

Sample Interview Questions and Tips

Sample Questions

Below, you will find a few sample questions that can be used in your interview. Feel free to add and/or modify these questions as needed.

1. Adult Learner (someone actively seeking to learn something specific for a particular reason)
 - What are you learning?
 - Why did you choose to learn this content?
 - What teaching methods are being used to learn this content?
 - How do you learn best?
 - What obstacles do you expect to encounter, and how will you deal with them?
2. Adult Educator (someone who routinely teaches adults in some context)
 - What are some of the most important things to remember when teaching adults?
 - What is your teaching style?
 - What instructional strategies do you use? Why?
 - How do you determine if students are learning?
 - How were you prepared to teach what you teach?

Interviewing Tips

- When contacting a potential interviewee, be sure to provide an overview of the kind of information you are seeking, the reason you want to interview the person (for a class assignment), and the approximate time commitment (15-30 minutes).
- Once you have defined a list of interview questions, use them to guide your interview. However, feel free to ask follow-up questions or clarifying questions as needed. This type of interviewing is *semi-structured interviewing*.
- Respect the time commitment (15 – 30 minutes). Of course, if the interviewee wants to continue the conversation beyond that timeframe, you are welcome to do so.
- Start your interview with a few warm-up questions to establish rapport with your interviewee. These may include questions about the interviewee's professional role - How long have you been in your role? Where did you attend college?

Additional Guidelines

- When posting your information, do not identify your interviewee by name. You may choose to use a pseudonym.
- You may conduct the interview in-person or virtually (i.e., phone, Skype, etc.), but the interview must be synchronous. It cannot take place via e-mail or other asynchronous means.

- You are not required to transcribe or record the interview.
- You may not interview any of your classmates in the IST program. You are welcome to interview a colleague, friend, family member, or acquaintance.