skills in order to address this question and why did you select them? (2 pages)

Optional (1-page): Provide additional information useful to the admissions committee, such as explaining inconsistencies in your academic record or strengths, abilities or accomplishments not addressed in your essay or in your CV.

Name the file “PHD Goals and Research Question” and upload it to your Admissions Profile in [MyUI](#).

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Individuals with disabilities are encouraged to attend all University of Iowa-sponsored events. If you are a person with a disability who requires a reasonable accommodation in order to participate in this program, please contact the School of Social Work Student Services Center, in advance at mailto:ssw_office@uiowa.edu or phone: 319 335-1250.