

UK University Course and Professional Interviews

A university course or professional interview gives the university an opportunity to understand the student's motivation, knowledge of the course and profession, communication skills and readiness for study. Students should prepare carefully, but answers should be natural, honest and based on their own experiences rather than memorised scripts.

Preparing for the Interview

Students should research the university and understand why they have chosen it. They should also know the main content of their course, including relevant modules, placements, career opportunities and professional accreditation.

For professional courses, students should understand the values, responsibilities and ethical expectations associated with the profession. For example, this may include compassionate and person-centred care in Nursing, safeguarding and inclusion in Teaching, and safeguarding, confidentiality and professional ethics in Social Work.

Students are not expected to know everything. They are expected to demonstrate genuine interest and a realistic understanding of the course and profession.

Questions Students May Be Asked

- Why have you chosen this course and university?
- Tell us about yourself and the experiences that have prepared you for the course.
- What qualities would help you become a good professional?
- What challenges do you think people working in the profession may face?

Scenario Questions

Some university and professional course interviews include scenario-based questions. These can explore a student's judgement, communication, professionalism, honesty and willingness to seek advice when appropriate. There is rarely one perfect answer.

During the Interview

Students should speak naturally, listen carefully, think before answering and use examples from their own lives. They should answer the question that has been asked and maintain appropriate eye contact with the camera during an online interview.

If a question is unclear, students can politely ask for it to be repeated. If they genuinely do not know an answer, they should be honest and explain how they would seek appropriate information or advice.

Online Interview Preparation

For an online interview, students should choose a quiet location, test their internet connection, camera and microphone, dress appropriately and join the meeting in good time.

Avoiding Common Mistakes

Students should avoid memorising answers from the internet, reading from notes, giving one-word answers, interrupting the interviewer, pretending to know something they do not, or speaking negatively about previous schools, employers or colleagues.

WorldStudentAdvisors

Where an interview is required, **WorldStudentAdvisors** can support students with interview preparation and, where appropriate, a personalised mock interview. The purpose is to help students communicate their own experiences, motivation and understanding clearly, not to provide scripted answers.

The Key Message

A university interview is an opportunity for students to demonstrate their motivation, communication skills and understanding of their chosen course and, where relevant, the responsibilities of the profession they hope to enter.

Strong preparation means researching the university, course and profession, thinking about relevant personal experiences and being ready to discuss them naturally. Students should answer honestly, listen carefully and avoid memorised or manufactured responses.

Disclaimer: This information is provided in good faith and was believed to be accurate at the time of publication. Fees, dates, entry requirements, visa regulations and other information may change. Students should check current requirements before making any financial or study commitments.