

ATP 2020

The university tower chimes ring in another session of Ask The Professor, the show in which you match wits with university of Detroit Mercy professors in an unrehearsed session of questions and answers. I am your host Matt Mio and let me introduce to you today our panel for today to my left he just shoved a gigantic caramel in his mouth.

I am slowly but surely digesting, and it's a pleasure to be here, I think.

It's Professor Dave Chow.

We're all on a sugar high

Yes we are

We've got enough sugar to take over Havana right about now, I would say

I like the idea that you mention that the chocolate box reminded you of a board game box. That was my first impulse, either that or it was going to be the mob movie or the terminator movie where they are hiding the shotgun in the flowers.

Yeah you're going to open up the violin case and play a tune

Yeah exactly

I thought of cow pie bingo actually

It does look like cow pie bingo but a little bit

We have an array of chocolates and we have donuts they are some kind of chocolatey cookie over there

Two kinds of cookies

And Dan's got the mystery tin with my name on it

Oh my goodness absolutely unbelievable I don't know how we got here but we went through a drought of not having a lot of snacks around here and they're back baby

And we are grateful

Oh yeah it is fantastic

We will be the fattest show on the air before long

It is not the only reason we come here, but it helps.

It doesn't hurt

That is the dulcet tones of professor Stephanie Conant how is it going Stephanie

That's pretty much what all of my student evaluations say

That's right

The dulcet tones of my voice

I'm sorry you put something on social media like "Professor Conant's a badass"

I did, it's my favorite student evaluation cutthroat and a badass I was like I will take both of

those

Yeah 100% think about what the evaluation would read if it was the exact opposite of that like

that would be bad so this is good

She hugs too much

Oh my gosh that's awesome continuing around the table professor Dan Magio is here with us

Good how do children describe you

I think he is talking to you professor Conant

Oh me how would my kids describe me lame really lame

Lame

You gave birth to them

but I have a teenager

It's hard to please a teenager

Get back to him when he's 18

Maybe 28

So you know that thing that little kids do where something sticks in their mind most likely some commercial jingle and they just kind of repeat it to themselves as they are building or playing by themselves so just based on the conversation we are having Emmet over the holidays was a little homer simpson chestnut when you're 18 you're out the door so he keeps repeating as he's building with his legos and I am like the 16 year old should pay attention

And you're saying here's hoping

Here's hoping speaking of dulcet tones those are those of professor Jim Hobbs

Hello hello

Hello hello welcome to 20 20

Thankyou or as Bob Owwawa says 2020

How long do you have to say happy new year like all the way through the month

Probably until I learn to put the right date on a check the right year and that may be April

Have you heard that you should always write 2020 because if you just write 20 it can be forged to be any year at the other end

Oh my gosh police are reminding citizens to not get accidentally 2 year old post dated checks out in circulation continuing around the table professor Kendra Evans is here

Hello

We are glad to have you at least for half the time

50% of the time this term at least 50%

50% of the time in works everytime

Wait what is it this time soccer again?

Research

Oh that thing?

But but you have something to say about cookies

Oh yes I am with 2 girls scouts and so please if you are interested I can send you links and you can purchase online or if your interested I can also if you are in person I can have you sign a sheet which I don't have with me right now

Sign your life away

Like a mortgage

Yes thankyou for that advertisement opportunity

Yes there is a new item this year it is a lemon shortbread and I couldn't be more excited about it

They took away Savannah smiles but they replaced in with lemon shortbreads so possibly an improvement likely an improvement

What are Savannah smiles?

