

First Impressions & First Round Interviews

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10/10/22

Today's Overview

- Best practices when meeting someone for the first time.
- Best practices for informational sessions.
- What to prepare?
- What to wear?
- Timeline update

Best practices when meeting someone for the first time.

- Always introduce yourself and shake their hand (if that seems appropriate)
 - Hi, my name is Maren O'Shea and I'm a sophomore studying Economics and Neuroscience from Minnesota.
- Eye contact + smile!! Try to show your personality and be excited
 - Good attitude = name of the game in finance
- Write down their info, try to catch full name, graduation year, division, and group
 - Ex. Sophie Mackegian, graduated 2022, Sales and Trading
- Try to get personal, find similarities
 - Ex. MiddWOW, sports, hometown

Best practices for informational sessions.

- Take notes! Write down the names/roles/groups of all of the panelists.
 - You can use your notes to inspire questions when networking with them 1-on-1
 - Ex: “At the panel back in October you mentioned that you worked on a green bond deal, can you please tell me more about that experience? How did it differ from a typical deal?”
- Ask thoughtful questions.
 - Don't target questions at one person during a panel, use the expertise of the whole group and save individual questions for networking.
- Try to go up to people after the panel and follow up on certain points they made.

What to prepare?

- Elevator pitch
- What is investment banking?
- Why are you interested in this firm?
- Who have you talked to on campus from this firm?

Key things to consider:

- Keep answers concise!
- Don't play all your cards at once
- Create chronological story— you want your background to be easily understood

What to wear?

- Something comfortable, conservative, and stylish (this is hard)
- No matter what you're wearing, hold yourself with confidence.
- Try to avoid super bright colors or patterns, too much skin, or being over/underdressed, you want to look nice without calling negative attention (if you don't know the dresscode- always err on the side of being overdressed)
- Bring a bag!
 - For finance trip: include a water bottle, notebook, pen, metro card, walking shoes, granola bars, mints, make-up, cash, deodorant, phone charger, etc.
 - Anything that will let you focus on what you need to during the day
 - You probably don't need to bring your laptop with you

What to wear?

↪ Err on side of more formal for first impressions!



What to wear?

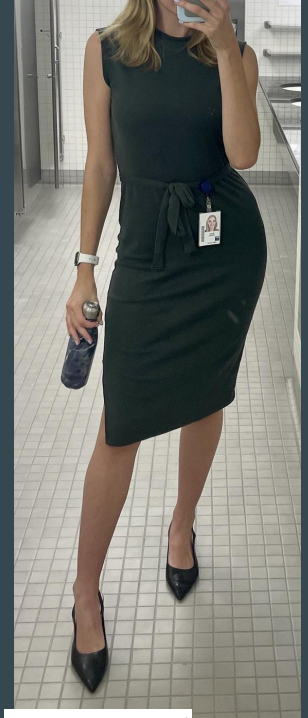
Err on side of more formal for first impressions!



More formal



Everyday



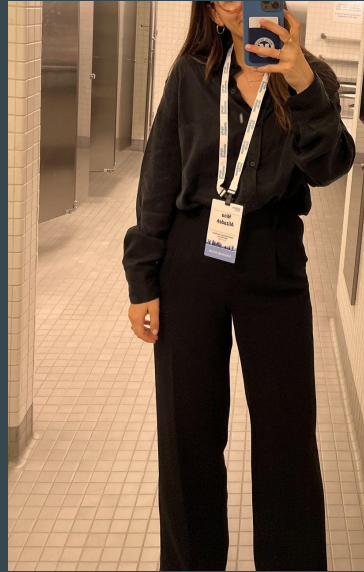
More casual

What to wear?

Err on side of more formal for first impressions!



More formal



Everyday



More casual

What to wear: things we swear by



Cuyana System Tote Bag



Longchamp Tote (all black)

- Any simple/
plain/
comfortable
bag will do

What to wear: things we swear by



Rothy Slip-On Sneaker



Black Loafer

(these are Doc Marten & Sam Edelman)



Classic Low-Heel Pump

(these are Ann Taylor)

What to wear: things we swear by

- J.Crew Pants, Blazers, Blouses
- Banana Republic Pants
- Aritzia Blouses
- Ann Taylor Pants, Blazers, Blouses, Shells
- Lululemon & Athleta Work Pants
- Banana Republic Pants, Blouses, Washable Blazer (cheap on Poshmark)
- Zara Blazers, Pants
- Everlane

Get what works for you!

Timeline Update

- Wednesday, October 12th, 8:30 PM in Axinn 219: Morgan Stanley informational session with incoming full-times + incoming summer analysts
- Wednesday, October 19th: Bank of America networking sessions
- Thursday, October 20th: Goldman Sachs one-on-one coffee chats, informational session, senior panel,
- Friday, October 21st: MiddWOW Invite-Only breakfast
- Monday, November 7th: Wells Fargo informational session
- Wednesday, November 9th: Moelis & Co One-on-One chats, informational session, MiddWOW round-table talk

Invite Only (application)

Registration Required

No Registration Required