

Intellectual Questions for the Academic Job Interview
{from the perspective of Curriculum, Instruction, and Teacher Education}

Essential Questions

1. What does it mean to be a scholar?
2. What counts as educational research? What are the standards for educational research?
3. What is the role of generalizability in educational research?
4. How do you (or will you) assess the impact of your research?
5. How, where, and with whom will you communicate the results of your research? Why?
6. Community-engaged scholarship aims to make a difference in the lives of community stakeholders. Can scholarship that is *not* community-engaged make a difference in the lives of others? If so, how?
7. What is innovative about your research?
8. Who are the key researchers in your area? How does your work compare with theirs?
9. What are the big issues and essential questions in your research area?
10. What are the educational outcomes that you would like to see in a doctoral student in the field of Curriculum and Instruction? How might you assess those outcomes?
11. Why do you think you are the right person for this position?

Some Practical Questions

1. What are some readings (articles or books) that you would recommend to a doctoral student getting started in your field?
2. How do you balance your professional time? If several challenges came up at the same time (grant deadline, advising a student, teaching commitments) how would you prioritize?
3. How do you (will you) assess your students' learning?
4. Do you have any experience mentoring graduate students? What are your beliefs about how graduate students should be mentored?
5. What strategies do you (will you) use to mentor and advise graduate students who are struggling?
6. In your experience, how are effective research partnerships and collaborations between researchers formed?
7. In your experience, how are effective research partnerships and collaborations between researchers and community stakeholders formed?
8. Can you tell me about an example where you demonstrated your intellectual independence?
9. What are the strengths and weaknesses of the methodology that you use in your research?
10. What do you think are your most significant accomplishments? Why?

Questions Related to Teacher Education:

1. What qualities should a teacher educator have? Do you have these qualities?
2. What are the major challenges that preservice and early-career teachers face?
How would you organize the curriculum and instruction of teacher education to address these challenges?
3. Who are the stakeholders that should be involved in discussions around the curriculum, instruction, and evaluation of teacher education? How can you actively try to involve these stakeholders?
4. What are the practices of high-quality teaching? How do you (will you) prepare teacher candidates to enact the practices of high-quality teaching?