

TARA GRAHAM

EDUCATION

- June 2010 **UNIVERSITY OF SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA, Los Angeles**
◊ Master of Arts in Journalism, with emphasis in online production
- May 2005 **UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA, Berkeley**
◊ Bachelor of Rhetoric, with emphasis on public discourse
◊ Public Policy minor

EXPERIENCE

Sept. 2010 — Present

PUBLICATIONS DIRECTOR

Center for Middle Eastern Studies / U.C. Berkeley

- ◊ Oversee the production, organization and re-design of the Center's website; write, edit, photograph, film and digitally prep content for the site
- ◊ Report on Middle East-related happenings, interview relevant parties and photograph events for the Center's publication materials
- ◊ Edited *Cairo: Histories of a City*, a Harvard University Press book authored by Prof. Nezar AlSayyad.

Jan. 2010 – Jul. 2010

WEB REPORTER/PHOTOGRAPHER

KCET's "SoCal Connected" / Los Angeles, CA

- ◊ Reported on the Calif. economic crisis and its impact on Orange County's housing, education, mobility and government sectors
- ◊ Digitally prepped content for the website (cropped/uploaded photos, produced audio slideshows, crafted feature summaries)

Mar. 2009 – May 2010

CO-EDITOR-IN-CHIEF (1/10-5/10)

SUPERVISING EXECUTIVE PRODUCER (3/09-12/09)

USC Annenberg Digital News / Los Angeles, CA

- ◊ Managed a 50-person editorial staff, organized website posting schedules and lead online training sessions
- ◊ Selected top content for the day, added headlines, wrote interest-piquing summaries (deks) and promoted stories to the front page
- ◊ Digitally prepped, edited and published multimedia news content to the website

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Jun. 2009 – Aug. 2009

WEB EDITOR

New Statesman / London, England

- ◇ Researched and reported U.S. news stories for the website and contributed book reviews to the print publication
- ◇ Digitally prepped magazine content for the website, published daily blogs, managed the front page and moderated comments

Aug. 2008 – Feb. 2009

STAFF WRITER

Pop and Politics / Los Angeles, CA

- ◇ Researched breaking pop culture and political events, and interviewed relevant experts to explore the larger issues at play
- ◇ Reported news stories with an editorial twist to inform and entertain readers

Nov. 2006 – Jul. 2008

ASSOCIATE EDITOR

Sugar Media / San Francisco, CA

- ◇ Launched a humor-driven pop culture website in 2006 that grew to average over one million page views per month
- ◇ Researched and posted content on an hourly basis, adding editorial commentary to engage, inform and entertain readers
- ◇ Marketed website daily by initiating and negotiating traffic exchanges

Aug. 2007 – Oct. 2007

EDITOR

The Berkeley Group for Architecture & Planning

NanoCity, Haryana Infrastructure Ltd. / Berkeley, CA

- ◇ Wrote and edited the 37-page publication used to promote NanoCity, a 21st century Indian metropolis (in development)
- ◇ Reported on the global and local circumstances prompting the city's founding, the stages of development, the design philosophy and overall vision for the project

Jun. 2004 – Aug. 2004

COMMUNICATIONS ASS'T TO THE NATIONAL PRESS SECRETARY

Children's Defense Fund / Washington, D.C.

- ◇ Drafted and revised CDF press releases; gathered data on key issues affecting children and tracked legislative activity
- ◇ Attended and reported on congressional hearings and press conferences

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TEACHING

Jan. 2011 – Present

LECTURER

International and Area Studies
University of California, Berkeley

- ◇ Develop the curriculum for undergraduate courses exploring the demands and techniques of global field reporting in the digital age
- ◇ Instruct weekly multimedia workshops to help students package their research and field work findings (interviews/photography/videos) into multi-page website presentations

Jul. 2011 – Aug. 2011

LEAD LECTURER, Berkeley Global Summer Program

Middle Eastern Studies
University of California, Berkeley

- ◇ Developed the curriculum for a course exploring the intersection of (social) media and politics during the 2011 Arab uprisings
- ◇ Selected and secured guest lecturers; organized group activities
- ◇ Instructed a series of multimedia workshops to help students analyze media from around the world and package their research findings into engaging online presentations

Jul. 2010 - Aug. 2010

MEDIA INSTRUCTOR, Berkeley Global Summer Program

International Alliance of Research Universities
University of California, Berkeley

- ◇ Assisted with planning the curriculum for a three-week seminar exploring the media's coverage of the Middle East
- ◇ Instructed a series of multimedia workshops to help students analyze media from around the world and package their research findings into engaging online presentations

Aug. 2004- Aug. 2005

PROGRAM CO-DIRECTOR, Cal in the Capital

Cal Corps Public Service Center
University of California, Berkeley

- ◇ Recruited approximately 60 students for a Washington, D.C summer internship program
- ◇ Instructed weekly workshops geared to refine students' professional skills and provide cover letter, interview and job search training
- ◇ Marketed CITC interns to prospective employers by meeting with internship coordinators in D.C. and negotiating partnerships

