SAMPLE INTERVIEW QUESTIONS

Be prepared to answer these interview questions. You might choose to write a response to each question, and review it before you go to your interview.

1. Tell me about yourself. *(Be prepared with your 2-3 minute bio.)*
2. What do you know about our organization?
3. Why do you want to work for us?
4. What unique qualities or abilities would you bring to this job?
5. What are your major strengths and weaknesses?
6. Tell me about a mistake you made in a previous job and how you handled it.
7. Describe a time when you worked on a team project. How did you contribute?
8. Think back to a situation in which you had to resolve a conflict. Tell me how you did it?
9. If a client becomes very angry with you and starts threatening you verbally, what would you do?
10. What accomplishment at work has given you the greatest satisfaction?
11. What do you want from supervision?
12. How would you describe the ideal job for you following graduation?
13. Do you have any questions for us?

Additional Questions for Graduate Psychology Students:
1. What theoretical orientation do you have, and why?
2. How open would you be to learning other therapeutic modalities?
3. What is Contemplative Psychotherapy (CP)/Somatic Counseling Psychology (SCP)/Transpersonal Counseling Psychology (TCP)?
4. How would a CP/SCP/TCP intervention look like?
5. How could CP/SCP/TCP benefit our program/our clients?
6. Which CP/SCP/TCP interventions would you use for our clients?
7. Are you comfortable using traditional approaches of counseling? Which ones are you familiar with?
   How would you integrate CP/SCP/TCP approaches with traditional counseling approaches?
8. What might a case scenario look like at the place/agency you are applying? (How would you assess the scenario? How would you identify the clients’ strengths? How would you build relationship with this client? What might you not do and why? What might be treatment goals, and in what priority?)
9. What are legal/ethical and, very important, diversity issues to keep in mind with this population?
10. How much experience do you have in assessing for clients’ suicidality? Please speak to what you are looking for in a suicide assessment.
SAMPLE QUESTIONS TO ASK THE INTERVIEWER

The interview is a chance for you to interview the organization as well, so it is a good idea to prepare questions for the interviewer that can help you make a good decision.

1. How would you describe the community (or environment) of your organization (or university or program)?

2. How does your organization set students up to move out into the professional world of work? What kind of mental health trainings does your organization offer to interns? (GSP Interns, specifically)

3. What are the day-to-day duties involved in this job?

4. In your organization, is this position more analytical or people-oriented?

5. What is the nature of the training program and level of supervision given in the early stages of employment?

6. How are performance reviews or evaluations given?

7. Can you describe the clients/students/customers/associates you work with?

8. What skills are you seeking in the individual selected for this position (or program)?

9. Do you have any in-house professional development seminars? If so, what topics are typically covered?

10. What are some of the typical career paths followed by others who have been in this position? What is a realistic time frame for advancement?

11. What is the retention rate of people in the position for which I am interviewing?

12. What are your organization’s strengths and weaknesses?

13. What do you like about working for this organization? What don’t you like?

Questions that show your interest in the organization as a whole are desirable. Phrase the questions to show your knowledge of the organization:

1. I read in the newspaper (or online) that you are… How will this impact…?

2. I know your organization is committed to… Will you explain more about these opportunities?

3. What are your organization’s plans for future growth?