Questions to ask when conducting an Informational Meeting

Questions for faculty and advisors:

1. What drew you to teach/advise in this area of study?
2. What type of student should consider ____ as their major?
3. What do you feel is the most important thing that a student choosing this major should know?
4. What skills or personal characteristics are necessary for a student to be successful in this major?
5. What are the common obstacles that prevent students from being successful in this major?
6. How is UWL's reputation of in this area of study viewed among employers/graduate schools?
7. Do you find that UWL alumni are satisfied with their decision to enter this field? Are there specific challenges they face as they leave the university?
8. What classes would you recommend to explore this major?
9. Are there any student/professional organizations that would help me to further explore this field?
10. What additional exploration resources would you recommend that I look at?
11. Is admission required for this major? If so, could you explain the requirements?
12. What initial classes would you recommend if I am ready to pursue the major?
13. Could you talk about common career paths associated with this major?
14. What is the current employment outlook for students choosing this major? Do you expect this outlook to change in the next few years?
15. Once my undergraduate degree is finished, should I consider obtaining an advanced degree?

Questions for professionals in the field:

1. What is your exact title? How long have you been in your position/career field?
2. What are the specific duties/functions/responsibilities of your job?
3. What made you pursue this particular career?
4. What does a typical workday look like for you?
5. What aspects of your job/career do you personally find most satisfying?
6. Which parts of your job/career are the most challenging? How do you handle these challenges?
7. Is there any specific education or training requirements needed to enter this field?
8. Are there specific academic classes that have proved to be valuable to you in your work?
9. In this field, what are the typical entry-level job titles and responsibilities?
10. What is the employment outlook like in your career field?
11. Do you know what the typical entry-level salary is in this field?
12. What advice do you have for new professionals entering this field?
13. What personal characteristics or skills do you feel contribute most to being successful in this career?
14. Can you recommend other resources that will help me explore this career field?

These questions should serve as a template. Please tailor them to the information that you seek to gain and if necessary, develop additional questions.