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FREELANCE WORK AND OTHER PUBLISHED PROJECTS

Harvard University Press Blog (website for HUP books and authors)

◇ "Military, Money and Motives in Egypt" / commentary (Feb., 2011)

News21 (Carnegie-Knight website for innovative journalism)

◇ "California In Crisis: The Unseen O.C." / web presentation (Aug., 2010)

Trans/Missions (USC Knight Chair in Media & Religion website)

◇ "Checkpoint: Living as an Outsider in a Jewish State" / web presentation (May, 2010)

◇ "What's Catholic Guilt Got to Do With It?" / commentary (Nov., 2008)

◇ "Fear-mongering, Muslim-slinging and Obama as Enabler" / commentary (Oct., 2008)

◇ "Palin and the Pentecostal Surge" / commentary (Sept., 2008)

The Huffington Post (Breaking news and commentary website)

◇ "Millions of Ex-Offenders Did Their Time, But Still Can't Vote" / original reporting (Nov., 2008)

◇ "McCain's African-American Vote: L.A. Conservative Joe Hicks Is a Race Weary Republican" / original reporting (Oct., 2008)

Neon Tommy (Annenberg Digital News website)

◇ "UCI: Biggest Campus Demonstration In Recent History" / original reporting (Mar., 2010)

◇ "Pole Dancers Petition For A Place In the Olympics" / broadcast package (May, 2009)

◇ "Sanitation Dept. Fights Persistent Trash Problem In South L.A." / broadcast package (May, 2009)

◇ "Shelters Get Creative To Help The Homeless" / broadcast package (Apr., 2009)

PROFESSIONAL TRAVEL

December 2010

◇ Accompanied a UC Berkeley delegation to Damascus and interviewed President Bashar al-Assad on matters involving political and economic reform in Syria, along with the Israeli peace process. Also traveled to Beirut, Lebanon to promote and cover (issue press releases and photograph) the International Association for the Study of Traditional Environments 2010 conference.

October 2010

◇ Traveled to Berlin and Munich as one of 10 American journalists selected to attend a one-week press tour organized by the Goethe Institut and the German Foreign Office in Washington, DC. The program provided historical background to inform contemporary reporting on German affairs. Participants also met with political decision makers, scientists involved in the country's renewable energy projects, and artists behind Berlin's vibrant art scene.

March 2010

◇ Traveled to Israel and Palestine as one of 10 Annenberg graduate students selected to report in the region. Participants met with religious, political and human rights activists, as well as educators, legislators, refugees, settlers, and media commentators to explore the ways in which the ongoing conflict affects on-the-ground attitudes, beliefs and behaviors.

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- October 2009 ◇ Traveled to Brussels, Belgium as one of 14 U.S. graduate students selected to attend a one-week press tour organized by the European Union. The program provided an overview of the EU's history, policies and struggles, with special focus on EU—US relations.
- May-August 2009 ◇ Traveled around the United Kingdom (London, Cambridge, Manchester, Northern Ireland) for a USC foreign reporting class.
- July 2008 ◇ Traveled to Cairo, Egypt to help research and later edit *Cairo: Histories of a City*, a Harvard University Press book authored by Prof. Nezar AlSayyad of the University of California, Berkeley.

MEDIA COVERAGE AND INTERVIEWS

- 05/23/2010 ◇ Graham featured on NBC's "Sunday in L.A." to discuss citizen journalism, the tricks of the trade and her viral video footage of the chaos that erupted when the Jonas Brothers performed at The Grove in Los Angeles, CA. Interview picked up by Witty Sparks, a technology and design website.
- 05/16/2010 ◇ Graham interviewed for a CBS evening news broadcast to discuss her viral video footage.
- 05/15/2010 ◇ Graham's viral video footage featured on *USA Today*, *MSNBC* and *The Vancouver Sun* websites, among others.

AWARDS AND FELLOWSHIPS

- June 2011 **2011 "BEST OF THE WEB" FIRST PLACE INDIVIDUAL JOURNALISM AWARD**
Association for Education in Journalism and Mass Communication
- May 2010 **PENNY LERNOUX AWARD FOR INTERNATIONAL REPORTING**
University of Southern California
- May 2010 **PHI KAPPA PHI HONOR SOCIETY**
University of Southern California
*Membership awarded to the top 10 percent of USC's graduate students
- Jan. 2010 – Jul. 2010 **CARNEGIE-KNIGHT NEWS21 FELLOW**
University of Southern California

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Aug. 2009 – May 2010

DEAN'S MERIT SCHOLAR

University of Southern California

Aug. 2008 – May 2009

ANNENBERG GRADUATE FELLOW

University of Southern California

Aug. 2001 – May 2005

ALUMNI LEADERSHIP SCHOLAR

University of California, Berkeley