

HC TheSIS Guide

Faculty Interview Guidelines

- Interview a mentor-eligible faculty member.
- Before your conversation, learn some basic information about your interviewee (likely available online). At a minimum, you should:
 - Learn your interviewee's specific field of research.
 - Find out where she or he attended graduate school.
 - Review a recent publication, patent, creative work, etc. prepared by your interviewee; it is not necessary (or expected) that you fully understand it, but it will help give you a sense of the kind of work your interviewee produces as well as what research writing style they may expect from you should they become your mentor.
- In the interview, use the themes and questions below to organize your conversation.

The interviewee as an expert

- How did you first get involved in [field of research]?
- What experiences were important in your decision to pursue graduate work and an academic career? What led you to attend [graduate school]?

The thesis

- What constitutes scholarly work for undergraduates in your field?
- What advice would you give a student developing an undergraduate thesis topic?
- I haven't yet started my thesis. How would you recommend I prepare myself in advance to make the process as productive and manageable as possible?

The interviewee as a mentor

- Have you ever mentored an HC student before?
- What qualities do you look for in a thesis student?
- In what ways do you think a mentor can help an undergraduate thesis writer?

- Don't forget to ask your own question(s).

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