

Dressing for the Interview, easier than you think

by Shante' Denise Elliott
Voice Web/Copy Editor

North Carolina Central University's, Chancellor Charlie Nelms, endorses her university's decision to ban students from wearing mini-skirts, hot pants, pajamas and do-rags to class. Fayetteville State University's, Office of Career Services, promotes professional development and interview skills, and two years ago revealed their Clothing Closet; offering FSU student's access to free professional clothing for job interviews. It seems like universities are cracking down on student dress codes, in efforts to encourage students to think of their careers after college.

A large part of college graduates professional careers will revolve around their ability to dress professionally.

With the average college student graduating from a public university with over \$25000 of student loan debt (The Huffington Post), no wiggle room is left to indulge in a shopping trip to Express, Macy's or New York and Company, to spend an average of \$150 on an interview suit.

The Association for Psychologi-

cal Science conducted a study that revealed that interviewers generate an impression from an interviewee in a tenth of a second. Lack of professional clothing for an interview should not be the reason a recent college graduate misses out on the job they've studied for four long years to get.

With just the clothes in your dorm room closet, both men and women can mix-and-match an outfit fitting for an interview.

Before we officially began, let's dispel the myth that suits have to match. With the standards changing for office attire, most employers don't mind a mixed-and-matched suit.

Women

Women's blazers became popular in Fall of 2008, resulting in young adults everywhere rushing to purchase one. Well ladies, this is the first piece of your interview suit.

Step One: Grab that Navy, Black, Grey, Brown or Khaki blazer!

Thank goodness black can be worn with everything! One can never go wrong with wearing black; black looks great on every skin tone.

Step Two: Get that black, brown

or gray pencil skirt, slacks the same color are also appropriate. However, try to pair opposite from the color of your blazer. You don't want the same colors. It will appear that you are trying to pass for wearing a matched suit.

I know designers recommend wearing winter white during the winter season, but white is a transitional color that can be worn year round.

Step Three: Get your white colored cuff shirt. Remember, whenever wearing a white shirt or blouse, be sure to wear a flesh tone bra.

The saying "the higher the heel the closer to God" may not stand true for the heel of your interview shoe. You don't want to bring across the wrong message with your heel height. So, for the sake of your interview, the 5 inch heels will have to stay in your dorm room.

Step Four: Locate your neutral shoe, with no more than a 3 inch heel. Neutral colors are: black, browns and nudes.

We're all ready. Pair your blazer with your white collar shirt, wear this with your pencil skirt or slacks and combine with your neutral shoes. Finish your interview look off with modest, simple jewelry

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such as pearls; and of course wear flesh tone panty hose. And ladies, the lapel of your collar should always be worn in, never out. One, wearing the collar in looks more feminine. Two, you want the attention to be kept on your eyes, not placed on your clavicles or shoulders.

Men

When dressing professionally, it's usually hard for men to go wrong. Men don't have to worry about wearing the wrong jewelry or the wrong shoe. Here's how you men can match the clothes in your dorm room closet, into an outfit, fit for an interview.

Step One: Locate the khaki or black trousers your mother made sure you always had. These may have earned the title of your "Sunday pants."

Step Two: Grab your Polo style button-down shirt. Any color will suffice, but you can never go wrong by sticking to the basic blue or white.

Step Three: Find your necktie. For the sake of the interview, your potential employer does not need to know your favorite ACC basketball team, stick to the traditional necktie designs.

Step Four: Get your black or brown Oxford dress shoes.

So, now you will pair your black or khaki trousers with your Polo style button-down shirt, while combining these pieces with your necktie; and will top the look off with your Oxford dress shoes.

College students are never too sure of what their monthly budget will consist of. Nonetheless, that doesn't mean that you can't look your best for your interview. You have worked too hard to get. Utilizing the clothes in your closet by mixing-and-matching, will allow you to score the perfect interview outfit every time.

You're all set. Don't forget your resume, show your smile and remain confident. Happy interviewing!

Decorating your dorm on a budget

by Shirley Townsend
Voice Staff Writer

Is your dorm room a bore? Would you like to impress your guest when they come to your room? If so here are a few inexpensive ways you can add some style to those boring walls in your room.

Remix your pictures

Add splashes of your own personality by using photos and colorful sheets of paper to decorate your wall. Pick some of your favorite photos, tape them on pieces of colorful paper and then tape them on your wall. The colorful paper adds a lively feel to your room and also compliments the photo quiet well. Try adding some quotes or funny sayings on the paper as well.

Collage

Create your very own collage by cutting and pasting magazine pictures, drawings, shopping bags, and many more things on a sheet of paper. One can personalize a collage free of charge and create a personal art gallery on their walls for their guest and themselves. This creative method can give your boring dorm room a great fashionable touch and can also reflect your own lovely style ideas as well.

Accessorize

Don't be afraid to accessorize your bare walls. One can take items such as purses, hats, jewelry, and jackets to add style to their room. This tip can help express your sense of style throughout your room. Your accessories can easily be placed on your wall by a removable wall hanger which can be purchased at almost any Dollar Store or Family Dollar in Fayetteville.

Construct your wall

Why spend money on overpriced wall stickers at Target or Wal-Mart, when you can make your own?

Try printing out little accents such as letters, circles, and logos. Trace them on construction paper, cut the shape out and tape it on your walls. You can personalize your creations any way you would like to add some spunk to your room. You can also glue any extra items you might have laying around your room such as stickers or paint. A unique method would be to use glow in the dark paint and paint it on your wall creation. This will add a cool affect when your lights are out.

Everyone would like to have a super cool and trendy dorm that they can relax in. Some FSU students have definitely expressed them-

selves by using these tips and adding their own personality to their living space in college.

Sophomore, Tiharri Harris, enjoys decorating pieces of paper and writing inspirational quotes on them for self-motivation.

"The quotes really help me when I miss my family and they also remind me every day of why I am in college and why I should keep succeeding to do my best. They also make my side of my room look very cute and colorful." said Ms. Harris.



Voice Photos by Jaylenn Jones

