Cover Letter Outline

1. Introduction

- **First sentence:** Clearly state the purpose of your letter, such as applying for a specific position or expressing interest in an opportunity.
 - Example: "I am excited to submit my application for the [Position Name] at [Company/Organization], as I am passionate about [relevant field/industry] and eager to contribute my [skills/experience] to your team."
- **Connection to the role/company:** Briefly mention how you found the job opening and why this specific company or role interests you.
- **Hook:** Mention something that sets you apart—perhaps a unique experience, a skill, or passion that aligns with the company's mission.

2. Skills and Experience

- **Expand on your qualifications:** Provide an overview of your most relevant skills, experiences, and accomplishments. Tailor this section to the job description.
 - Example: "As a [current role] at [current organization], I developed [specific skills or achievements] that would allow me to excel in this role."
- **Tie to the job posting:** Link your qualifications directly to the responsibilities or qualifications in the job description. Focus on how your background can contribute to the company.
 - Example: "In your job posting, you mention the need for [skill or responsibility]. My experience with [related experience or accomplishment] makes me well-suited to meet these expectations."

3. Cultural Fit and Passion

- **Explain why you want to work for this company:** Highlight how your values, passion, or long-term goals align with the company's mission, culture, or impact.
 - Example: "I admire [Company Name] for its commitment to [specific values], and I am inspired by the opportunity to contribute to [company's project/mission]."
- Show enthusiasm: Express your excitement about the role and how you would thrive in this environment.

4. Closing

- **Recap your interest:** Reaffirm your enthusiasm for the opportunity and your readiness to contribute.
 - Example: "I am confident that my background in [relevant field] and passion for [company's mission] will make me a valuable asset to your team."
- Next steps: Politely indicate that you'd love the opportunity to discuss your application further.
 - Example: "I welcome the opportunity to further discuss how my skills and experiences can contribute to [Company Name]."
- **Thank you and signature:** Thank the reader for their time and consideration. Close with a professional sign-off.
 - Example: "Thank you for your time and consideration. I look forward to hearing from you."

Find more resources for cover letters and resumes at https://www.smcvt.edu/outcomes/career-education/