

## Interviewing Exercise

ANTH 410/510

Partner with someone in our class, but whom you do not know, and then, alternating your roles, interview each other. Spend approximately **20 minutes** doing each other's interview (if you need more time, certainly use it, per the permission of the interviewee). But do not interview each other at the same time, one after the other. Separate the interview sessions and roles by at least 24 hours.

**Research Question:** How did you get interested in pursuing the profession of Anthropology?

Consider your main question, and how best to access the information.

Also consider your **follow-up and probe questions** (as the interview unfolds), that naturally evolve out of the interview.

Also consider that the information you are soliciting is a part of someone's larger **life-history story** of themselves, and try to gather that information that would contextualize and place this specific information in its larger meaningful story.

And finally, try to elicit **specific events and stories** that illustrate the significance ingrained in the main question. Thus consider how you want to present and tell this person's story and how he or she got interested in Anthropology.

**You can write down** your questions (including follow-up questions) as well as a **terse outline** of the responses your interviewee provides to your questions, e.g., key words or phrases. Once away from the interview situation and a quiet location, go back over your notes and develop them more fully in a written format, adding detail and the remembered words and stories actually used by your interviewee. You'll need this information and these stories later this semester.