They are powdered lemon cookies

Oh those were never good

Oh like crack

Those were never good

Some people like them but I believe it's the lemon and not the powdered sugar so in that case I think the lemon shortbread could be a winner

Could be a winner

Professor Mar Livsey is here possibly for the last time this semester

Likely the one and only time this semester

See you in may at our special lunch

Sure will

I gave you an out as far as how to get here yeah that skunk that showed up in our lab right at 3 o'clock

Yeah right before we needed to get here that's right its also a program where you can send us questions regarding anything if you stump the panel you win one of our prizes and if you do not stump the panel you win one of our prizes you can send us questions in a number of ways you can email us at atpudmercy.edu you can reach us on the web at udmercy.edu/atp you can find us on facebook or listen on your favorite smart speaker by asking it to play ask the professor at university of Detroit mercy annual stack of questions hi professors pursuant to a previous weeks comment about an Olympic broadsword yes please in parenthesis here are some questions about swordsmanship and fencing I thought might be entertaining long time question submitter Farah Shimbo thanks for sending these questions

Where is Farah from?

You know no address and I am embarrassed I'm sorry farah

I see her on facebook

Yeah okay thanks for sending them in let's see what we got here ferril flynn and basil raftman were considered the two finest swordsmen in Hollywood well that's got to be good for an award several movies in which they dueled they were always given the same set of directions what were they

Don't kill one another

I'm going to give partial credit for that one

Don't hurt one another

Lets see if we can get a little bit deeper

Don't poke your eye out

Don't stab the other

I was going to say no stabbing

Don't run with the sword

Don't grab the sword end with your hand

Don't run with scissors

You're talking like a mom with 3 boys

Don't make an insurance claim

No it's more like they were so skilled this is the only direction they would need to put on a really good show no matter what

Do whatever you want, improvise

Basically

Wing it

The four directions they would always do were knock this over say this thing here knock that over kill the other guy

That sounded like my last syllabus

I guess I would have guessed erill Flynn but I did not know basil Ralfman was a great swordsman

Basil Ralfman

That's kind of cool

What would you expect with a name like that when you think swordsman you probably

Or sherlock holmes

Yes

Staying with movies in the Ray Harry Housen classic the seventh voyage of Sinbad in the scene where Sinbad is dueling a skeleton who quotes played the skeleton isn't it the same guy that played golem

It's a good guess to say andy circum I mean come on

That's his name

I think that's a good guess

It's a bit of a trick question

Its an animatronic

It was added in post but who was being the skeleton in that sense

Ray?

Harry housen?

No no it was Lorenzo Muchimichi Grekko who just so happened to be an Olympic champion fencer

The name was on the tip of my tongue

We were just going there

And the scene was filmed with both of them dueling and then they removed Lorenzo and had Kerwin Mathews playing Sinbad to fight so actually there is an X on the sheet here

And Harry Housen is spinning in his grave on account of me

Sure he is

Nicest man in the world

Except with the sword

Three types of swords are used for Olympic level fencing what are they?

Saber, foil, and apay

Yes that is correct

What

Good for something

I just have different hobbies its okay

I do not know these things at all

Nope

No

The one you hold in your hands

The shape of the blade some of them are flat some of them are sort of triangular

I would not want to have a sword fight with sabers with anyone

I would love to have a sword fight with guns that what I'll say

Allright so that's the old starwars thing guns and swords

Indiana Jones

Bullwhip

If one starts a duel with the apay in the left hand is it legal to in the spur of the moment to toss it to the right and carry on

No

Seems illegal

Very illegal

Depends if you're right handed or left handed

You know what it says here, absolutely not, and this is why at the end of the year I was second in my fencing class rather than first

That's a strict no no there Farah says wish they told me

Oh lovely

Now we know though, she saved us from our future mistakes

I will remember not to flip my apay from the left to the right

Flip the apay

Don't do it to the president or something

You know we have to mention with questions like this on the table I really hope we don't steal

any of your thunder Farah but the only D1 national championship that University of Detroit

Mercy has on the records is in fencing

So uh

So 70s something was our number

Maybe in the 80s

Which nation hold the record for most Olympic medals in fencing

Turkey?

No

France?

Czechoslovakia?

China?

