

# ACADEMIC MOCK INTERVIEW PREP SHEET



To make the most of your upcoming mock interview at Career Services, you will find it helpful to consider the recommended steps listed below

1

## Focus on your scholarly and research narratives

Can you describe your research to people outside of your field and convince them it's important?

Can you identify a common theme that connects your past and future research/teaching?

### Types of questions you could be asked:

Tell me about your research? What kind of scholar are you? What kind of teacher are you? What is the relationship between your research and your teaching? How does your research contribute to your field?

**Resources:** Practice talking about your research with your colleagues. Take a look at the Career Services [job search advice](#) for academic careers and a [list of interview questions](#) for faculty positions.

2

## Demonstrate an interest in the college/university

Do you know what kind of institution it is? What distinguishes it?

Can you describe how you would contribute to the institution's and department's missions?

Do you know how your scholarly and teaching interests would fit into the department?

### Types of questions you could be asked:

Why are you interested in this particular college/university? Coming from your kind of institution, how would you adapt to our campus?

**Resources:** Review the websites of the institution, school, and/or department. In particular, read the mission statement, history, facts, diversity initiatives, and news about the institution. Read about the department, including faculty profiles, their curriculum, and any interesting news and events.

3

## Prepare examples of what you would do as a faculty member

Have you thought about what examples you would give so your interviewers can imagine you as a potential colleague?

What do you hope to accomplish as a faculty member?

### Types of questions you could be asked:

What are your plans for publishing your dissertation? How would you teach an introductory survey course in your discipline? How would you teach an advanced seminar? What new course would you develop for our department? What conferences or events would you organize on campus?

**Resources:** Research the course offerings of the department. Give some thought to goals for your own professional development, including publications, funding, and teaching.

4

## What are your questions?

Can you demonstrate your interest in the institution, the department, and the role by asking questions that help the interviewers envision you as a faculty colleague?

Ask questions that show your interest in contributing to the department and institution.

### Types of questions you can ask:

What do you enjoy the most about working with students at this institution? How are interdisciplinary collaborations encouraged? How do you see the department changing in the next five years?