

DO EXPERIENCES IN THE CLASSROOM TRANSLATE TO IMPROVED JOB INTERVIEW SKILLS?

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A successful job interview is integral to transitioning from college to the workplace. University instructors are proficient at teaching discipline-specific content as well as skills like oral and written communication, quantitative literacy, and working in teams, but do students translate these skills to job interview responses? In this project, students completed a mock internship interview at the beginning of the semester using Big Interview. As part of an introductory biology course, students conducted a semester-long team research project that included a written report, oral presentation, and field work. Students then completed the same mock interview at the end of the semester. Ten questions were selected representing common questions asked during a typical interview. I recorded response duration for each question and transcribed interview responses. Preliminary results suggest that instructors can be more explicit in training their students how to incorporate skills learned in the classroom to job interview responses.

