

# Cover Letter & Resume Writing Tips

PRESENTED BY:

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#### Who Am I?

- Internship & Job Placement Coordinator
- What is ESS
- Resumes and cover letters
- Career Advisor = Tips for Career Success





## We will Cover

Research
What Defines You
Cover Letter Writing
Resumé Writing





Most important part of the application process

Also, the most timeconsuming part of your application process



#### Start With ...

Who is the CEO?

Who are the managers and what their roles are?

Is the company featured in articles?

Is the company running ads?

Do they have promotions?

Become familiar with the industry as a whole

Know who their competitors are



#### Learn About ...

The company's business model

The company's product or service. Have you used it?

The company culture

The company's relationship to its customers

Will you have autonomy on how you get things done?



When was the company founded?

Who were the founders?

What was their vision?

Company growth

## Also Learn About ...





#### Know the Following ...

Your intended target

The company's pressing issues & needs

Bring a fresh perspective

Don't be judgmental!



# Defines Vhat





## GOALS

## VALUES

- Have a clear final destination
- Take you from Point A to Point B
- Happen in the future
- Objectively measured through behavior
- Great for depression, ADHD, social anxiety, self doubt, overwhelm, low motivation

- Provide guidance for the journey
- Take you on the scenic route
- Happen now (ongoing)
- Subjectively aligned with behavior
- Great for anxiety, identity confusion, life transitions, relationship struggles, uncertainty, feelings of being lost, stuck, or trapped

