

Career Interview Assignment

The purpose is to learn more about the requirements of this field, including the academic and career path typically required. In this assignment, you will interview a professional in the career field that you would like to pursue in the future (part 1). After your interview, you will reflect on your experience (part 2). Be sure to follow the specific steps for that option to be eligible for maximum credit.

Part 1: Conduct an Interview with a professional

Select and conduct an interview with one (1) professional in the career field you would like to pursue. Be prepared to ask questions that will give you more insight into your future career. Consider the following questions, but you may create your own if you prefer (a minimum of five questions is necessary for this assignment):

- What is your current job title/position and how long have you been in this role?
- How did you “land” this position? Please describe your career path to this current job.
- What do you enjoy most about your job? What do you like least about your job?
- Do you work in a “team” or “independent” environment? How does this style impact your work (meaning, working with others can be challenging, supportive, helpful, frustrating and working independently can be lonely, empowering, difficult?)
- What advice do you have for students who are interested in pursuing this career?

Options for Conducting Career Interview

Once you have located someone to interview, please set up a day/time for the interview and discuss how it will take place (in-person, phone, etc.). This is an assignment that you do not want to procrastinate on and should start looking for someone to interview as soon as it is assigned. There are multiple ways to conduct your interview (see below), but you should be sure to provide proof as outlined below based on the type of interview.

If you interview the professional:	You <u>must</u> provide the following as proof of your interview:
Face-to-face	If your professional provides permission you may record the interview using a mobile device, camera, or recorder. In your recording, you must state: your name, the date, the name of the professional you are interviewing, and their title, or take notes to provide an interview transcript (if required by your instructor).
Over the phone	If your professional provides permission, you may record the interview using a mobile device, recorder, or take notes to provide an interview transcript . If you record the interview, you must state: your name, the date, the name of the professional you are interviewing, and their title.
Via live chat (for example: Google Hangouts)	If your professional provides permission you may record the interview or take notes to provide an interview transcript .

Via e-mail	You must provide a copy of the full e-mail exchange between you and your professional (your e-mail requesting the interview and the professional's reply to your request). E-mail address, time and date stamps must be included.
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Part 2: Reflect on your Interview

After you have completed your interview, write a reflection of your experience. Your reflection should address the following (in essay format):

Reflect on your interview experience:

- Provide a brief explanation of the career path you selected and how it aligns with your purpose and your educational path.
- Provide a brief description of the individual you interviewed: name, title, number of years in the profession and description of their position.
- Reflect on the information you received during the interview:
 - Did the professionals take the path you hypothesized as best? Why or why not?
 - Was the path of the professionals unique or unusual? Why or why not?
 - Are you still interested in pursuing this career? Why or why not?

Reflection on your interpersonal communication skills during the interview:

- Reflect on your interpersonal communication skills during the interview:
 - How did you feel when communicating with the interviewee? Provide examples such as: were you anxious, if so, why or why not? Did you feel comfortable, why or not.
 - How would you describe your verbal and/or nonverbal communication during the interaction? Provide at least one example for verbal and nonverbal.
 - Would you make any changes to your verbal and/or nonverbal communication during the interaction? Explain the changes you would make and why (if any) or why you would not make any changes.

When you are finished, upload your reflection and proof of interview in Canvas.