

The English Teaching Interview
USI English Department

The English department teaching interview is comprised of three parts (see checklist on p. 3).

1) Teaching philosophy

- a. Describe, in a single-spaced document of 1-2 pages:
 - i. How you see yourself as a future English teacher
 - ii. Goals you have for your classroom and students
 - iii. Specific methodologies and/or teaching strategies for literature and writing
 - iv. Concrete examples that illustrate the above
- b. Two sample philosophies are included on pp. 5-6 of this document.

2) Teaching presentation

- a. Describe, in a presentation of 10-15 minutes (visual support is optional):
 - i. Your teaching philosophy (see above)
 - ii. Why you want to be a teacher
 - iii. How your coursework has prepared you for teaching
 - iv. An assessment of your strengths and weaknesses

3) Interview

- a. You will be interviewed for 20-30 minutes by a committee of three faculty members: your departmental advisor and two additional full-time faculty members from the English Department (your choice).
- b. You may be asked to elaborate on content from your philosophy or presentation.
- c. Here are some *possible* questions to help you prepare:
 - i. Was there a teacher in middle/high school who inspired you?
 - ii. If you have the chance to teach a literary work outside of the canon, what would it be, and why?
 - iii. Why is it important to study imaginative literature?
 - iv. How would you design a unit/daily lesson on X (poetry, a novel, argumentative writing, etc.)?
 - v. Describe your ideal teaching situation (location, size, grade-level, etc.).
 - vi. What is the most meaningful impact you can have on your students' lives?
 - vii. What have you read lately outside of class?
 - viii.