

SAMPLE MOTIVATION LETTER

Dear Sir or Madam,

With this letter, I would like to express my interest in studying at the University of Sheffield **as an Erasmus student.** PAR. 1

My name is Paul Newton and **I am currently studying** my master's degree programme in Regional Geography at Masaryk University, Brno, Czech Republic. Having looked through the materials of the Foreign Department of my university, **I was very delighted to find the opportunity** to spend one semester learning geography at your university. **I have decided to apply for this programme because** I am sure it would strongly enrich my future studies and help in my prospective career. Moreover, **I consider this programme as a great opportunity to** get in touch with British culture and educational system. **Last but not least,** I am curious about different approaches to the subject of geography at your institution. PAR. 2

I have chosen to apply for the University of Sheffield **because I really like its module system of study. I particularly appreciate** the wide range of offered modules and the freedom in making your own study plan. Many of the modules offered are unique for me as **there is no equivalent at my home university.** Very important for me is also the "excellent" rating for teaching by the Geography department and the overall friendly atmosphere at both the university as well as the city. **The third main reason why I have chosen your university is** its Urban and Regional Policy Research Institute – it specializes in interdisciplinary research on regional policy issues, **which is the field I would like to focus on in future.** PAR. 3

In my prior studies I realized that I would like to specialize in Urban and Transport Geography. **Your offer gives me a chance to** come across these subjects through modules from both Departments of Geography and Department of Town and Regional Planning. In my last year at university **I worked on** an empirical study **with the main focus on** transportation costs in suburban areas. I really liked my project and I am keen to continue in it. **I would like to use my stay at your university for a further development of my skills in** empirical research. **The possibilities you offer further expand those at my home university.** PAR. 4

I would like to spend one semester at the University of Sheffield **since this would give me a chance to deepen my** geographical **knowledge** in the inspiring, creative and cosmopolitan environment of one of the largest British universities. **Furthermore, I could** improve my English and increase my confidence in passing the Cambridge advanced examination after I return. **I am confident that** experience in Sheffield would be very valuable for both my studies and overall general development. PAR. 5

Thank you for considering my request. **I look forward to** your positive response. PAR. 6

Sincerely,