

Craig Robinson
History 650
Dr. Allen

Possible Questions for Formal Interview

- Do I have your permission to record?
- Can you state your full name?
- When and where you were born?
- What are your mother and father's names?
- What did you parents do for a living?
- Are they still living?
- Do you have sibling? Can you state their names and ages?
- Where do you fall in the family line?
- Do you think your placement in your family line shaped you personal character?
- Where did you grow up? Can you describe the neighborhood to me?
- What was the social status of your family? Was this similar to or different from other families in your neighborhood?
- Can you recall any of your childhood friends
- Are you still friends with any of them?
- How old were you when you moved?
- Were you excited about the move or disappointed to leave your childhood friends?
- What was the name of the grade school that you attended?
- Can you recall its location?
- Was it a private school or a public school? What do you recall about the teachers there? Do any particular ones stand out? Why?
- Why did your parents decided to send you to catholic schooling?
- What was the name of your high school and its location?
- What kind of memories do you have from high school? Which teachers were your favorites?
- Did you play any sports while you were in high school? Were you in any student organizations?
- While you were in high school was your mind set on a particular career that you wished to study and eventually work as? What did you want to be when you grew up?
- How did you first come into contact with the Christian Brothers?
- Can you briefly describe exactly what a Christian Brother is?
- At what point did you realize that becoming a brother is something that you wish to be come?
- Was there one Brother in particular that you knew or came into contact and you respected? Did that Brother influence you into becoming a Brother?
- When did you officially join the Christian Brothers?
- What were the requirements of becoming a Brother?
- Have the requirements changed over the years?

- What was your family's reaction to your decision to become a Brother?
- Was there and doubt in your mind that becoming a Brother was the right decision for you?
- Can you talk about why and how Brothers choose a name?
- Where did you attend College?
- What years were you there from?
- What did you study? How did you choose your major?
- Can you recall what the college life was like at Catholic University?
- Were you involved in any student organizations?
- What degree did you earn?
- Did you ever serve in the military, if so what branch and years?
- Did you attend graduate school?
- Where did you attend? What were the students and faculty like there?
- What was your dissertation topic and how did you choose it? Who was your dissertation advisor and what was it like to work with him? Do you remember what your dissertation defense was like?
- What is your highest degree earned?
- Where did you receive your Ph.D. from?
- What were the state requirements to become a certified teacher?
- After receiving your education where did you find employment?
- Did you have a preference of what grade level you wanted to teach?
- What are your feelings towards the teaching profession?
- What changes do you see in today's education system compared to when you were teaching high school?
- Where do you think the education system needs improvements the most?
- Can you track your career? Put the schools in order that you taught at and the years in which you taught there.
- Did you coach anything while you were teaching?
- How did you first come into contact with LaSalle University?
- Can you describe your first day as a member of LaSalle University?
- Did you reach the status of a full professor at LaSalle? What were the requirements?
- In the Article that you published entitled "Fortress of Faith" you stated that the people of LaSalle is what makes the University. Can you elaborate on what you meant by that statement?
- Has the University turned out to be what you wished it would?
- If I may, could I consider you to be a LaSallian Historian?
- Can you briefly discuss some of the highs and lows of the University's history?
- Why did you title your book *Conceived in Crisis*?
- Did you have and other titles in mind?
- How did you receive the commission to write *Conceived in Crisis*?
- Did anyone else wish to write the history of LaSalle?
- Did being an *insider*, part of the LaSalle community, help you write the book? How?
- What type of difficulties did you face while constructing the research for *Conceived in Crisis*? Was the funding sufficient? Were there any life or family problems that

disturbed your research? What would you say was the biggest difficulty that you faced?

- How long did it take you to accomplish the publication of the book?
- How was it received by reviewers and follow faculty and administration?
- Would you consider the book a success? Were you able to accomplish everything you wished to at the onset of you research? Where did you find most of the sources? Were the brothers any help? If you were to write a history of La Salle now, how would it differ from *Conceived in Crisis*?
- I read somewhere that your parents actually established a fund to financially assist academically qualified students at LaSalle. Can you talk about the Donaghy Fund, how it came about and maybe your involvement in the Fund?
- Can we talk about your transition from Christian Brother to ordained priest? What brought about this change? How old were you? Explain the difference between the vows of the two?
- Were there any negative feelings towards you from the brothers?
- My understanding is that your first mass was at the Church of the Holy Spirit in your home town of Sharon Hill. Can you recall that day in your mind? Were you nervous or excited?
- Can you recall the track that you took as priest, meaning where did you start? Where did you stop throughout your priesthood and how did you eventually end up here?
- Can you describe the lifestyle of an ordained priest? Does this lifestyle fit your personality?
- I noticed that you have published other works that are related to the teaching profession and to La Salle University. Can we talk briefly about some of these works, especially *The House Across the Street*?
- Overall how would you describe your experience at LaSalle?
- If there was anything throughout your life that you could go back in time and change what would it be and why?
- Is there anything else that you would wish to talk about?