

## MOT Reflection Essay

### 1. Introduction Paragraph-

The title of this trip, "College, Career, and Consciousness" greatly applied to my own experience on the trip. The consciousness part of the trip was when we were going through the MOT. I was so shocked and appalled at how the Jews were treated by other humans it sort of gave me this disgusted feeling inside. This is where my consciousness came in. I began to become aware of how many times I had treated someone badly, or did a bad action against someone. It helped by



making me more aware of how as humans together we are better and if I change the way I act towards others for the better, then others can change as well. For the college part of the trip I was really grateful for being able to tour all three L.A. campuses. They were all so beautiful and had some of the most amazing individuals attending there. UCLA was one of the first we visited and although very great, I soon found out that the scattered buildings all around the city would make me very late to class at times, and it just was not for me. The following college was USC and I had originally applied to this college thinking that I'd never be accepted, but I was. How wonderful that college was I could not even begin to say. It had everything I would like to major in and wanted in a campus, but the environment just was not for me. The last college we visited was

Longbeach and although very unique did not fit what I wanted within a college campus. Albeit, very different, and unique from each other the students at these colleges all come out with something great. They all apply what they learn within the classroom setting and put it to the test, which is something that I try to do every day. It really inspired me to try harder within my classes and even when my classes get a bit tougher I should stay the course and work through it. The career aspect of the trip remained with me the whole trip. Prior to and after visiting the colleges, I had thought about what I wanted to be, what I wanted to do with my life. I still do not really have a clue, but I know the direction where i am heading that being business and science. This trip has caused me to ask questions I never had thought of asking before like what kind of funds would I need, and where would I most likely be doing my research and what would I do to jumpstart my career. It gave me the motivation and encouragement I needed to research and look at the majors and relations I wanted and the certain courses I needed to take for those majors. It really has open my eyes to a bigger world in front of me, and I could not be more grateful for this opportunity.



## 2. UCLA Adventure

Upon arriving at UCLA I felt like an ant compared to a great big beast, The buildings were so tall, and we were only at the medical center/science part of the campus so I



could only imagine the other buildings scattered about in the area. My group and I decided to explore the science buildings since we all one way or another were interested in a type of science. We climbed up many stairs to get there but once arriving we searched for undergraduates

as well as graduates to interview and ask some questions to. Oddly, enough most of the people there were graduates and the majority of them worked in the research labs which I found so interesting. However, we became aware that we had arrived during spring break so it would make sense that most of the students were not on the campus at the time. We decided to explore a bit, and soon we saw the amazing chemistry labs. I wanted to go in there very bad, but the doors were locked and no one was in there.



I really liked that there was a lot of movement in UCLA and I absolutely loved the labs of the building. I did not like that the buildings were so far away from each other, nor did i like the whole city life near it, it made it seem too much like SF to me. However, overall the experience of going there and getting to see the type of people there was great. I love the friendliness of the staff, and student body in the campus; it makes it more inviting to some people who aren't from the area.

### 3. USC Adventure



USC is a fantastic campus I absolutely loved it. The moment we arrived at the school campus everyone on the campus who did not know us greeted us. We were offered a great lunch and had time to even meet one of the business professors. He told us that one of the judges

from SharkTank was going to come there and talk. I was amazed. It seemed like everyone



really loved the campus, and I could not believe that I had gotten accepted into

this beautiful place. The buildings and campus themselves were so gorgeous and reminded me of ancient ruins that had been preserved over time. we also got to go on a tour which was totally awesome. We saw all the hard-working employees and everyone who pitches in to help run the college in the background. I never knew it would involve so much work. Once the tour was done we had free reign to go and explore the campus ourselves. I went up to the library which was the biggest one I had ever seen. The librarian even had her own office, which I just could not believe. Everything made me feel so fancy I could just imagine myself coming here.

I really loved everything about the campus. I did not want to leave everyone seemed so happy to be there, the school was big enough for me, but small enough to navigate through. I loved just the overall feeling of it. Unfortunately the only downfall was the price of it all. I could not really afford to go, even with the scholarships they were offering me. It was sad to know that, but I understand that when some doors close, others open. I will definitely miss this place though.

#### **4. The Hilton**

Out of all my stays in a hotel I would have to say the Hilton is the best like ever. The rooms were so clean, and neat, and the food from dinner to breakfast was just soo amazing. I really admired the staff in the hotel as well. I know I am not the cleanest person, however the service was great and pretty fast. They always were very generous about

cleaning our room or supplying us with more towels when we ran out. The guys who were in charge of our tour were great. They showed us the upstairs of the building and showed us how they planned to renovate the hotel. It was pretty cool and expensive. When they were



explaining the brand of Hilton to me I started to become touched and understand what it meant to have passion for what you do. Both of the men came from different sides of the country and their journeys although different both led them to work for the Hilton. The Hilton treats its staff very well to show appreciation but not only that they help to figure out what



career are you going to pursue.

