

Interviewing

<https://career.engineering.asu.edu/resumesandresources/interviewing/>

Barbara Haney

Career Development Specialist

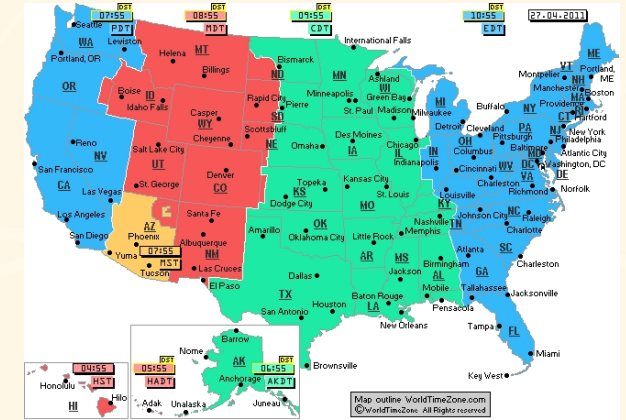
Fulton Schools of Engineering Career Center

Your Goals, at any interview

- **Confident**
- **Competent**
- **Enthusiastic**
- **Someone that I/we can like and trust**

Types: Phone and Video Interviews

- **DO know EXACTLY** what time zone the call is in
- **DO prepare for mechanical problems:**
 - Quiet area without interruptions
- **DO practice the details for a video call:**
 - Wear interview clothes
 - Check background behind you
 - Camera – look at it, not your screen or keyboard



Interview Strategies

- **DO prepare: General, Behavioral, Technical**
- **DO use ~1 minute to answer the question**
- **DO answer the question directly, OR with something close**
- **DON'T end with "Does that answer your question?"**



General Interview Preparation

- **“General” interview questions are designed to:**
 - Let the applicant talk about a familiar subject
 - Assess communications skills

General Interview Questions

Tell me about yourself.

Behavioral Interviewing

“Describe a time when...”

Interview Preparation Grid

Think about your experiences which match typical behavioral topics

Topic	<i>Story #1</i>	<i>Story #2</i>
Teamwork	Understanding scope of each role in undergraduate research project	Assigning and tracking roles in FSE 100 class project
Communication	Tutoring physics to nursing students	Helping customers in part -time job
Problem Solving	Troubleshooting Arduino programming for capstone project	Resolving email distribution list issues for student organization
Conflict Management	Resolving study time in residence hall	Solving parking assignment at apartment complex
Initiative	Applying for research position after reading about it in Inner Circle	Taking on additional scope in undergraduate research project
Leadership	Making other students aware of summer internship opportunities	Creating training curriculum for incoming interns

Behavioral Questions: STAR Technique

- **Use this outline:**
 - **Situation**
 - **Task**
 - **Action**
 - **Result**
 - **Positive outcome OR**
 - **What you learned from past mistakes**

Technical Interview

- **Job description indicates a need for experience with ---**
 - **Be able to explain your experience with ---**
 - **Be able to explain what --- is best suited for**

Questions for Them

Demonstrate your professionalism, business acumen, and competence

AND

“Can you tell me the next steps and time frame for your hiring decision?”

Next Steps: For You

- **Brief “Thank You” email**
 - **Subject: Your Name/Posting # (or title of the position)**
 - **Thank the interviewer**
 - **Restate your interest in the role and your skills**

Summary

- **Confident, Competent, Enthusiastic... how'd you do?**

Additional Information

- **Practice interviewing:** <https://asu.biginterview.com/>
 - Learn about interviewing and practice via video – plus optional AI-generated feedback
 - “Engineering: Engineering – Level 1” (for most students)
- **Fulton Schools Career Center website** <https://career.engineering.asu.edu/>
 - 24/7 access to presentations and tools
- **SkillsFirst Résumé** <https://skillsfirst.com/organizations/asu-engineering>
 - Submit your résumé for review without an appointment
- **“Advice From Industry Professionals:...”:**
<https://career.engineering.asu.edu/resumesandresources/internship-job-search/>

Backup

How to Make Practice Interview Appointments

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Jobs



Events

Employers

Inbox 51

Career center

Career center



Arizona St

Appointments →

Schedule time to meet with experts and build your career

Choose a Category

Fulton Schools of Engineering- Students & Alumni

Thunderbird School of Global Management- Students & Alumni

ASU- Students

ASU Online- Students

ASU- Alumni

Choose an Appointment Type

All ASU- National Service / Peace Corps Prep

Speak with a Peace Corps Prep representative about the program, how to enroll, class selection and any other topics you may want to cover. If you have not already completed the interest form, please do so: bit.ly/PCPrepApp

Fulton Schools 30 Minute Resume Review or 1 Topic - Undergraduate

Do you have a single focused item (like a refined resume review)? Need fast advice on one topic?

Fulton Schools Résumé First Review - Undergraduate

Get your Undergraduate résumé reviewed.

Fulton Schools Résumé Review Follow-up - Undergraduate

Get your Undergraduate résumé reviewed after prior feedback.

Fulton Schools Interview Practice - Undergraduate

Practice an interview- NOT a coding interview.

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Common Behavioral Interviewing Questions

1. **Tell me about a project or role that you've taken on that is outside your job description.**
2. **Tell me about a time when you went above and beyond at work without being asked.**
3. **Describe a time when you had trouble seeing eye to eye with a colleague. How did you handle the situation?**
4. **Give me an example of when you worked with a group or team of people to complete a project.**

Common Behavioral Interviewing Questions

- 1. Tell me about a time that you received a significant amount of critical feedback. How did you handle the situation?**
- 2. Talk about a time when you were faced with a difficult decision and describe how it turned out.**
- 3. Give me an example of a time when you were forced to make an important decision without all of the necessary information.**

Common Behavioral Interviewing Questions

- 1. Describe a time when you needed to persuade a person or group to do something they didn't want to do.**
- 2. Tell me about a time when you faced a lot of obstacles to achieving a goal.**
- 3. Talk about a stressful situation you've experienced. How did you handle it?**
- 4. Tell me about a time when you failed.**

Examples of Critical Thinking Questions

- **A car is travelling along a highway carrying helium balloons in the rear seat. The car has a head on collision and comes to a rapid stop. Which direction do the balloons travel? Why?**
- **On a canoe in a pool, you take a 16 pound bowling ball out of the canoe and throw it in the pool. What happens to the water level of the pool?**

Interviewing Skills

STAR Technique Practice: Tell me about a time you demonstrated leadership at work.

S/T

- During my last semester of school, I completed an internship at XYZ Corp.
- I was the first intern the department had ever had, and they decided they wanted to continue with an official internship program.
- In order to successfully launch this program, my supervisor asked me to create and administer a training curriculum for the new, incoming interns.

Interviewing Skills

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- To complete this task, I outlined all the procedures the new interns would need to learn, such as.....
- Next, I created a three day training agenda covering these topics.
- Finally, I piloted it with four new interns.

Interviewing Skills

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- The training was a huge success.
- On a survey completed after the training, all four interns rated the program a 10 out of 10 in the areas of usefulness and creativity.
- In addition, each intern rated my communication and leadership styles as “Excellent.”

Behavioral Interviewing Pitfalls

- **Redundant responses**
 - Don't use the same example (or two) for every question
- **Off target or abstract answers**
- **Incomplete answers (most common)**

Coding Interviews

- Available at Noble Library as reference

