

Sample Interview Questions

For A Study of people involved in the Teacher Education program at UC Davis.

1. What were the kinds of things you have done this past year in connection with your work in the teacher preparation program at UCD?
2. How were these kinds of things organized over time? How would you characterize how these things changed over the course of the academic year?
3. Do any events or activities stand out for you this past year in connection with your work in the teacher preparation program?
4. If so, which ones, and why do they stand out for you?
5. What could you tell me about each of the following?

Activities & experiences you learned the most from in connection with your work in the program

Activities & experiences through which you were most effective in teaching something to someone else involved with the program

Most frustrating kinds of activities and experiences; key problem areas; etc.

Most rewarding activities and experiences

Activities and experiences that contradicted your initial expectations

Activities and experiences that were very consistent with your initial expectations

6. How did these things [e.,g. answers to parts of question 5] change for you over time?
7. In what ways did the design of the program help or hinder you in working through these changes constructively?
8. What turning points -- either positive or negative -- did you experience in your work with the program this past year?
9. How would you characterize your relationship with other people involved in one way or another in the teacher preparation program?
 - Student teachers
 - University supervisors
 - Cooperating teachers
 - K-12 students
10. What has gone well or poorly for you with each of these kinds of relationships?
11. What aspects of these relationships would you like to alter if you had this year to do over again?
12. As you think about the work you expect or hope to be doing next year, what aspects of your work with the program this year seem like good investments? What aspects seem O.K.? What aspects seem like bad investments? Why?
13. What changes would you like to see in how the teacher preparation process is organized, either for the program in which you were working or teacher preparation programs in general?

14. Is there anything else about your participation in the program this year that you think I should know about to better understand the process of preparing new teachers?