



Questions to ask your Professor

Before you go to lunch with your professor, you should have some idea of what you would like to talk about with him or her. Some suggested topics include:

Class assignments - Is there an upcoming assignment or project and you need some guidance?

- Ask about the details of a project.
- What they expect an 'A' assignment to look like?
- How can you give them your best?
- What is the point of this assignment?
- How does this contribute to my overall learning?
- You really enjoy the assignment and would like to do more research into the subject, can the professor help?
- How can I turn my project into undergraduate research?

Class subject - Do you really like the subject and just do not feel like you have had enough time to talk about it in class or wish to discuss something in greater detail from class?

- What is the history of the subject?
- What kind of implications does it have for other fields of research?
- How can you use what you have learned in daily life?
- How can I learn more about this subject?
- Are there any organizations I can get involved with using the knowledge from this subject?
- Are there any student organizations that relate to my academic work?

Academic Advice - Do you have an interest that a particular professor could help you explore? Are you interested in research opportunities with that professor?

- Ask them about their academic career and why did they come to USC to teach?
- Why are they passionate about their subject and what do they hope to accomplish in their field?
- Where do they one day see their field leading to and contributing to society?
- What kind of research have they done in the past, the present, or planning to do in the future?
- How can you get into that field and what is life like in that field?

General Questions - Do you want to get to know your professor in general?

- Do they enjoy sports (USC sports)?
- Where are they from originally and where have they traveled?
- Do they have any pets or children?
- What are their hobbies?
- What kind of food do they like to eat?
- What is their favorite book, movie, song, or television show?
- Are they involved in community service?
- Ask them if they would like to have lunch again!