Interview Workshop

Bruin Actuarial Society
AGENDA

01 Different Types of Interviews
02 How To Prepare Before Your Interviews
03 Different Types of Interview Questions
04 How To Make a Lasting Impression
Different Types of Interviews
TYPES OF INTERVIEWS

1. Phone Interviews

Ranges from 15 min – 45 min
Typically, a phone call with a recruiter

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<tr>
<th>DO</th>
<th>DON’T</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Find a good location with good signal</td>
<td>Try not to have excessive background noise and distractions</td>
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<tr>
<td>Answer the phone with “Hello, this is [Your Name]”</td>
<td>Ramble (speaking for a few minutes straight is a bad idea)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Speak at a good pace and confidently</td>
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<tr>
<td>Use your voice and intonation to convey your interests and passion</td>
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## TYPES OF INTERVIEWS

2. Live-Video Interviews  
Ranges from 45 min – 1 hour  
Speaking with hiring manager or actuarial analyst

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<th><strong>DO</strong></th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Check Zoom/MS/etc, video, and microphone quality beforehand</td>
<td>Log on 5 minutes before interview time</td>
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<tr>
<td>Dress professionally and greet the recruiter with a smile</td>
<td>Excessive background noises and distraction</td>
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<tr>
<td>Find a location with good lighting and background</td>
<td>Do not make typing or looking at online notes obvious</td>
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<tr>
<td>Maintain eye contact – look into the camera</td>
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10/25/2023
3. Recorded Interviews
   Becomes more common since the pandemic
   Takes around 20-45 minutes to complete

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>THINGS TO KEEP IN MIND</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Your webcam and microphone record your answers</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Multiple attempts for each questions – you will also have time to read the questions and brainstorm before recording</td>
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<tr>
<td>Could be robotic and awkward at first</td>
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<tr>
<td>Refer to DO and DONTS for live-interviews</td>
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4. In-Person Interview

Could take place on Campus (Career Center) or on-site
Takes somewhere around 1 hour – 2 hours

### THINGS TO KEEP IN MIND

- Anyone in the room could be your interviewer
- Arrive and check in at least 15 minutes early
- Dress to Impress!
- Your interview starts the moment you enter the building
- Maintain eye contact with EVERYONE in the room
TYPES OF INTERVIEWS

5. Final Round Interviews

Usually a live-video interview with the team

30 min interviews with actuarial students or fellow/hiring manager

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<th>THINGS TO KEEP IN MIND</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>This is the FINAL step before a decision</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>It’s all about “Office Fit”</td>
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<tr>
<td>Make sure to give consistent answers (interviewers will compare notes)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Take this time to learn about the team, communication, career paths, advice, etc.</td>
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</table>
How to Prepare for Interviews
DO YOUR RESEARCH!

- Research the company, position, and the interviewers
- Use Google, Wikipedia, LinkedIn, Glassdoor, and company’s careers sites
- Know your resume inside and out: you should be able to discuss your significant academic/professional/leadership experiences
WHAT TO BRING

- Laptop with webcam and headphones (virtual)
- Phone on the side and in silence mode
- Copy of your resume for reference
- Pen and paper to take notes
- Business professional attire
Different Types of Interview Questions
THE BASICS

- Tell me about yourself
- Why do you want to be an actuary?
- Why are you interested in this specific industry?
- Current events
- Personal experience
- Where do you see yourself in 5/10/20 years?
- How many exams do you have? Do you have a study plan?
Practice Time!

Q: Tell me about yourself.
Practice Time!

Q: Why do you want to be an actuary?
BEHAVIORAL QUESTIONS

Interviewers use these questions to assess how you work, act, and perform in a professional setting

- How do you interact with difficult people?
- Describe a time when you took initiative
- Describe a time when you explain your findings to someone with no technical knowledge
- Describe a time when you had to resolve a conflict in a group setting
**STAR METHOD**

1. **PREPARE**
   - Listen carefully to the question and think of an instance. It is okay and encouraged to ask for time before answering.

2. **SITUATION**
   - Describe a specific event or a situation that you were in – Who/what/when/where/etc.

3. **TASK**
   - Explain the task you had to complete, highlighting any challenges.

4. **ACTION**
   - Describe the actions you took to complete these tasks. These should be aligned with the job description.

5. **RESULT**
   - End it off with the impact you made. Quantify your effort/result if possible.
SITUATION:
During my internship at Instagram this summer

TASK:
I was tasked with identifying users' behaviors

ACTION:
Understanding this task, I implemented an in-app survey that analyzes click-through rates

RESULT:
As a result, this survey was implemented as a new feature on Instagram, which effectively reduces 50% of the planning time
Resume-related Questions:
- Walk me through your resume
- Tell me more about your internship
- What were the most important skills you gained?
- What was the biggest challenge at your previous job/internship?

Interest-related Questions:
- Why XYZ company?
- Why P&C/Health/Life/Retirement?
- What do you hope to accomplish/learn?
These questions are being asked to assess how you think/your logic & reasoning

- How many basketball could fit in a bus?
- How many lbs of fries does a McDonald sell a day?
- How many diapers are being used in a year?
- What degree do the minute hand and the hour hand make when the clock is 3:15 PM?
TECHNICAL/CASE STUDY QUESTIONS

These questions are more actuarial-related. You can look up “Actuarial Case Study Questions” for examples

- Price a new phone insurance
- What factors would you take into account …
- What are some factors that affect the frequency and severity of the auto insurance?
- What are some factors that you take into consideration when insuring a restaurant?
- Trend analysis by looking at graphs
How To Make a Long-lasting Impression
3 THINGS TO REMEMBER

DURING YOUR INTERVIEW
- EYE CONTACT
- HEAD UP & BACK STRAIGHT
- AVOID FIDDLING WITH HAIR
- AVOID SHAKING YOUR LEGS

ASK GOOD QUESTIONS
- WHAT PROJECTS WILL I BE WORKING ON?
- WHO WOULD I WORK WITH?
- WHAT IS THE COMMUNICATION LIKE?
- WHEN CAN I EXPECT TO HEAR BACK?

POST - INTERVIEW
- THANK YOU FOR INTERVIEWER TIME
- ASK FOR EMAIL/LINKEDIN FOR THANK YOU EMAIL LATER
- FOLLOW UP WHEN DECISION IS DUE
KEY TAKEAWAYS
- Do research on the company in advance
- Use the STAR method for answering questions
- Dress professionally and be confident

ANNOUNCEMENTS
- Intro to Insurance Workshop 10/30
- Mentorship Mixer 11/2

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Thank you

Any questions?