I will give you a hint, the hint is Lorenzo Musomichi

Italy

Over 125 individual medals Italia yes

I thought they resolved there differences in other ways

Well like eating or something like that

Thumb wrestling

Japanese master sword makers etch designs on the there swords as part of the crafting process
why is this done

Signature

Basically yeah, it is so the swords can be identified. Its like signing a painting or something like
that

When it is found run through someone they need to know where it came from

The first thing that I thought of when I read that question was is it a Hattori Hanzo might as well

Best movie sequence ever

Got to say although just putting it out there if you have not seen once upon a time in holly wood
yet

Oh I need to

I know I know

Not giving away too much but the last sequence is a classic tarantino many comical and bloody
things happening and I watched my 75 year old mother in law crack up so bad I am like this is so
worth in this is worth seeing this happen in was beautiful

How old is the oldest known sword anywhere in the world

3000 years

No its gotta be

3300 BC so it is actually quite a bit older it's over 5000 years

That's 5000

But what I thought we were talking years, I was supposed to ask you about the country it was

Turkey oh well

As if it were not lethal enough as it was it was made of arsenical bronze which could not have done it's makers much good so it has arsenic in the blade

Yeah that's not good

The people that forged it might have bought it early

Oh boy

Oh my gosh

I hope it is not part of a dinner set

Not that I can tell

Let me try to redeem myself here the latest swords made in India were made of what metal

Bronze?

Brass?

Tin?

Its not an amalgam actually

Gold?

No that would be too heavy

That would be too soft and heavy

What kind of soft there are ways we can refine this metal and use it

Aluminum?

Copper?

Copper yes

Made the swords look pretty nice

At first

Until they turned green

Yes

With splashes of red

Japanese katana are often said to be the finest cutting blades ever produced what spurred the change from the original Japanese sword to something specific like the Katana

Availability?

Actually reason this one out if Greg Sumner were here we could reason this one out

Some historical reason?

Military force?

Getting closer

Samurais?

Was it more efficient killer?

There's less material

That much is true they are very very strong

Easier to use

Getting there

I will give you this much after Japan was invaded by the Mongols they decided to make stronger and sharper blades

To pierce armor

Yeah basically, Mongols had armor that was boiled leather it was very light and hard to cut but the katanas could do it so we got there

Functional

Leading a student on all the way to the correct answer

Cuts through the leather

In the UK it is illegal to own a katana unless it is genuine that is pre world war 2 and you are licensed to own it what is the punishment for violating this ban in the year 2020

Shipped to Canada

Yes please

You have to fight a ninja to the death I don't know

You have to wrestle one of the Queen's corgis

Hanging

50 pounds

It is a monetary amount

250 pounds

It's more

Wow

500 pounds

More

Kendra help us out

5000 pounds

It's 5000 pounds exactly

Kendra always gets it exactly

I don't always

She is buying lotto tickets for all of us

Everybody should buy a lucky ticket that's right 5000 dollar fine for owning an illegal katana

and it's a big deal in the UK let me tell you

Last but certainly not least king Arthur is credited with pulling Excalibur from the stone,
originally it was a different sword and what did he actually pull it from

The water, the lack

Lady of the lake

Arthur is said to have broken his sword in a fight with king pelanor and the lady of the lake later
gave it to him as a replacement and he pulled it from an anvil not a rock yes it was imbedded in
medal

Oh I like the rock better

The rock is better for show disnyfication and that sort of thing very nice annual stack of
questions thanks a lot Farah that was very cool

Dang I got to go home and sharpen my katana now

We are going to move on thanks very very much to professor Livsey your student I believe it
was your student Zarah al habib sent us questions that are very open ended and feel a lot like our
old friend ATP favorites

But like I have her in class right now so if I get them wrong

Your rate my professor rating might plummet

She will realize you are not omniscient

These are open ended and feel a little more like our ATP favorites I will just toss a couple out
there and see how people respond what was your favorite subject to study in high school

Recess

Done

Bio to be a total nerd

Chemistry

Band

Advanced Bio

Math

Literature

The nerdiest questions

Oh Dan's saying math and you were literature

Yeah I think so

What was your least favorite thing to study in highschool

Public speaking

Oh that's a good one

Social studies

Probably because the teacher did not make it very exciting

Algebra

Geometry from a teacher who pronounced it exactly like that

Oh my

This is going to really expose who I was in highschool but I liked all of my classes

