Urban studies and planning, Newcastle University

“Cities were always like people, showing their varying personalities to the traveler. Depending on the city and on the traveler, there might begin a mutual love, or dislike, friendship, or enmity. Where one city will rise a certain individual to glory, it will destroy another who is not suited to its personality. Only through travel can we know where we belong or not, where we are loved and where we are rejected.”
― [**Roman Payne**](https://www.goodreads.com/author/show/359352.Roman_Payne), [**Cities & Countries**](https://www.goodreads.com/work/quotes/688429)

I was born in country where sexism is norm of life and accepted even by women. “A woman is good only in the kitchen, and the best job for you is being a housewife and mother” my high-educated father told me when I was 16 years old. He told me that he did not want to know me if I chose a journalism program. I had to choose a department of philology in starting my education. My parents soon understood that I was about being an active person in society and they forced me to marry.

And I choose literature faculty. Since I am extremely interested in literature and cultural studies of different areas, I devoted myself to lessons so I got high evaluations from professors. When I feel truly love to something, I will always devote myself to it and get a satisfied result.

After four years of marriage – during which I had to deal with numerous problems, I divorced with my husband and started to raise my daughter alone. During these years, I got an education at the Journalism Faculty of Baku State University (which is the first and only journalism faculty in my country), and worked on many projects.
I never cherished any blind faith in accepted theories and teachings, instead always cultivating a skeptical attitude toward what I am exposed to. On many important issues I had the habit of conversing with the most learned and inspiring teachers. I have also devoted most of my spare time to studying technical literature in libraries to keep myself informed of the latest academic developments and to develop my own academic perspectives from a wealth of information.

In studying the courses in my specialty, I have paid close attention to laying a solid academic foundation, fascinated by such courses as Mass Communication, Theories of Journalism, Theories of Broadcasting, and Television Journalism.

As you know, the world of media represents an exciting world of ideas and ideals that make up the reality of our social life. During my education, I was writing articles and making reports for local media, especially about violence against women – an issue still considered a taboo by men, but also women in my country.

My independent thinking, academic performance, and practical media experience distinguished me from most of my classmates and came to the attention of xxxxx, head of the xxxxx department of the Journalism faculty of Baku State University.

At her invitation, I became a key member of her team and served as her research assistant.

I read a number of leading academic journals participated in many regional and international programs and worked as lecturer at Journalism faculty.

We worked together and got grants for building a TV and radio studies program in the Journalism faculty (which did not previously exist).

For me, this was the most important experience of my life. It changed my life.

Then we started building of curricula for department programs, also developing the first dual master degree in history of faculty.

My outside interests span a wide variety. I love to read and translate fiction from other languages, and I have to date eight translations in print

In addition, I had teamed up with my students to record the first audiobook series for local content in the Azerbaijani language. Every Saturday for two years, my daughter and I spent at audio studios recording our voices because we could not pay for studios during the week. One of the aims of this project was helping disabled children to listen tales and myths.

As for my main aims, I have two:

1. To change situation and to solve problems of my Baku

Building on my educational background, my research experience, and my research interests, I would like to pursue a Doctorate’s program in your school.

I have chosen to apply for your school because I really like its module system of study. Many of the modules offered are unique for me, because there is no equivalent at my home university.

If possible, I will continue my study toward a Ph.D. degree. I believe that academically and experientially I am qualified for your well-respected program.

The opportunity to pursue a master's course in Italy represents the important challenge in my life and momentous milestone to step up onto PhD. The last two years I understand that me that studying and living abroad can help not only broaden my horizons but also accelerate my personal and academic growth. My objective is to pursue the PhD in Urban studies and Regonal science, taught entirely in English, plus living and breathing the international atmosphere and integrating with English and Italian speaking people in order to develop a fifth language

My city Baku is a huge part of both my academic and personal life and I truly feel that completing your program would help me in my future career ambitions in urban education.

I am thoughtful, organized and handle pressure well. I love to write, I love teach, and it is my ambition to do so. I believe I can bring many qualities to the courses I will select and in turn can get a lot out of them as well.

I hope that you seriously and favorably consider my application.