Through the both of them I figured out what the importance of a brand was really about. Their brand does not change because it is about the recognition for the customers. They do tend to have

a hotel in about almost every location in the U.S. along with a few islands here and there. Many other things tend to affect a brand however, they keep their hotel very neat and clean and their mission is to strive to make you feel like you are at home.



In long beach I really did like the nature around the campus, as well as the big auditorium. It reminded me of a great studying space in the winter or spring that I could use. However, the campus itself did not seem full of life and it did not seem that too many people were there but maybe it would be more livelier had we not visited there in Spring break. I would not say that I had any negative experiences at Long Beach however it the day we went was super hot I did not get to fully enjoy the beauty of the campus.

## **5. Mot Morning**

The morning in which we arrived to MOT there had been a plane crash somewhere in the mountains so security was very strict and we were not allowed to have our phones on during the duration of our stay. The building although containing very sad stories inside, on the





outside was so beautiful and intriguing. It really invites people to come and learn the history of different cultures and come out of it with a great, life-altering experience. In the morning we were made to go on a tour that was solely circled around the holocaust. At first I knew that

it was going to be depressing however every cloud has a silver lining. I took away a lot from the struggle of the people involved with the Holocaust.

The most touching event in the morning that took place was the survivor story by Betty. The fact that she is able to tell this story multiple times is astonishing and I really admire her strength and courage throughout her whole journey. I would have never opened my eyes on a global level had I never heard her speak. Her life was a good one until the Holocaust happened. She had to adapt to certain obstacles, and had to mentally, physically, and emotionally go through her own personal hell. I could not even begin to imagine what it was like. Her story touched me so much, and really inspired me to become a better human. We are not products of our environment. We can cause the change and be the generation that changes the course of everything negative that happened in the past. Betty is a survivor and I could not of been more grateful to sit and listen, as well as re experience her life story with her again.

## **6. MOT Afternoon**

In the afternoon we were given lunch and told to reflect on the things we did and listened to in the morning. There was some heavy reflection which had touched everyone, and it felt nice to be able to share our thoughts with one another. After lunch we all had separate tours of the bottom level of MOT which held all the stories of different races, their struggle, and their

stories of the great fight they fought as well as different hate crimes. Although, these were all very emotional, I really did like the one about women abuse. It was a topic dear to my heart and the fact that there was even one woman getting hurt was enough to cause me to feel disgusted. I never want to have to see someone get hurt like what we saw in the videos.



Through the woman abuse time center I was able to go and understand the fight that both sexes are able to help each other with. Just because it is not your race, or your gender going through a certain struggle does not mean that it is any less important. I left MOT in tears but feeling definitely inspired. Nothing will be able to get in the way of change and I definitely feel that my generation will be the one responsible for the downfall, or success of these hate crimes.

## 7. Long Beach Adventure

Long Beach is a great university to go and explore your career options further. The campus was very wide and beautiful and has the most amazing gym I have ever seen. The entire time we were there we enjoyed the campus tour led by none other than our english teacher Mr.



Lucero. It was nice to see everything he had experienced in the campus through his eyes and funny stories. It was definitely a good time when remembering the facts of people being able to freely change their majors due to uncertainty. Somethings I did not like about Long Beach which I find make it not the university for me. The vibe of the overall campus

seemed a bit boring to me, however this could have been because we had arrived on spring break. Also, I did not like the lack of excitement within the campus. It seemed as if there would not be many things to do if I wanted to get involved in. Albeit there were some things that just were not for me, overall it was a great experience and fun to be there.

## 8. Youth Education Leadership

I think out of all the experiences within this trip I would have to say that this leadership program was the best and most insightful for me. I had this lady named Laurie. At first I was thinking she was overly peppy and happy, however soon as I got to know her

I really started to understand her. She taught us how Walt Disney had failed several times before becoming successful. It made me reflect upon all my failures and not feel so bad about them because eventually as many failures I have I would have as many successes. I really was taught about my leadership qualities and what really it means to become a leader.

Walt Disney had a passion and idea behind what he wanted to come into reality. I saw that in Disney their brand is incorporated into every section of the park. I realized that the branding of Disney makes it recognizable to everyone not just one specific age group. It has a certain



magic about it that calls people back again and again. I believe the best part of the tour was hearing Laurie talk. I really look up to her and it says a lot about the people Disney hires, because they do not just hire anyone like I had once thought.

## 9. Conclusion



Overall I would say that MOT as well as the leadership program combined helped really make an impact on me and were the best parts of the trip. I would only change one thing about the trip which would be to have tour guides for each trip so that no one gets lost or is late coming to the bus.

absolutely  
having this trip  
to spend my last  
best people I  
grew more



Everything else was  
fabulous. I love  
because it helped me  
year with some of the  
know. as a person I  
insightful as well as

conscious of the things and people happening around me. It is not everyday that you get to spend precious times with friends and experience something as meaningful as MOT together. Shoutout to all the Business Academy teachers as well as others who helped to make this wonderful trip happen, it meant the world to me, and the rest of the senior/junior class.