

Department Chair Interview Questions

1. Please share an experience in which you successfully taught a difficult principle or concept. How were you able to be successful?

2. Share an experience in which you successfully supervised teaching, internship, and/or research work. What methods made you successful?

3. Please share with me an example of how you helped coach or mentor someone. What improvements did you see in the person's knowledge or skills?

4. Describe an experience in which you identified the educational needs of your students and successfully developed a way to teach/train them.

5. Provide an example of a time when you successfully organized a diverse group of people to accomplish a task.

6. Share an experience you had in dealing with a difficult person and how you handled the situation.

7. Share an experience in which you successfully shared a difficult piece of information. (Make sure that the candidate has open lines of communication.)

8. Tell me how you organize, plan, and prioritize your work.

9. What are some long-range objectives that you developed in your last job? What did you do to achieve them?

10. Share an experience when you applied new technology or information in your job. How did it help your company?

11. Give me an example of when you thought outside of the box. How did it help your employer?

12. Tell me about an experience in which you analyzed information and evaluated results to choose the best solution to a problem.

13. Would you consider analyzing data or information a strength? How so?

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14. Share an effective approach to working with a large amount of information/data. How has your approach affected your company?
15. Tell me about the last time you monitored or reviewed information and detected a problem. How did you respond?
16. Share an example of a time you had to gather information from multiple sources. How did you determine which information was relevant?
17. What have you found to be the best way to monitor the performance of your work and/or the work of others? Share a time when you had to take corrective action.
18. Share an experience in which you used new training skills, ideas, or a method to adapt to a new situation or improve an ongoing one. (Look for the candidate's ability to learn.)
19. Share an experience in which your understanding of a current or upcoming problem helped your company to respond to the problem.
20. Name a time when you identified strengths and weaknesses of alternative solutions to problems. What was the impact?
21. Share a time when you successfully used scientific rules or methods to solve a problem at work.
22. Please share an experience in which you presented to a group. What was the situation and how did it go?
23. How would you rate your writing skills? (Ask for an example that demonstrates great writing skills.)
24. Provide an example of a time when you were able to demonstrate excellent listening skills. What was the situation and outcome?
25. Provide a time when you were able to identify a complex problem, evaluate the options, and implement a solution. How did the solution benefit your employer?

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26. Share an example of when you went above and beyond the "call of duty". (Look for answers that show the candidate is dependable.)

27. Tell me about a time when you developed your own way of doing things or were self-motivated to finish an important task.

28. Provide an example when your ethics were tested.

29. Share a time when you willingly took on additional responsibilities or challenges. How did you successfully meet all of the demands of these responsibilities? (Make sure the candidate is a self-starter and can demonstrate some initiative.)

30. Share an experience in which your ability to consider the costs or benefits of a potential action helped you choose the most appropriate action.