

## QUESTIONS GRAD/PROFESSIONAL SCHOOL INTERVIEWERS FREQUENTLY ASK

### ABOUT YOURSELF - ANALYTICAL

1. Tell me about yourself.
2. Who do you most admire? Why?
3. Describe three people who have profoundly influenced you.
4. Tell me about your family. In what ways are you like your father?
5. What are your short-range and long-range goals and objectives?
6. When and why did you establish these goals and how are you preparing yourself to achieve them?
7. What do you see yourself doing in five years? Ten years?
8. What change would you make in your college experience?
9. Tell me about someone who has been a very significant person in your life.
10. In what kind of work/academic environment are you most comfortable?
11. What characteristics make up a good professor, mentor, or supervisor?
12. What are your strengths? Weaknesses?
13. How do you work under pressure?
14. What major problem or decision have you encountered and how did you handle it?
15. What have you learned from your mistakes?
16. What have you learned from the jobs you have held? What job has helped you the most?
17. Do you have a preference for organization (school) size?
18. What qualifications do you have that you feel will make for a successful person in your chosen field?
19. Why did you decide to go to graduate/professional school?
20. Why did you select Samford?
21. If you were starting all over again, what would you do differently?
22. Have you ever changed your major field of interest while in college? Why? Why did you choose your major?
23. What have you enjoyed most about your education?
24. How do you determine when you are successfully doing your job?
25. Name 3 of your accomplishments that you feel had a great impact on your life.
26. If you could, how would you plan your academic studies differently? Why?
27. On what criteria would you wish to be evaluated?
28. What have you done to show willingness and initiative toward completing a task?
29. Do you think your grades are a good indication of your academic achievement?
30. What would you like your coworkers or costudents to say about you? What would you like your professors to say about you?
31. How do you get along with fellow workers? Do you like group work?
32. How would you describe yourself?
33. What are your special abilities and skills?
34. How do you think a friend or professor who knows you well would describe you?
35. What motivates you to put forth your greatest effort?
36. What jobs/activities/classes have you enjoyed the most? the least? Why?
37. What types of people do you find most difficult to deal with?
38. Why were your grades in college so low?
39. How do you handle conflict?
40. What do you do when you are overwhelmed?
41. What intimidates you?
42. Give comments from former or current employers or professors about how you perform your job or academics.
43. How do you take direction?
44. What was a goal you did not reach and how did you build yourself back?
45. Tell me about a group experience. What did you do if someone was not pulling their weight?
46. Are you a leader or a follower?
47. Why did you choose field of study for graduate/professional school?



### ABOUT YOURSELF - INFORMATIONAL

1. In what school activities have you participated? Why? Which did you enjoy the most?
2. Do you think your extracurricular activities were worth the time you devoted to them?
3. What leadership or supervisory roles have you held?
4. What courses did you like best in school? least? Why?
5. What do you do in your spare time for enjoyment?

6. How have you spent your free time and summers during college? What did you learn from these experiences?
7. What books, journals or other publications have you read recently?
8. Name and explain three significant events in your life.
9. Do you have special interests or hobbies? What are they?
10. Know your personal statement or essay or statement of purpose; discussion may come from it.
11. Where do you see our field in 20 years?
12. Tell me about any research you have done.
13. What are your alternate plans if you are not accepted into this professional or graduate school?
14. What academic achievements are you most proud of?
15. What was your favorite non-major class and why?
16. What teaching/research experience do you have?
17. In what "professional" type presentations have you participated

**ABOUT YOUR KNOWLEDGE OF THE OCCUPATIONAL FIELD OR SCHOOL  
AND VARIOUS OPPORTUNITIES**

1. Why do you think you would like to go to XYZ University? What do you know about XYZ University?
2. Where do you see yourself fitting in best in our programs?
3. What criteria are you using to evaluate this school?
4. In what future type of position are you most interested? Or what career field area interests you the most?
5. How has your course work prepared you for this graduate program?
6. How has your previous work experience prepared you for this program?
7. What experiences have you had in this field?
8. Why did you choose your particular field of work or study?
9. Why did you choose the career for which you are preparing?
10. Why do you want to be a \_\_\_\_\_?
11. What do you know about opportunities in the field in which you will be trained?
12. What do you think would be the most demanding aspect of the graduate program for you?
13. In what ways do you think you can make a contribution to our school? What can we do for you?
14. What qualities should a successful \_\_\_\_\_ possess?
15. What special skills or talents or qualification do you have that you think would be an asset in this program?
16. How do you plan to use your skills in the job world?
17. How would you describe the ideal job for you after graduate/professional school?
18. Is there any reason why you could not make it to class every day?
19. Would you rather work independently or with a team?
20. Tell me about your volunteer activities.

**MISCELLANEOUS QUESTIONS**

1. Current events, especially in your field.
2. Is there anything else I should ask about you? Is there any other information you wish to share?
3. What questions would you like to ask me?
4. Did you help finance any of your educational expenses? How?
5. Why should I accept you? (What makes you think you could be successful in this field?)
6. How do you determine or evaluate success? How do you define your success?
7. How would you describe the ideal job for you after graduate/professional school?