



Interview Basics

Presenting Yourself at Interviews



Be Confident



Dress comfortably but professionally



Carry a portfolio with resumes, notepad and pen



Arrive early to the interview



Greet and smile when meeting people



Keep a positive attitude



Make eye contact and nod appropriately



Keep an open, relaxed stance with good posture

Prepare the basics

- **What does this company do?**
 - Review the website past the home page and take notes on what stands out to you.
- **What would I do in this job?**
 - Review the job description and take notes on what stands out to you.
- **Why did I apply? / Why am I a good fit?**
 - Write down what appeals to you about the company and the job and what makes you a logical fit.

Practice standard background interview questions

- Tell me more about yourself.
- Why Tech? Why your major? Tell me more about X job or Y project on your resume? What are you involved in on campus?
- What are your strengths and weaknesses?
- What are your career goals?
- What motivates you? What is your greatest accomplishment?
- Do you work best alone or as part of a team?
- What do you do when you don't know the answer to something?
- Describe your process for completing tasks/projects?
- Why should we hire you? Why our company?

Practice behavioral/situational interview questions

- Tell me about a time when: You failed? Someone criticized your work? You had to work with someone difficult? You didn't have what you needed for a project? You led a project?



Prepare several examples describing times when you faced a challenge and worked to overcome it



Keep the STAR format in mind when you answer: S (Situation), T (Task/Challenge), A (Action), and R (Result).



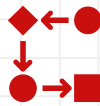
Draw examples from different areas, e.g., work, projects, classes, student orgs, extracurriculars, time abroad.

Practice behavioral/situational interview questions

- If you were an animal, what would you be? What is the angle between the hour and minute hand at 3:15pm? How would you explain [complicated concept, e.g., the internet] to a 5yr old?



Don't panic!



They're looking for your thought process more than a right answer. Explain your process and ask questions if necessary.



It is okay to pause and think for a moment

Prepare questions for the interviewer

- What is your favorite part of working here?
- What is a typical Tuesday like for you?
- What skills have been most helpful to you?
- What qualities have you seen make a successful engineer or intern at X company?
- Do NOT ask about salary or benefits, especially in the initial interview.
- If not covered, end with questions about the process - what does the rest of the application process look like from here? When can I expect to hear back?

Concluding the interview



End on a positive note
by thanking them



Reiterate your interest
in the role



Ask for a business
card or contact
information to follow
up

Concluding the interview



Send your interviewers
a thank you email



Send them a
connection request on
LinkedIn with a thank
you note

Resources



Mock Interviews at
EOC



Career Resources at
EOC webpage



coe.careers@ttu.edu



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