



INTERVIEW QUESTION GUIDELINES

Remember: permitted questions may be asked only if asked of all candidates

Category	Permitted	Prohibited
Race/Color	None	Any inquiry which would indicate race or color
Sex	None	Any inquiry made of members of one sex, but not the other. Any inquiry concerning candidate's height or weight
Gender/Sexual Orientation	None	Any inquiry which would indicate gender or sexual orientation
National Origin/Citizenship	What languages do you speak fluently? Do you currently have authorization to work in the US? Do you require employer sponsorship?	Any inquiry into name, citizenship, visa status, place of birth, place of birth of relatives, language used at home, address or duration of residence, national origin or ancestry
Religion	None	Any inquiry which would indicate or identify religious denomination or beliefs
Marital/Family Status	Have you ever worked under a different name?	Any inquiry or discussion about marital status, children, pregnancy, child care arrangements, family plans, maiden name
Military Service	Type of education and experience as it relates to the job	Any inquiry into type of discharge or request of military service records
Age	None	Any inquiry which may reveal applicant's age, requiring birth certificate or proof of age
Disability	Can you perform all of the essential job functions with or without a reasonable accommodation? Contact EO Office for more information on handling accommodations	Any inquiry into current or past disability or illness, need for accommodations (unless requested by candidate), Worker's Compensation claims or past on-the-job injuries
Photograph	None	A photograph should not be requested or obtained of any candidate
Convictions/Arrests	Inquiries into convictions of felonies related to qualifications of the job	Any inquiry relating to arrests, contact HRS for information on criminal background checks.
Genetic Information	None	Any inquiry which would indicate genetic information

Examples of Questions You May Ask

Questions Related to Research, Articles/Publications and Funding:

- Describe your current research and what opportunities you see for collaboration with current department faculty.
- How do you plan to support your research?
- Describe your research. What are you currently working on? What is your five-year plan?
- How do you plan to involve undergraduate students in your research?
- To what journals do you plan to submit your research?
- What are your plans for publishing?
- Describe your success securing external funding.



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Questions Related to Teaching and Mentoring:

- Describe your teaching philosophy.
- What do you think are key components of successfully mentoring students?
- What innovative instructional methods do you employ in the classroom?
- Describe your experience with curriculum. Have you had the opportunity to develop new courses?
- Describe how you would teach an introductory survey course in your discipline (or an advanced seminar)?
- What courses would you like to teach?
- What course, not currently in our catalog, would you like to develop?
- What classes have you taught previously?
- How do you determine which textbooks to choose for a particular class?
- Describe how you typically structure your courses.
- How would you go about being an advocate and resource for the use of technology in the teaching and learning process?
- What courses have you created or proposed in the past five years?
- What do you think are the most important attributes of a good instructor?
- How do you define effective teaching?
- What do you think are your greatest strengths as an instructor? In which areas do you feel you can use some further development?
- How do you feel your teaching style can serve our students?
- How do you adjust your style to the less motivated or under-prepared student?

Questions Related to Service:

- What departmental and college committees have you served on?
- What student associations have you advised?

Questions Related to Past Jobs, Ability, Motivation and Self-Evaluation:

- Tell me about a time when you had to deal with a difficult person. How did you handle the situation?
- Tell me about a difficult situation when it was necessary for you to keep a positive attitude. How did you handle it?
- Give me a specific example of something you did that helped inspire enthusiasm in others.
- Give an example of a time when you had to work with someone who was difficult to get along with. Why was this person difficult? How did you handle the situation?
- Describe a situation where you found yourself dealing with someone who did not like you. How did you handle it?
- In what professional development activities have you been involved over the past few years?
- What academic changes do you see on the horizon in your discipline?
- How would your background and experience strengthen this academic department?
- Why do you want to work here?
- What is the most important accomplishment, achievement or innovation you brought to your present (past) job?
- What has been your greatest work-related disappointment? How did you handle it?
- Has your work ever been criticized? If so, in what way? How did you improve?
- What experience, accomplishments, etc. do you hope to gain from working at UTEP?
- What outstanding qualities can you bring to this job?