@realtherapyco

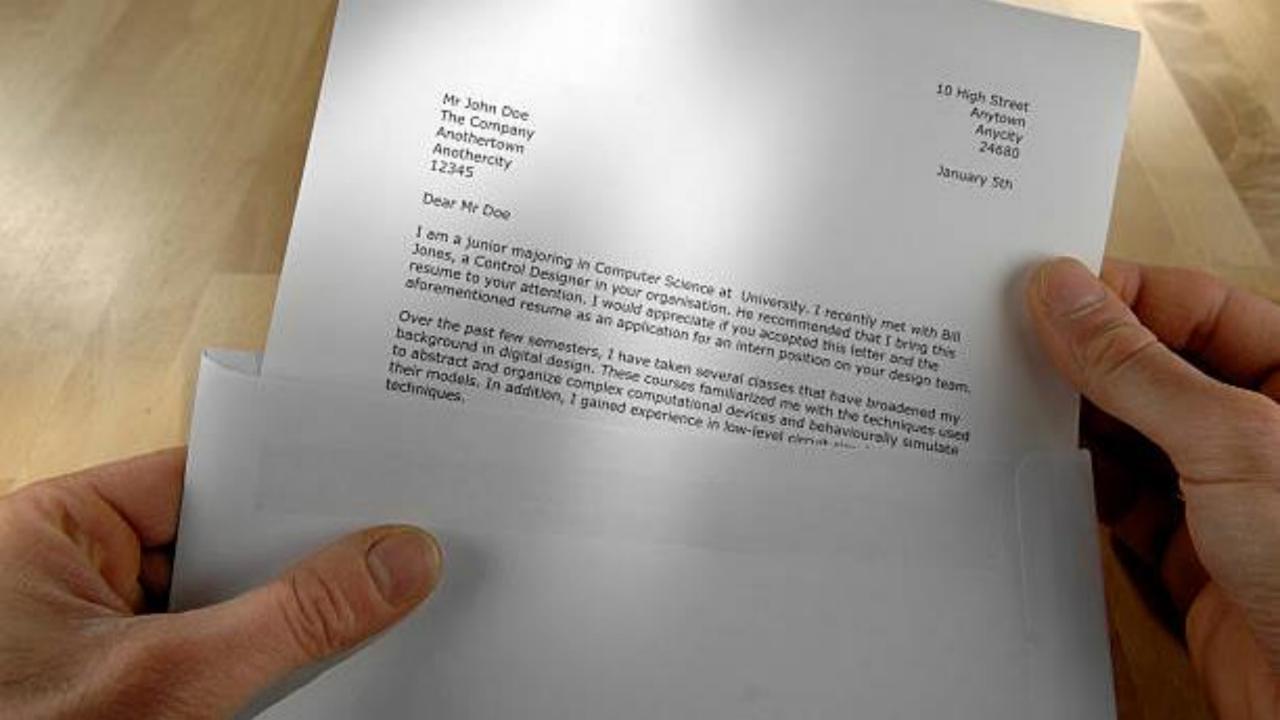






TONY ROBBINS





### Cover Letter

Accompanies a resume

An introduction

Expresses an interest

Draws attention to the resume

#### Header

Full Name, address, city of residence

Phone Number, email address (if not in the closing paragraph)

Date

Name of the hiring manager / their professional title

Name of the company you're applying to

Address of the company



Greet the Hiring Manager





ENGINEERING STUDENT SUCCESS CENTER

# Who is the Hiring Manager?

Job Posting
Company website

Contact the company directly

Professional social media



#### Vague Salutations



Dear [Department] hiring manager,

Dear hiring manager,

Hello [Department] team,

Dear [Company] hiring team,

Hello customer service hiring manager,

Dear Customer service hiring team,

#### Opening Paragraph

First Impression

Attention Grabber

Top Skills

Relevant to Position



#### Second Paragraph

Why you are the perfect person for the job

Why you are a good fit for the company





# Third Paragraph

Good Fit
Company Culture
Passionate



#### Wrap Up

01

Include Points you didn't Include in Previous Paragraphs

02

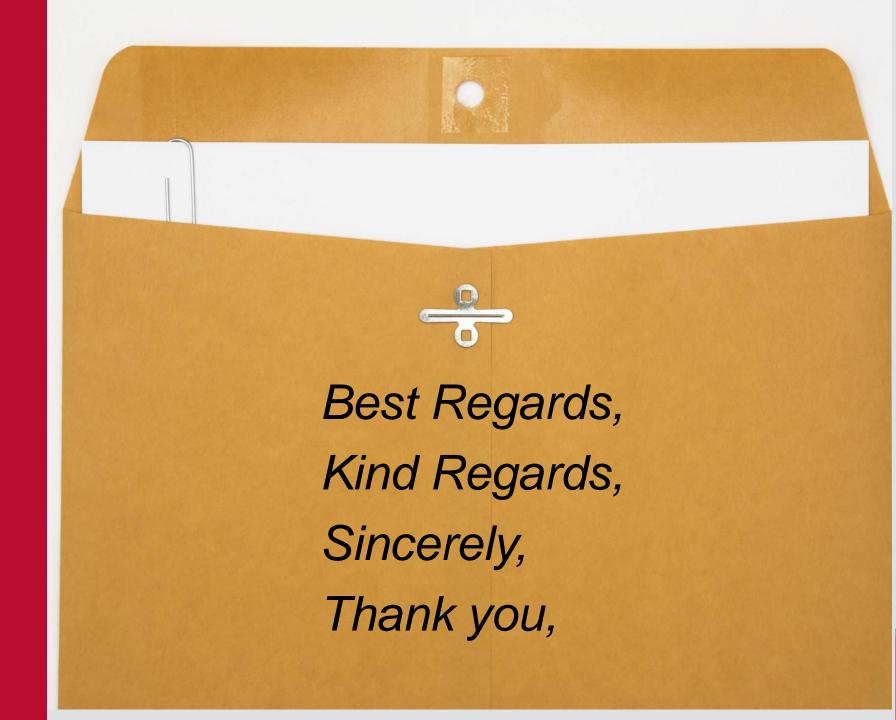
Thank the Hiring Manager

03

Call for Action



## Formal Closing



#### Cover Letter Format

Header Greeting Opening Paragraph Second Paragraph Third Paragraph Formal Closing

Lobo Louie 601 Central Avenue Albuquerque, NM 87131

August 20, 2020

Mr. James F. Hire, Human Resources Manager ABC, Inc. 1601 Sunset Boulevard San Diego, CA 92121

Dear Mr. Hire,

Your civil engineer trainee position (123489) is an exciting opportunity for me to apply my expertise. ABC Company's stellar reputation for providing quality service and project support to your clients is well-known, and I am motivated to join your team.

