

**APPENDIX A**  
**INTERVIEW QUESTIONS AND PROTOCOL**

## Interview Questions

The following question was designed to elicit indirect responses to the research questions, without leading informant responses.

1. Describe in as much detail as possible what you consider to be the identifying characteristics of college level work.

The following areas were used as probes; not asked, but if the interviewee hit the broad category, then they were asked to deal with this in depth.

1. Perquisite knowledge
2. Expectations regarding student performance
3. Course content
4. Quality of writing
5. Method of evaluation
6. Rigor of course assignments
7. Level of abstraction
8. Theoretical as opposed to the applied
9. Credentials of the professor
10. Culture of the institution

**Four-Year College Faculty Interview**

Date and time: \_\_\_\_\_ Location Code \_\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Gender \_\_\_\_\_

School name and location, interviewee phone:

\_\_\_\_\_

Subject(s) taught: \_\_\_\_\_

**INTERVIEW PROTOCOL**

My name is Norwood McMillian. I am the principal researcher for an approved research study at Virginia Tech regarding the defining characteristics of college-level coursework. The study will involve four school sites in Greensboro and Burlington, North Carolina. Do you have any questions at this time?

Thank you for your willingness to participate in this research project. Before we begin the interview, I would like to reassure you that this interview will be confidential and the tape and transcripts available only to me. Do you mind if I record the interview? \_\_\_\_\_ <if yes> If there is anything you don't want

me to record; just let me know and I will turn off the recorder.

Excerpts of this interview may be made part of the final research report, but under no circumstances will your name or identifying characteristics be included in this report.

Is it alright for me to turn on the recorder now?

1. Would you please describe in as much detail as possible what you consider to be the identifying characteristics of college-level work.

**Two-Year College Faculty Interview**

Date and time: \_\_\_\_\_ Location Code \_\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Gender \_\_\_\_\_

School name and location, interviewee phone:

\_\_\_\_\_

Subject(s) taught: \_\_\_\_\_

**INTERVIEW PROTOCOL**

My name is Norwood McMillian. I am the principal researcher for an approved research study at Virginia Tech regarding the defining characteristics of college-level coursework. The study will involve four school sites in Greensboro and Burlington, North Carolina. Do you have any questions at this time?

Thank you for your willingness to participate in this research project. Before we begin the interview, I would like to reassure you that this interview will be confidential and the tape and transcripts available only to me. Do you mind if I record the interview? \_\_\_\_\_ <if yes> If there is anything you don't want

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1. Would you please describe in as much detail as possible what you consider to be the identifying characteristics of college-level work.