

# Professional Growth through Internships - Student Experiences

## JT Intimates Inc. Internship Opportunity

**Name:** Lynda Xepoleas

**Major/Year:** Apparel Design and Technology; Senior

**Position:** Product Development

**Company:** JT Intimates Inc.

**Location:** Los Angeles, CA

**What's an average day like for you at your internship?** While interning at JT Intimates, I was given a large amount of responsibility. Every day I would come in and work on various tasks simultaneously, such as completing technical specification packages for manufacturers in China, processing and handing e-commerce orders for customers, designing intimate apparel CADs for various retailers, or pulling and documenting sample merchandise for conference calls with buyers.

**How did you find this position?** I found this position through [freefashioninternships.com](http://freefashioninternships.com).

**What steps did you go through to secure the position?** (attend career fair, job posting on CCO, personal network, directly from company website, job search site, etc.) I applied through the site listed above and heard back within a week. Within 24 hours I had an interview at their creative design headquarters in LA and was notified a month later that I was given the position.

**What's your favorite part about the position, company, or location?** I loved working in downtown LA, as well as within a large creative offices building. Some days there were photo shoots going on and music blasting down the hall. It was exciting to not only be in Los Angeles, but also to work within a creative and artistic environment. I also enjoyed the responsibility that I was given throughout interning at JT Intimates. To me I felt as if I was an employee of the company and working full time as an assistant.

**What is something interesting or fun you did during your internship?** While an intern at JT Intimates I had many projects, but two in particular that I loved. One of those projects involved trend forecasting. I was given a task to report upcoming trends for Spring 2015 and display my findings in mood boards that were to be used for Market Week in NYC. The other involved designing underwear for an upcoming conference call with Tilly's. I was asked to design prints and verbiage for seamless boy short style underwear that were to be sold in stores this coming winter.

## **Target Internship Opportunity**

**Name:** Sophia Sechler

**Major/Year:** Retail Management, Minor in Organization and Leader Supervision and Entrepreneurship and Innovation - Senior

**Position:** Executive Team Leader

**Company:** Target

**Location:** Carmel, Indiana

### **What is an average day like at your internship?**

It is hard to say what an average day at my internship was like since every day was so different. This 10-week internship has a focus in one certain area of the business, mine being Human Resources. I was able to learn nearly every department of the Target store throughout the internship (assets protection, guest experience, hardlines, grocery, etc.). The majority of my 10 weeks I learned how to lead a Human Resources department in a Target store, while at the same time knowing everything that was going on throughout the store (team members, guests, sales, etc.). I was able to assist in internal and external interviews and act as a leader daily.

### **How did you find this position?**

I found this position by attending the career fair last fall, 2013. I talked to many companies that day and set up a number of interviews. After researching and hearing from each company about the specific internships, I was applying for I decided Target was the perfect fit for me.

### **What steps did you go through to secure the position? (Attend career fair, job posting on CCO, personal network, directly from company website, job search site, etc.)**

In order to secure my internship with Target I first attended the career fair. After that, I had a few interviews and then received an offer. After accepting my offer, I was sure to stay up to date on Target's business and stay in touch with the campus liaison. After completing the internship I received an offer to become an Executive Team Leader when I graduate, in which I immediately accepted. I then applied and interviewed to be Purdue's campus liaison for Target and am proud to say that I am the liaison for the 2014-2015 academic year. If you are interested in an internship or another position with Target, please do not hesitate to contact me (Sophia.Sechler@target.com).

### **What is your favorite part about the position, company, or location?**

My favorite part of the internship is definitely the people I was able to work with every day. My fellow interns were very helpful by sharing little tips throughout the summer. We still keep in touch today and I can honestly say they are some of my good friends. Even though it was a little overwhelming at first to be a leader in the store, there were many mentors there to help me succeed. I will never forget the great leaders who encouraged me to push my own boundaries and complete this internship as a better person than I started.

### **What is something interesting or fun you did during your internship?**

Although there were many fun days throughout my internship, one of the most memorable was when all the interns and their Store Team Leaders volunteered at a YMCA. We were able to have a big lunch together and then help the YMCA with any tasks they needed; this included painting, entertaining children and cleaning equipment. It was amazing to be able to help an organization who truly needed it and who really appreciated our help.