# More Transparent vs. Less Transparent

## Example 1: Less Transparent

1. Select a professional in your prospective academic discipline and/or career field that is considered an expert in an area in which you are interested.
2. Secure an interview with the professional for a date and time that is convenient for both of you.
3. Prepare 8-10 questions to ask the professional about their knowledge of a particular academic discipline/career field.
4. Conduct a 20-30 minute, face-to-face interview to gather knowledge that will help you make an informed decision about the major/career you are considering. You will want to audio/video record the interview with the interviewee’s permission.
5. Prepare a typed transcript of the questions and answers using the audio/video recording.
6. Write a 400-500 work reflection paper in which you address the following items:
	* + Who you selected and why?
		+ What you learned from them that is most interesting?
		+ What this assignment helped you learn about your major/career decision?
		+ What questions you still have?
7. Submit the typed transcript and reflection paper to your instructor.

## Example 1: More Transparent

## Interview Assignment

COLA100E

Used by permission of Katharine Johnson

## Due Dates

* September 30 – Draft interview questions
* October 15 – Transcript of interviews
* November 17 – Report

## Purpose

The purpose of this assignment is to help you make an informed decision about the major/career you are considering.

Skills: This assignment will help you practice the following skills that are essential to your success in school and professional life:

* Accessing and collecting information from appropriate primary and secondary sources
* Synthesizing information to develop informed views
* Composing a well-organized, clear, concise report to expand your knowledge on a subject in your major.

Knowledge: This assignment will also help you to become familiar with the following important content knowledge in this discipline:

* Issues facing professionals in a field
* Scholarly research formats for documenting sources and creating reference pages (i.e., bibliographies).

Task

To complete this assignment you should:

1. Select two professionals in your prospective academic discipline and/or career field who are considered experts in an area in which you are interested.
2. Secure an interview with the professionals for a date and time that is convenient for both of you.
3. Prepare 8-10 questions to ask the professionals about their expertise in a particular academic discipline/career field. The questions must be based on a review of the field using 5 credible sources as defined by the librarian in our research module. Sources should be cited using APA formatting.
4. Conduct a 20-30 minute, face-to-face interview with each professional to gather knowledge that will help you make an informed decision about the major/career you are considering. You will want to audio/video record the interview with the interviewee’s permission.
5. Prepare a typed transcript of the interviews.
6. Compare and contrast the information provided by both professionals in an 8 age (1.5 spaced, 12 point Times New Roman font, 1 inch margins) report that documents the advantages and disadvantages of a career in the selected field.

Criteria for Success

Please see the attached rubric.

## Example 2: More Transparent

## Science 101

## Exercise 3: Scientific Evidence

Used by permission of Alison Sloat

## Purpose

The purpose of this assignment is to analyze a past poster to help you research, design, and create your own effective poster with sufficient scientific evidence that supports your conclusion.

Skills/Knowledge: As a result of completing this assignment, you will be able to identify and judge the success of the important parts of a scientific poster:

1. The sources of scientific information,
2. The interpretation of the results, and
3. The scientific merit of the conclusion

Task

Read through your example scientific poster and answer the following questions. You will be graded based on how completely you address the following:

1. Identify the ethical question that is being asked.
2. List the evidence the authors provide in support of **and** in opposition of their questions.
3. Examine the pieces of evidence listed in #2 above. Identify whether they are from popular (Pop), scientific peer-reviewed (SPR), or non-scientific peer-reviewed (NSPR) sources, and note each statement above as (Pop, (SPR), or (NSPR). Do you think there is enough scientific evidence from peer-reviewed articles? Why or why not?
4. Describe how the pieces of evidence are presented (e.g., numbers, graphs, table, and figures).
5. Explain how the pieces of evidence are analyzed in the Discussion section.
6. Identify the ethical conclusion
7. After analyzing the content of the poster, do the pieces of evidence support their conclusion? Explain why or why not.
8. After assessing the scientific merit of their evidence, are you convinced of their ethical conclusion? Explain why or why not.
9. List the questions you still have after reading this poster. What could they have done better?

## Criteria for Success

Your responses should be as complete as possible. After completing this assignment, you will have increased your understanding of how to identify the essential parts of a scientific poster and how to evaluate its use of evidence.