



A Guide to the Los Angeles Film DSP

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WELCOME TO LA!

A MESSAGE FROM THE 2020 DSP:

Get ready for a term like you've never experienced! Whether you've traveled to Los Angeles many times before or whether this is your first time stepping foot in the city, this DSP will grant you the opportunity to have hands-on experience working in the film and media industry. During these ten weeks you will live, work, and attend classes, all while hopefully soaking up all that LA has to offer.

These few months in LA will leave you with great memories to look back on and will serve as one of the most valuable and formative moments of your undergraduate career.

While each person's experience is unique, this guide will help you prepare for the DSP and give you tips on how to take full advantage of your time in LA.





Daisy Harris '21

GENERAL INTRODUCTION

This DSP gives you the opportunity to take classes while interning in Los Angeles. You will be enrolled in a normal 3-course term, with the internship serving as your third course. Not only will you receive academic credit for your internship, but this experience will also be a great addition to your resume.

KEEP IN MIND: You are responsible for finding and procuring your own internship! It is best to start looking for a possible internship sooner rather than later. We suggest starting the summer before the DSP begins.

We know this may sound overwhelming at first and you may be unsure where to start, but do not fear! To guide you on your search, we have included some useful tips and resources that will help you find the right internship.

INTERNSHIPS

TIPS ON WHERE TO LOOK AND HOW TO FIND ONE

- ▶ Search the [Dartmouth Alumni Database](#) and reach out to alumni working in film! Many might be able to assist you in finding an internship or even hire you for their own projects/companies.
- ▶ Use [LinkedIn](#) and [DartBoard](#) to check for internship opportunities in entertainment.
- ▶ Try to apply for internships at smaller-scale companies, in addition to larger entertainment companies like Disney, NBC, Viacom, etc.
- ▶ USE [GOOGLE](#) It can work!



Jackson Cashman '21



left to right: Dominique Mobley '22 , Maia Mitchell (actress), Arielle Isedenu '22



Anastasia Perez-Ternent '22

INTERNSHIPS

WHERE WE WORKED IN 2020

- ▶ **Project X Entertainment:** a production and financing company
- ▶ **Fourth Wall Management:** an entertainment management company representing talented writers, directors, producers, and more!
- ▶ **Stun Creative-** a marketing agency that collaborates with shows like Red Table Talk and The Kelly Clarkson Show to create advertising
- ▶ **The Gotham Group-** a production and talent management company
- ▶ **Bob Baker Marionette Theater-** where a student worked on puppets and was even able to craft his own puppet at the end of the internship
- ▶ **[AND MORE!](#)**



INTERNSHIPS

BASIC DO'S AND DON'TS

DO's:

- ▶ DO start looking early!
- ▶ DO [create a portfolio!](#) This is an effective way to showcase your work and internship providers will want to see what you have done! Be sure to check out these [resources](#) and [example reels](#) to get you started.
- ▶ DO contact the [Center for Professional Development](#) for assistance in your search.

DON'Ts:

- ▶ DON'T procrastinate!
- ▶ DON'T give up! You will find something!



Left to right: Maxwell McIntosh '22 and
Matthew Evans '22

DSP OUTINGS

OH THE PLACES YOU'LL GO!

From visits to the UCLA Film & Television Archive, to trips to Paramount Studios, to fun strolls on the Santa Monica Pier, your program will be full of exciting and rewarding experiences!



Devin Powell '22 at the UCLA Film Archive



Paramount Pictures Studios



Katie Orenstein '22



On the Paramount Pictures Studio Tour

MORE THINGS TO DO IN LA

LOW BUDGET ACTIVITIES TO TAKE ADVANTAGE OF



Students at the Animated Features Oscars event hosted by Dartmouth alums and directors of the LEGO Movie, Phil Lord and Chris Miller



Left to right: Lauryn King '22, Arielle Isedenu '22, Dominique Mobley '22 and Anastasia Perez-Ternent at a live taping of The REAL



During your stay in LA, you will have ample free time to explore the city on your own. From free [live tapings](#) of your favorite daytime and late-night shows, to Oscars events, to film screenings, to hikes with friends, be sure to [check out](#) all of the local events and activities around you!

PRACTICALITIES

FOOD, MONEY AND TRANSIT



FOOD is one of the best parts about LA. Near the apartment are multiple grocery stores, including Ralphs and Whole Foods, along with several tasty restaurants located all across town.

MONEY is important to keep track of! It helps to budget in advance and plan for unexpected / last minute expenses.



TRANSIT is a necessary part of life in LA. Having a car is beneficial, but since this is not feasible for most students, the College provides monthly Metro passes for everyone. Depending on where you are headed, traveling via public transportation can take around 1 hour. Ride sharing options are extremely helpful for getting from place to place and are highly recommended.



A MESSAGE ABOUT SAFETY

THINGS TO KEEP IN MIND WHILE TRAVELING IN LA



Your apartment is located in a safe part of Downtown LA (DTLA), but just like in any city, it's important to be aware of your surroundings **AT ALL TIMES**. Know where you are going before you head out! If exploring a new place, travel with friends!

When traveling alone (for internships, etc.), be sure to notify someone of your where you will be and when you expect to return. Always keep your phone charged in case of emergency!

If it is your first time taking public transportation, that's okay! Remember to stay aware of your surroundings. There are police officers on every platform in case you find yourself lost or in any trouble at all.

In any emergency *always* make your faculty advisor aware of the situation. Your advisor should be one of the first people you need to contact.

FINAL THOUGHTS AND PIECES OF ADVICE

USE YOUR TIME WISELY! With only 10 weeks in LA and most of that time dedicated to classes and internships, it is important to go out and explore LA whenever you have the chance!

NETWORK! This is one of the most important things to do while in LA. You will meet many professionals working in film and entertainment, and it is important to use these opportunities to connect and grow your network. The Dartmouth Alumni Office hosts an “Alumni in Film Event” designed for current students and recent graduates to connect with successful alumni working in film! This experience is incredibly valuable and will leave you with new established networks in LA.

HAVE FUN! Make the most of what will be one of your greatest terms at Dartmouth! The memories and bonds that you make will have a lasting effect on your life for years to come!

