



CPSC 2910 – Lesson 4

Real-world Readiness: Interviewing

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Agenda

- **Interview Tips and Techniques**
 - **Online**
 - **Behavioral vs Technical**
- **Interview Project Overview**
- **In-class Group Work**

Online Interviews

Be prepared for interviews via Zoom and other online platforms -

Me having online job interview at home



My coworkers and me ready for another day of Zoom meetings



- Assume most first interviews will be held online – saves time and money
- Video interview tips - <https://www.forbes.com/sites/kathycaprino/2020/07/03/10-key-tips-for-acing-your-video-interview/?sh=1ceb312b5003>

Behavioral Questions

Be prepared to discuss your personal STRENGTHS and WEAKNESSES -

Interviewer : Tell us about yourself

Me (unprepared):



Interviewer: So where do you see yourself in five years?

Me: I'd say my biggest weakness is listening



- STAR – situation, task, action, result
- <https://www.themuse.com/advice/behavioral-interview-questions-answers-examples>

Technical Questions

Be prepared to discuss your TECHNICAL SKILLS –

- Be prepared to discuss in detail projects you have worked on –
 - What was the project generally, what was your role on the project?
 - How did you manage your code, how did you collaborate, etc.?
 - Anything on your resume is fair game – be sure to review beforehand

Resources / practice problem sets –

- [Leetcode](#)
- [Pramp](#)
- Problem set – [Codeforces](#)
- [TopCoder](#)
- [HackerRank](#)
- [InterviewCake](#)
- Practice programming problems - [Code Chef](#)
- [Practice Coding Questions - The Complete Guide to Google Interview Prep](#)

Quick Tips: Do's and Don'ts

Don't do this.....	Instead, do this....
Ask "what am I going to do in this job?"	Ask "can you describe what a typical day/week may look like in my role?"
Ask about pay, benefits, vacation	Wait until it comes up in the interview process – also, you can research this
Be a superhero – "I can do anything!"	Be honest and confident, but don't go overboard
Speak negatively about former bosses or jobs	Prepare answers about past experiences and aspects you did not like without throwing anyone under the bus
Act desperate	Show enthusiasm for the role
Not know anything about their products or competitors	Research beforehand

Quick Tips: Be prepared

Preparation, preparation, preparation -

- Research the company -
 - Who is interviewing you? (ask HR rep/check LinkedIn)
 - What does the company do?
 - Who are their competitors?
- Use your entire resume – try not to reference just one work experience
- Try not to say um, ah, like
- Always have questions to ask at the end – company culture, management, day in the life, etc. – not something easily researched online!
- Be sure to thank the interviewers, in person and with a follow-up email

In-Class Group Work

2 minute introductions –

- Take 2 minutes to introduce yourself to your partner, then switch
 - How did you do?
 - Was it easy or difficult?
 - What do you need to practice?
 - What can your partner tell me about you?
- Switch partners and continue....
- Practice, practice, practice – this will help you at the career fair!

Looking Ahead

Next week –

- Interview Project – due in Week 9. See detailed project description in Canvas, including expectations and grading rubric.

Questions?

Use our Teams channel first – this is preferred for general questions!

- Prof Russell - crusse4@clemson.edu
- Matt Bernard - mberna2@clemson.edu