Career Services Assignment 4 – Soft Skill Interview Prep

**Points possible:** 50

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| Category | Criteria | % of Grade |
| Completeness | All requirements of the assignment are complete. | 50 |
| Quality | Answers show thought, proper grammar, and would be acceptable in most interview situations. | 50 |

**Instructions:** Find a job post online for a role and company you would like to apply for. Answer the following questions as if you were being interviewed for the job. Research the STAR method of answering behavioral interview questions and where applicable, utilize the STAR method in answering the below questions.

[**https://jobs.soundcloud.com/job?gh\_jid=5081351002**](https://jobs.soundcloud.com/job?gh_jid=5081351002)

**How did you hear about this position? (Make sure you remember where you heard about the role so it doesn’t look like you are just applying randomly to every position possible.)**

**I heard about this position while browsing and listening to music on the SoundCloud website.**

**What do you know about the company? (Research the company, website, products/services, and reviews. Talk about good reviews that make you want to join.)**

**I have extensive knowledge of SoundCloud; As a musician I have been using SoundCloud since I began producing and releasing music over 5 years ago.**

**I am aware of the seamless interaction between posting music and receiving feedback on it, and the integration of algorithmically to expose the user to new music in relation to their listening history.**

**I was made more aware of the inner workings of programming within SoundCloud when I heard an employee speak of her experience working for SoundCloud in the product design and UX field during a Code Newbie podcast.**

**Why do you want this job? (Be very specific. Talk about what appeals to you about the role but focus more on the value you’ll add to the team and company rather than what the company will do for you.)**

**I am interested in this job because of the impact that SoundCloud has had on me as well as millions of other users. Your platform has allowed me to release music, collaborate, and form meaningful relationships with other creators from all around the world. In this role I would be able to bring some long term user experience feedback and help deploy some feedback from fellow musicians (ex. creating a mobile messaging system or an album art creator and generator )**

**Why should we hire you? (Be very specific. Talk about your skills, passion, and willingness to continuously learn to be an asset.)**

**I believe I would bring a lot of past user experience to the table. Being a user of your platform for the past 5+ years I think I have unique experience regarding the user experience of both a listener as well as a musician. I have vast experience with PhotoShop, illustrator and most everything within the Adobe suite.I have very strong communication skills and understand the value that good communication adds in a group setting. I am very passionate about design and music and the intersection between the two, which is why I want to be a part of such a special and unique team.I also realize that technologies are continuously evolving and I am always eager to learn all facets of new and emerging technology.**

**What is your greatest professional achievement? (STAR)**

**My greatest professional achievement details my fast understanding and willingness to learn in a retail setting; when making the switch between companies and restarting at the lowest position available. I started as a crew member at Natural Grocers and my personal goal was to learn and understand as much as i could in the shortest amount of time. I did have prior management experience but in a completely different field, so I decided to start in the company at the ground floor in order to best understand how to manage within the company. Within 3 months of being a crew member at the store i ventured out to apply for department manager positions and was able to secure a position as a Grocery/Bulk/Alcohol department manager, completely skipping the more natural step of becoming a department assistant. Although i had to venture out to a new store and get to know w brand new group of people I was successful in managing the department and learning best practices, manager to customer interaction, and being a positive force uplifting and inspiring most everyone I worked with. As a result of this, I inspired at least 3 of my coworkers to aspire to grow within the company and to better themselves with more knowledge and understanding of the grocery industry.**

**Describe a difficult work situation and how you overcame it. (STAR. Never speak negatively about anyone else or any companies. Perhaps talk about change you experiences, as change is always difficult to overcome.)**

**In my current role as a free lance graphic designer, I am responsible for maintaining communication between multiple clients and to create a piece of art that has been specified as well as enacting the desired changes. In this situation I was working with a very particular client that had a very specific idea for the vision of their album, while respecting their projects release date. In order to do that I had to maintain constant communication and multiple calls during the design process and I had to manage the time at which I worked very effectively to fit their schedule. During that time I had made and edited over 10 separate images with 50+ instances and edits of each. Doing this while maintaining constant contact with the client helped me better understand their design style and the niche that they were looking for. As a result the client had multiple options to choose from, while still achieving the goal of meeting his deadline and even being a week early.**

**What are your goals for the future? (Make sure you answer in a time bound manner and talk about how you are looking to learn as much as possible in your field.)**

**My goals for the future are very vast, however within the next five years I would like to engage with a team of creatives on a very impactful level. I would also enjoy helping impact user experience and front end workings of a web app that I have very fond memories and experience with .I want to learn as much as I can about design flow, front end technologies, styling and the impact that they have on user retention and user experience. I want to learn more about the musician side as well as the listener's side and the levels at which they interact.**

**Why are you leaving your last job? (Don’t say anything negative. Mention growth, changing industries, etc.)**

**I am looking to reach out into a different industry, from working at store levels in a retail environment, to working on software and web apps to help contribute to the day to day operations of success on a store level**

**What is your salary expectation?**

**My salary expectations are at $65,000.**

**I am open to negotiations however, depending on the requirements and needs of the position**