

Group Assignment II: Interview, Student Manual

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1 Group Assignment II

Interview a faculty member (professor, teaching faculty or graduate student) of Department of Mathematics of PSU, then share your experience in class (10-15 minutes, no more than 20 minutes). The interview is basically expected to be 30-45 minutes long, but you could talk a bit more with your interviewee if your chat goes well. The content of interview may include but not restricted to the following items: life and its connection to mathematical career, understanding of math, thoughts of math education and former or current research.

Steps of interview

a. Choose an interviewee from a list of given names (we will do this in the class of first week), study the material of your targeted person from his/her personal website and other information from the internet (some of them have biography on Wiki), then contact to get in touch with him/her. You may ask for his/her (approximate) availability during the semester and preferred method of meeting, but do not make actual appointment with the interviewee at this stage yet. This step shall be finished before the end of the first week (Sunday, August 27th).

Remark: All contacts in the whole process shall be finished by a fixed representative from your group.

b. Make a detailed plan of interview, including list of alternative questions, and submit it to me. Each group is expected to talk with me in person at least once before going further. All interview plans are expected to be submitted before Sunday, October 1st.

c. Prepare for your actual interview. Schedule with your interviewee, choose the method of meeting (in person/online) together and send him/her a full list of questions that you may ask. **Your interview should be finished no later than Friday, November 24th. Under this basic requirement, the date of appointment and method of meeting should be decided up to the convenience of the interviewee.**

d. Interview. Please be respectful and patient to your interviewee during the whole process. In an actual interview, you do not need to stick to your plan; please, however, **make sure you get the consent from the interviewee when taking a new action** such as raising a new question (especially when it is unlisted or personal-related), asking for photographing or video-shooting etc.

e. After the Interview. Write a thank-you letter to the interviewee to express your appreciation of his/her participation. You may attach he/she photos or videos during the interview. When you email this letter to your interviewee, please put me on carbon copy to demonstrate that you have finished the whole interview.

Presentation of Interviewing Experience: The presentation of Group Assignment II should include but not restricted to: a brief introduction to your interviewee (including a biography and his/her main job at the Department of Math), the list of your questions with answers from the interviewee, your impression on the interviewee BEFORE and AFTER the interview, and your feelings about the whole activity etc. Photos and short videos are encouraged with the consent of the interviewee.

The presentation should be addressed with slides. To demonstrate the participation of every individual in your group, a photo of the whole group and the interviewee shall be included. If the interview is done online, use a screenshot including everyone in the meeting room instead.

Deadline of Group Assignment II: Interview–Friday, November 24th; Presentation–Friday, December 8th.