

## How to ace the interview Simon and Hallsworth fellowships showcase event 15 November 2017

Stuart Jones

History

stuart.jones@manchester.ac.uk



### If you have got this far...





#### Before the interview





### Before the interview

- Think about in advance:
  - How does your proposed project build on yet differ from your previous work?
  - What is your core theoretical contribution?
  - Methods
  - Limitations of your study
- Do your homework
  - On the University of Manchester research strategies
  - How your work connects with research in specific DAs, research centres and institutions
    - Think of what your can offer them and what they can offer you
  - Talk to key people before the interview
- Mock interviews



#### During the interview





# During the interview

- Be positive don't sell yourself short
- Eye contact
- If you do not understand a question, ask for clarification
- Answer the questions, and try to give specific answers
  - Give practical examples
  - Don't rush, give some detail
  - But don't go on for too long
  - Don't ask 'Did this answer your question?'
- Thinking on your feet
- Avoid blagging if you do not know the answer to a question



### After the interview

• Ask for feedback and reflect on it – regardless of the outcome