



MOCK INTERVIEWS WITH EMPLOYERS

The opportunity for students to have a mock interview with an employer is a valuable experience which really helps them prepare for “the real thing”. We have run these skills sessions for many years and they have proved to be an enjoyable and useful experience for both students and employers who, of course, make these days possible for which we are very grateful. Running a day of mock interviews can help raise a company’s profile with students as all skills sessions are widely advertised through various media on campus.

Each day of mock interviews runs as follows:

1. The student contacts Employability and Graduate Development to book a time for their mock interview. Students can book for one mock interview only per term.
2. Students send an electronic version of either a completed application form or CV to Employability and Graduate Development. This could be one they have completed and sent off for a job or completed just for the mock interview.
3. All application forms and CVs, together with a sign-up sheet, will be forwarded by email to the interviewer or the contact who has booked the event, approximately 4 working days before the mock interview day.
4. The interview is completely neutral and students should not be expected to have knowledge of the interviewer’s company.
5. We ask that questions are mainly competency based and are of the sort that could be asked at interview with any company, regardless of the sector the student may be interested in or that the interviewer works in. Students do not often prepare for such areas as commercial awareness, body language, etc so these can make ideal themes for the mock interviews. Students are advised that questions posed may be drawn from the information provided in their CV/application form.
6. Each session is 45 minutes long; 20 minutes for the interview, followed by 10 minutes feedback and a further 15 minutes to allow for any over running/ comfort breaks.
7. Students should be encouraged to ask questions during this feedback period as well as expecting the interviewer to give useful tips.
8. There are normally 6 or 7 interviews per day but this is negotiable.
9. Unfortunately the Employability and Graduate Development cannot pay travel expenses but we are pleased to buy the interviewer lunch on the day!

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