

Interviewing for Doctoral Programs in Counseling Psychology

Hosted by Student Affiliates of Seventeen (SAS)
January 20, 2020

Presenters:

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(facilitator)



Student Affiliates of Seventeen Webinar Series

APA Division 17 (Society for Counseling Psychology)

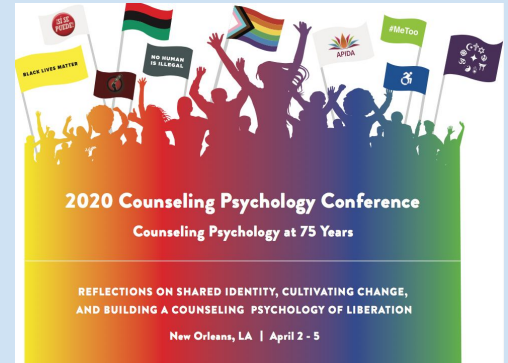
- A professional home for all counseling psychology professionals and affiliates (e.g., students)
- Committed to a holistic psychological perspective that is strengths-based, contextually aware, multiculturally inclusive, socially just, and integrative of vocational and lifespan issues
- Promote this perspective within psychology and the public sector through practice, research, education and training, advocacy, consultation, and leadership



Learn more: <https://www.div17.org/about-scp/>

Student Affiliates of Seventeen (SAS) Benefits

- Networking opportunities
 - CPC 2020, April 2–5 (New Orleans, LA)
 - APA Convention, August 6–9 (Washington, D.C.)
- Travel awards & other funded annual awards
 - Early registration deadline: **TOMORROW, 1/21!**
 - CPC funding award application due **FRI, 1/24!**
- Campus event funding
- Publication and presentation opportunities
- Leadership positions
- SAS membership is *automatic* when you join Division 17! *Join today for \$17:*
<https://www.div17.org/about-scp/membership/>



Overview

- **Introductions**
- **Purpose of the Interview Process**
- **Preparing for Interview Day**
- **What to Expect**
- **Good Questions for Faculty and Students**
- **Tips for Calming Nerves**
- **After the Interview**
- **Q&A / Debrief**

Q&A and Debrief

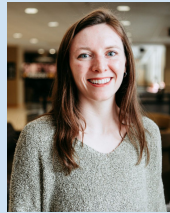
- Stay tuned for our Q&A (recorded) and debrief (not recorded)
- The session is currently being recorded; all but the debrief will be made available online
- Thank you for your questions! Please feel free to continue to submit them through Zoom throughout the webinar to be addressed at the end.

Presenters

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Where Are You in the Process?

Respond to the poll to let us know!

1. Are you *currently* completing interviews or *planning ahead* for a future application cycle?
2. If you're currently interviewing, do you have interviews *in person, online, or both*?

Purpose of the Interview Process

- Further confirm mutual fit between your goals, skills, and interests and those of the program and, in most cases, your potential advisor
- “...Students are evaluating and selecting programs as much as vice versa.” —*Mitch’s Uncensored Advice for Applying to Graduate School in Clinical Psychology* (2017)
- Remember: You’re qualified!

Preparing for Interview Day

- Review program information (including emphasis), program handbook, faculty member interests and recent scholarship, and your statement of purpose and CV
- Draft potential questions for advisor, other faculty, and students
- For in-person interviews, plan travel, including the possibility of inclement weather and flight delays

Preparing for Online Interviews

- Secure internet connection
- Make sure your phone is on silent
- Find a quiet spot
- Still do your homework!
- Express gratitude

What to Expect During Interview Day

- Program overview
- The actual interview(s)
- Current and prospective student social

Good Questions for Faculty & Students

Faculty

- Clinical, research, funding opportunities
- Mentorship style

Students

- Lifestyle
- Partners/families
- Program culture
- Financial

Tips for Calming Nerves

- Try not to be too critical of yourself
 - INSTEAD remember to be invited for an interview means you are already an excellent applicant!
- Try not to think about whether the interviewers think you're a fit
 - INSTEAD focus on how the program fits for YOU
- Try not to compare yourself to other applicants
 - INSTEAD consider your strengths and the unique experience you would bring to the program
 - INSTEAD also consider making conversation with other applicants—you likely have a lot in common!

After the Interview

- Immediately following the interview day
 - Take some notes on positive and negatives of the program
 - Take care of yourself
- Following up with interview day
 - Thank-you emails
- Handling responses from programs
 - No thank-you's
 - Waitlist
 - Offers

Q&A

- We welcome your questions!
- Please stay for the debrief post-Q&A for the unrecorded portion of the discussion

Additional Resources

- Mitch's Uncensored Advice:
<http://mitch.web.unc.edu/files/2017/02/MitchGradSchoolAdvice.pdf>
 - Has some falsehoods about counseling psychology, but the info about the interview process is very helpful
- Program guide from Joseph Hammer, PhD: <http://drjosephhammer.com/psych-grad-school/best-doctoral-programs-in-counseling-psychology/>
- Grad Cafe Results Search: <https://www.thegradcafe.com/survey/index.php>

Stay Connected

- **Joining APA and Division 17/SAS as a Student Affiliate:** Visit <https://www.apa.org/members/your-membership/graduate> for instructions on joining APA as a student affiliate. During the sign-up process, you will be provided an option to join Division 17 (membership dues: \$17).
- **SAS Facebook page:** <https://www.facebook.com/APASCPSAS>
- **SAS Twitter:** https://twitter.com/SAS_apadiv17
- **SAS Instagram:** https://www.instagram.com/SAS_apadiv17/
- **SCP Facebook group:** <https://www.facebook.com/groups/division17/>
- **CPC 2020 Facebook page:** <https://www.facebook.com/CPC2020/>

Debrief

- This portion of the webinar is not being recorded and will not be shared
- Please continue with your questions!