Sean’s Grad School Interview Questions from Faculty and Graduate Students

**** #1 most frequently asked question: What questions do you have?****

University of Southern Mississippi

Faculty Group Interview

1) Why USM and counseling psychology? Why a PhD? What are your career goals?
2) What are the challenges that you will face in grad school and how will you overcome them? How will it be different from undergrad?

Grad Student Group Interview

1) If someone wrote your biography what would it be called?
2) What personally (not research/clinical practice) do you want from a grad program?
3) What stands out about you?
4) Why counseling? Why USM?

Faculty Individual Interview

1) What do you do for fun?
2) What will you do if you can't get a forensic/correctional sample in time for your Thesis/Dissertation?
3) What do you look for in a mentor--as far as mentoring style?
4) Tell me something that I don't know about you from your application?
Texas Tech University (CL)

Individual Faculty Interview

1) Do you see yourself more suicide or forensic/correctional orients?

2) Do you know the differences between the clinical and counseling programs?

3) Can you explain your career goals in more detail?

4) Do you have any teaching experience?

5) Do you have any questions?

Group Faculty/Grad Student Interviews

1) Do you have any questions?

2) Who do you want to work with?

3) What are your career goals?

4) What are your research interests?
Oklahoma State University

Individual Faculty Interview

1) What are your research interests and how do they fit into the lab?

2) Do you have any questions?

Group Faculty/ Grad Student Interviews

1) Do you have any questions?

2) How do you feel about the program so far?

3) What specific research would you do if you came here? How does that fit into what the lab does?
University of Iowa

Individual Faculty Interview

1) Can you tell me about your research interests?
2) Do you have any questions for me?
3) How do you feel about our program?

Group Faculty/ Grad Student Interview

1) What are you looking for in a program
2) Do you like our program?
3) What are you career goals?
4) Can you tell me a little about yourself?
Texas Tech University (Co)

Individual Faculty Interview

1) Why do you want to work in my lab/program?

2) What are you looking for in a mentor and what is a way that you will be difficult to work with?

3) What do you see yourself doing in 8-10 years?

4) Do you have any questions for me?

Faculty Group Interviews

1) What are your research interests?

2) What will be your greatest challenge in a PhD program?

3) Why do you want a PhD in counseling psychology?

4) Which of your personal biases will you have to challenge and overcome in this program? (After reading the APA statement on diversity)

5) What is the greatest challenge you will have in grad school?

6) What excites you most about graduate school in psychology?

7) Where are you from and who do you want to work with?

8) How do you define success?

9) What are your stressors and how will you handle them?

10) What is a specific mistake that you have made and how did you learn from it?

11) What would you have changed about your education experience?
Auburn University

Individual Faculty Interview

1) Why do you want a PhD?

2) What are your career plans?

3) What have you been doing at Texas Tech that has prepared you for this program?

4) What questions do you have?

Group Faculty/ Grad Student Interview

1) What questions do you have?

2) Can you tell me about you personally?

3) If you came here what would your support system look like?
University of North Texas

Individual Faculty Interview

1) Can you briefly talk about your research experience?
   - What was your method and the measures that you used? What analyses did you run?
     What are some possible confounds? What did your results look like?

2) What are some current research ideas that you could work on that would fit into my lab?
   - Very specific. What does the literature say? What method and measures would you use?
     Where could you collect this data? What would you expect to find?

3) What is the structure of the current lab you're in now and what measure do they use?

4) Do you have any clinical experience?

Group Faculty/ Grad Student Interviews

1) Why do you want a PhD in clinical psychology and what are your career goals?

2) How do you feel about working with clients? Any fears? How do you feel about doing therapy?

3) There are a wide range of mental health diagnoses at our clinic-- what clients don't you want to work with and why? How do you feel about doing therapy with clients with severe mental illness?

4) Do you have a theoretical orientation?-- If not that's ok.

5) What was your toughest experience (with an advisor, research, or personally) and what did you do to deal with it?

6) How do you deal with verbal and written criticism?

7) What would you bring to this program (research and clinical experience wise)? What projects are you interested in working on or doing in the lab you will be in?

8) Why this program? What are your interests and how do they fit in this program?

9) What are your strengths and weaknesses and how does UNT's program fit into these strengths and weaknesses?

10) Can you sent goals and time-lines for yourself and stick to them?