HOW TO ROCK YOUR INTERVIEW

Pick 5–6 main points and examples from your experience
“I am good at picking out what information to emphasize about myself that is most relevant to the interview at hand.”
—Fourth-year undergraduate, Roger Williams University, Rhode Island

Use those examples to reassure the interviewer that this will work
“The ‘people person’ question is my ‘seller’ question. Not only do I discuss previous pleasurable experiences I have, but I also discuss the not-so-pleasurable. Then I describe in detail how I handled the negative encounters and let the employer know that I can maturely and responsibly handle tough situations.”
—Second-year graduate student, University of West Alabama

Remember: It’s more about your delivery than the “right” answer
“It’s your reaction to the question that they are looking for. So you just have to remain calm and answer all the questions with a little personality, while being straightforward. No one wants to hire an android; they want a person who can do the work.”
—Third-year undergraduate, California State University, San Bernardino

Aim to get the interviewer talking to you as a colleague
“I ask questions and make it less of an interview and more of a conversation. I find that the best way to seem interested in a person/company is to actually want to learn more about it. Crazy, right?”
—Third-year undergraduate, San Diego State University, California

Get to know your professors, supervisors, and others
“My interviews were handed to me on a platter. I’ve always known my supervisors through pre-established networking.”
—Fifth-year undergraduate, Humboldt State University, California

For an interview approach that can help you land that internship, scholarship, summer job, or career opportunity, see Student Health 101, May 2016.