Highlights of my credentials:

- BS in civil engineering and Engineer in Training (EIT) certification from NCEES.
- Two years of experience as a civil engineer trainee and intern for local engineering firms.
- Hands-on experience providing project design and site civil engineering leadership for water, wastewater, roadway
  and other municipal infrastructure projects throughout New Mexico.
- Worked with lead civil engineers on the delivery of on-schedule, on-budget and high-quality completion of infrastructure projects with varying degrees of complexity and budgets ranging from \$500K to \$6.8M.
- Proficient in preparing drawings and technical specs using AutoCAD Civil 3D and MicroStation.

In addition, I have worked closely with licensed PEs on maintaining compliance with regulatory requirements. I have provided creative, cost-effective design solutions to issues including erosion, corrosive groundwater, insufficient water inflow/drainage, soil instability, steep-slope grading and other engineering challenges.

If my credentials and strong understanding of municipal water and wastewater infrastructure systems are well matched to your needs, please contact me at (555) 555-5555 or email Im@somedomain.com to schedule an interview at your earliest convenience. Thank you very much.

Sincerely, Lobo Louie, EIT Enclosure: Résumé

# Before you Send

Put it aside for a day Read it out loud Read it backwards and then forwards Ask a friend to proofread it



**Points That Will** Lead to Your Cover Letter Being Rejected

Lack of research

Overly casual greetings

Bragging

Repeat your entire resume

## What NOT to Include

Personal information

Salary expectations

Negative comments

Lies or exaggerations

Empty claims



### Resumés

**Tailored** 

Skills & Experiences

Career Aspirations







PROFESSIONAL BACKGROUND



**SKILLS** 



**ACCOMPLISHMENTS** 



SECURE EMPLOYMENT

## Tips for a Resumé

- Summary of your experiences
  - The content should be organized
  - Tool to showcase yourself
    - One page long
    - Customize it!

## **Avoid Using Templates**

Reflection of YOU

Templates = a wornout line you've heard before

# Show Evidence! Tell Your Story Through...



## Also, Through ...





Recommendations

Endorsements



## Chronological Resumé

Most common, reverse chronological order

Helps
employers to
quickly learn
about your skills

#### Certifications



Job search



In-progress or will earn



List certifications separately

#### Aligning Your Resume to a Job Posting



1 post = 100+ applicants



Best fit



Mirrors desired skills

#### Skills to Include

Go over the job posting

Highlight key word

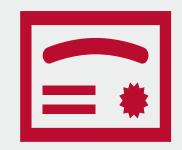
Multiple mention

Resume matches job posting



#### College Student Resumés





Educational Include what achievements degree you earned or plan to earn



List skills you acquired

#### Do Include

**Education** Research

Paid work Languages

Volunteer work Skills

Relevant Course work Awards

**Presentations** Certification

Professional Affiliations Educational Travel

**Projects** 



**Decorations** 

Photos (US Standards)

Personal Information

Use of the first person (I, my)

Salary requirements

Contractions & abbreviations

Negative mention of previous employees

Reasons for leaving past positions

Irrelevant Information

Lies

#### Don't Include



#### Key Skills & Proficiencies

Analysis and testing

**Budget-conscious** 

Communication skills

Deadline oriented

Design

Management

Organized

Software programs (provide a relevant list specific to the job)

#### **Action Verbs**

Analyzed	Collaborated
Coordinated	Designed
Developed	Diagnosed
Enhanced	Examined
Executed	Implemented
Maintain	Planned
Resolved	Responded
Supervised	Tested

## **Employers Look For**













#### Conclusion

#### Help with:

- resumés
- cover letters
- career advisement

Please reach out to me,
Nada Abdelhack at
<a href="mailto:esscareers@unm.edu">esscareers@unm.edu</a>

## Questions?



goto.unm.edu/ess-feedback



Don't forget to follow up on social media.









