

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 you 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 oriented?
- 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 your 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 set goals and time-lines for yourself and stick to them?