

CAREER CYBERGUIDE

Information Interview Questions

Questions Amy prepared:

- How did this type of work interest you and how did you get started?
- How has your business developed?
- How have you had to stay on top of changes in technology?
- Which software do you think is most important for the future of web development?
- How does your company differ from its competitors?
- Do you have any advice for someone interested in this field/job?

Other possible questions – gear questions towards gathering information that is important to you:

- How did you get to this position? (what experiences, contacts, strategies, timing, advice, decisions were involved?)
- What education/training have you had? (what do others typically in this field have?)
- What courses do you suggest for an undergraduate as preparation for this type of position?
- What do you like most/least about the work? (what values are satisfied, what are the negative aspects?)
- What is a typical day on the job for you like?
- What motivated you to get involved in this field?
- How did you decide to go for it? When and why did you decide to do this? Who helped you?
- What kind of entry-level jobs do you think are good training grounds for a person entering this field right now?
- How long have you been in this job/occupation/field/organization?
- If you were going to change direction now, how would you do it?
- What's your sense of the future outlook for this occupation?
- What opportunities are there for advancement?
- How would someone with _____ (X personality, Y style) fit in here?

- How often might you have the opportunity to do _____ (activity you specify) in this occupation, position or organization?
- What makes this occupation, position or organization exciting/satisfying?
- What was it that made you think you could do it?
- What is a typical career path in this field or organization?
 - What is the best way to enter this occupation?
 - What are the advancement opportunities?
 - What are the major qualifications for success in this occupation?
- If no clear career path exists, how do you advance in this occupation?
- What barriers did you encounter?
- What are some of the specialties in this career area?
- How do you find work in a specialty of this occupation? (describe specialty)
- Can you suggest some ways a student could obtain the necessary experience?
- What actions did you take before you entered this occupation?
 - Which have been most helpful?
- What other jobs can you get with the same background?
- What particular skills or talents are most essential to be effective in your job?
 - How did you learn these skills?
 - Did you enter this position through a formal training program?
 - How can I evaluate whether or not I have the necessary skills for a position such as yours?
- With the information you have about my education, skills, and experience, what other fields or jobs would you suggest I research further before I make a final decision?
- Are there any written materials you suggest I read?
- Which professional journals and organizations would help me learn more about this field?