

Foundations in Social Impact Program Profile 2020-2021

Foundations in Social Impact

Foundations in Social Impact is a social impact leadership program exclusively for first year Dartmouth students, created to get participants thinking actively about their place as changemakers in society. It runs mid-Fall through mid-Spring and students must participate in all terms in order to be a member.

Program Overview and Structure

The program will be synchronous in the Fall and Spring; it will be asynchronous in the Winter; the structure is outlined in more detail below.

During the **Fall** and **Spring**, Foundations in Social Impact students meet once a week for two hours in the evening virtually as a complete group. Students will also have in person activities conducted in small pods to facilitate community building at times they schedule themselves. During **Winter**, students will work on nonprofit consulting projects in teams in a complete virtual environment with full DCSI support and coaching to aid in their projects' completion. Students are expected to work on their projects consistently and to the best of their ability.

Program Themes

Fall term will be devoted to inspiring students to discover their personal leadership style, hone their professional skills in preparation for the nonprofit consulting challenge, and learn best practices in social impact, all while connecting with a cohort of their peers. Students will meet various members of the Dartmouth community involved in social impact work, which will highlight the field's broadness and the innovative ways people create change.

Winter and Spring terms allow Foundations in Social Impact students to become more independent as they work with a nonprofit on their own group consulting project. With support along the way from alumni, staff, faculty, and community partners, students learn to solve problems creatively and collaboratively for their nonprofit organization, all while putting to use their knowledge of social impact work and honing their developing sense of leadership. The program culminates in the creation of a high-level deliverable, presentation of the project to the client community nonprofit organization, and deep reflective work on the process.

About the Program

- Runs from mid Fall to mid Spring for an immersive experience
- Learn design thinking, innovative ways to approach society's problems, play social impact games, and ways to develop successful teams
- Real world nonprofit consulting challenge
- Discover your leadership style, how to communicate effectively, and create community
- Meet alumni and engage with different areas of campus to learn new strategies for social impact

Program Requirements

Must be a first-year student in good standing with the College

Personal Qualities

Flexibility, An Open Mind, Humility, Curiosity, Empathy, Demonstrated Follow Through, Ambition

Availability

Must be present at all synchronous meetings and commit to consistent work on a team-based nonprofit consulting challenge

Application Process

All interested first year students must submit a digital application by the deadline. No late applications will be accepted. Finalists will be invited for interviews. In order to be successfully admitted into the program, a student must complete both an application and an interview, no exceptions.

Continued Engagement with DCSI

-Social Impact Practicums (SIPS): Dartmouth courses embedded with projects from Upper Valley nonprofits.

For a list of current and past courses: <https://students.dartmouth.edu/social-impact/programs-initiatives/students/social-impact-practicums-sips>

-Internships: Many Foundations in Social Impact alumni go on to get funded social impact internships with DCSI

To see various internship opportunities with DCSI visit: <https://students.dartmouth.edu/social-impact/programs-initiatives/students/internships>