That sounds like what you tell aunt ethel at Christmas

Yeah

I know that this one will generate at least a little bit of discussion what was your initial or

finishing major or track undergrad

Biology

Mine was biology also

Really

And you graduated with a biology major

Dang, what happened

He could have been one of us

One of us

I was very interesting in a lot of questions in medicine and then I got interested in healthcare ethics

Yeah I was pre-med for one semester until I realized I love science too much to go into medicine so when I finished I was gradschool bound but my major never changed

I think I love science too little to go into medicine

Well heck I went into graphic design I work as an illustrator so

That worked out pretty well

Its okay I got kicked out of it

I was chemistry and music

I was math although I started as an engineer I was good until I got into circuits, professor Pollock but don't tell him

Good thing you didn't say it in any public forum

I think I've told it before I wish I could do it again because I would have enjoyed a field in computer science more of the software and I really would have enjoyed an architecture career I think I would have been a good architect

What was the hardest class that you took undergrad

Oh Calculus particularly integral calculus

Physical chemistry 2 but actually that was the most complicated but the hardest to do out was quant

That's what you teach

Those jerk professors of quant

Yeah who are they anyway

All of my chemistry classes

All

All it was my minor but I made it

Look how strong you are now

In chemistry no

Just as a person as an individual

I mean you like biochemistry don't you

Yeah I like biochemistry

I liked biochemistry

Everybody should like biochemistry

I had a really good friend that was a genius that sat next to me in all of my classes so I went from like Cs to C- a Bs to B+ but at the end of it I

But that's what you want upward trajectory you figured it out

There were things I didn't figure out until like post doc and I was like oh that makes a lot of sense

But yeah that happened to me too though and I teach in it so I took a creative writing class and it was mostly short stories and poems very difficult for a science major

Yeah that would be this one is just a little charged thanks zara for sending this question now that you are a professor is it what you expected I am guessing that someone who has taught for a few semesters versus someone that has taught for decades is going to have a different answer to this

Should we start with you

I will say that it is nothing like I thought it was going to be

You thought it was going to be like the 3 stooges where you walk out with the cap and gown

No no it just is very different then I thought it was going to be

A lot more administrative?

I think the paperwork part of it yes

That is probably the biggest change

I don't know I think in our profession you don't even think about what it is until you figure out you want to teach or not so I do not know that I gave it much thought

Okay

Kendra you like you had something

I feel like it's a little bit different there is a lot of administrative stuff and it isn't all about teaching that's the like

You cant know about that

Teaching is the easiest part

If you have a good role model you can come to love the teaching but it is all about the other stuff that goes with the teaching that you don't know about

That's true

And it is also the other stuff that is so exhausting

What show are you currently binge watching

I'll tell you so I just binged the mandelorian

Yeah me too

Loved it and I am currently on season 2 episode 4 of startreck discovery

Good man

And I like it

Told you

It's a reserved like

It gets better

I am doing the marvelous Mrs. mazel and I like that one

Me too

Me too

Which episode are you on

Lets see I am on season 2 episode 6

Oh you are only on season 2

You will get there

It is so good I am like 3 or 4 but I had the flu in the last one so you gotta like start over on that one again

So on Netflix the machinski project with Ellin Archin and Mike Douglas it is really funny Ellin

Archin is just so funny

He is hilarious in general

He is always a cranky old man but he is genius in there

What is this show called

Machinki project he is an acting coach so he is sort of mike douglas but his last thing is machinki and the ellin archin is like his best friend

It got nominated for a lot of things

Is it only on Netflix

Its on Netflix it is worth the watch episodes are only like half an hour

It is very entertaining

I am a little bit embarrassed we already finished the madelorian and mrs. mazel but I just finished you

Oh I heard a lot about this

I am on the second season now

So I just started watching it not knowing the premise one minute into it I am like this dude is bad

The memes are hilarious though

I got to check out those memes

What channel is it though

It is on Netflix

My husband got sucked in and he was like what is happening on this show

Its called you?

