

**Title:** Professor Interview

**Deadline:** Personal Conference (12:30pm Friday, February 12<sup>th</sup>, 2010)

**Possible Points earned:** 50

**Paper Length:** Transcription: varies/Reflection: minimum 450 Words

**Learning Objectives:**

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Analyze	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Construct	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Utilize	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Practice	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Employ	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Engage
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- A. To learn about a field that you are interested in, and learn about what is required to be successful in that field.
- B. To establish a contact in your field for future help or information.
- C. To discover potential ideas and/or research for your research paper (if you choose the academic topic).

**Project Description:**

You will interview a professor in your major/academic field, write down their responses, and write a reflection.

**Procedural Directions:**

1. Find a professor in your field to interview & set up an appointment with them, *immediately* (DO NOT WAIT!!).
2. *Suggestion:* the day before the interview, call the interviewee and confirm the appointment.
3. Show up for the interview a few minutes early with your questions; take good notes. Dress appropriately.
4. Transcribe the interview with your questions and the interviewee's responses (typed). The transcription must include:
  - A. A detailed account of each question asked and the response to that question.\*
  - B. The name and title of the person you interviewed.\*
  - C. The interviewee's job address, phone number, and email address.\*
  - D. The date, time, and location of your interview.\*
5. E-mail the professor a thank you after you are done and copy me on the e-mail (brooks91@nmsu.edu).
6. Write a reflection on the interview. Make sure you've answered the following questions in your reflection:
  - A. What is the title of 1 or 2 major academic publications related to your major?\*
  - B. What is a common theory that students and professors should be familiar with related to the major?\*
  - C. What is a common practice that students and professors should be familiar with related to the major?\*
  - D. What are two to four specific terminology or jargon that members of this major use often?\*
  - E. What are two current conflicts, topics, etc. within the major?\*
  - F. What job opportunities exist for students with your major?\*
  - G. What are aspects of the 'hairball' that your professors may deal with? (politics, red tape, etc.)\*  
*(the below questions are optional but can be informational)*
    - 1. Are you more excited or more frightened by this academic/career path after meeting with the professor? Why?
    - 2. What did you like about this experience?
    - 3. What didn't you like about this experience?

**Format for Reflection:** Type, double-space, 12 pt Times New Roman Font

**Format for Transcript:** Type, 12 pt Times New Roman Font, Interview Style (single space)

Example: Student: What is your favorite color?  
Teacher: My favorite color is blue.

**Tips & Tactics:**

- Contact your professor well in advance. Just in case, have a back up, professors get busy. If a professor cancels and that somehow delays you turning in your assignment I will need to see documented proof (ie an e-mail).
- You may want to bring a tape recorder, recording device, or anything to help you type/write fast. In long detailed parts I'm ok if you paraphrase what the professor said but indicate that it is a paraphrase.
- Asking follow up questions is completely acceptable and encouraged.
- Avoid asking too personal questions (marital status, how much money they make, family status, personal views on unrelated topics, etc.). If they offer something like that, it's ok, but unless they're really comfortable answering more, do not ask follow up questions.