So all I can tell you is only recently have I figured out I have not watched anything first day of class I am erasing the board and it's a small room so I can talk to the board all right so what did you guys binge over break what do you want me to watch, first row I can hear the voice You and then then the person next to the voice he is not going to watch it and then I go and I read what it is about and I was like woa

Yeah

There is a third season coming

Messes you up

The best parenting move that I ever made I had one episode left and all the kids were busy with like electronics and I was like do you think I can pull off watching it because they are clearly like

not paying any attention whatsoever and he was like yeah lets try it five minutes in there is like some bloody scene and my seven year old puts down his tablet and starts watching and I was like nevermind we will finish that later

It's the kominki project sorry

So yeah

And the new season if you get CBC which if you've seen that

So good

Brilliant

Very funny

My wife has tried to pull me into that and I have to say I am still catching up on the last two seasons of the simpsons I cannot look at anything else until

The good place just started another season too

Heard good things about that too

Way too many good shows on TV

Well if you can even call that television

No but that's the

Watch fleabag

But isn't that the director of

Killing eve

Which is another

Also heard good things about that you ever seen that?

I don't know

Well done yes

She was the director of the second season

Of all of them

No I thought they were different directors

No she wrote the whole she is the writer for the show

Seriously the only thing that I have been watching lately is the greatest of all time jeopardy tournament and its is really entertaining I am not going to lie

There was an awesome 2 full shows in every episode and combine the scores to get the matchpoint and the very first days show first match there was a category called chemists and I am rubbing my hands together to get another and then Alex is like we have a very special guest to deliver these clues and its Ryan Cranston in full Walter White mode reading the clues and I am like this is sweet

No

It was sweet

The only thing that has thrown me is why isn't it on ABC

Well it is syndicated so it can be on whatever network it wants to be

It just kind of throws me

I think it as probably NBC had stuff running at that time and they did not want to disrupt particularly open ended because they did not know how many episodes it was going to take them to win

Right right

I find all 3 of them very entertaining Ken Jennings I have read a bunch of the books that he has written and they are really interesting he wrote a book about he was a map geek growing up and it is the most entertaining thing in the world there is a spelling bee for thing that happens in the

United States that forces kids to read maps and he goes and follows one of the kids through their training and its just a weird culture its called map head because that is what they call eachother
Mapheads

Having watched who is going to win it

Well I am afraid to bring it up on the air I don't want to

You are going to jinx it

People want to go back and watch the episodes there is someone that keeps losing I can tell you that

I was just amazed at how all 3 of them have made a life of jeopardy

Yes when you make that much money it does change your life

Brad Runner has made every after he was on the show tournament that hes been in every single one of them 3.7 million dollars by being on one tv show that's incredible

How many months out of the year was ken Jennings you know a half a year almost

If you haven't watched the most recent episode yet Alex is really pushed because of course the poor guy is passing away slowly to pancreatic cancer but he does not know what to bring up with these people anymore because we know

They do those little mini bios

During the breaks the other day he asked them what did you do to prepare for this tournament and ken Jennings is basically just a regular guy goofball and he is like practice doing this with my thumb and then James Holshouser is like I read all of your books and watched all the episodes that you were on so that I knew what your cadence was and Ken Jennings is like oh my God dude you take this really seriously and Holshouser was like 100% for real and he was like I studied you you did not study me?

He is a professional gambler

Oh yes, you got to know the tell right oh my gosh those were really good questions Zara but it is time for us to say goodbye professor Livezey

See you later

Professor Evans

Bye

Professor Tubbs

Au Revoir

Professor Maggio

Bye

Professor Conant

Goodbye

Professor Chow

See ya

And now these words

you can email ask the professor at atp@udmercy.edu tweet us on twitter @asktheprofessor or using the hashtag asktheprofessorudm or visit the asktheprofessor facebook page

Ask the professor is transcribed at the facilities of the Briggs building in the department of the communications studies in the college of liberal arts and education at the university of Detroit mercy's mcnichols campus. ask the professor is produced and directed today by Michael Jayson and our executive producer is Professor Jason Roche, until next week I am your host Matt Mio

