Sarah Mattalian

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Education

Northwestern University Medill School of Journalism, Chicago

Master of Science in Journalism; Health, Environment, and Science Specialization

Recognitions: Trienens Institute Scholar

Expected graduation: August 2025 | Current GPA: 4.00

American University, Washington, DC

School of Communication, Bachelor of Journalism

Minors: Spanish and Creative Writing

Language: Spanish, Certified in Translation May 2023 by American University

Honors: Dean's List Fall 2020, Spring 2021, Fall 2022, Spring 2023 | Cumulative GPA: 3.582/4.00

Journalism Experience

Reporting Fellow, Inside Climate News, Chicago, Ill.

January 2025 – Present

May 2023

- Reported on environmental and public health issues in Chicago and the midwest region with a focus on pollution, climate change impacts and specific effects of federal actions
- Wrote long-form reporting enterprise pieces, worked with other reporters and editors on a collaborative electric vehicle reporting project, and assisted with early research for a project on environmental justice in Chicago
- Established source connections with environmentalists, lawyers, public health experts and others in the midwest and Chicagoland area

Reporter, Inside Washington Publishers, Arlington, Va.

April 2023 – August 2024

- Covered environmental policy with a focus on plastics recycling, lithium batteries, recycling technology, and industry
- Independently tracked lawsuits, following multiple court cases that set precedents for environmental standards
- Established sources on Capitol Hill within environmental groups, law firms, and agencies such as EPA and OSHA January 2023 - April 2023

Congressional Correspondent, The Durango Herald, Washington, DC

Pitched and reported multiple stories weekly on Colorado's congressional delegation and issues facing Southwest Colorado, as well as major national political topics. Attended State of the Union Address.

Digital News Intern, NBC4 Washington, Washington, DC

September 2022 – December 2022

- Pitched, wrote and reported news features in a timely manner, assisted in coverage of breaking news and elections, sourced information and cut video for over five stories per week including articles in Spanish
- Gained in-depth knowledge of programs such as Wildmoka and Adobe, promoted content on Instagram and TikTok Managing Editor of News, The Eagle at American University, Washington, DC May 2022 – December 2022
- Edited articles daily and oversaw breaking news, spearheaded coverage of protests and student issues, supervised news team of five editors and 20 reporters

News Intern, Fundación PorCausa, Madrid, Spain

February 2022 – May 2022

Worked with members of the investigative and journalistic team to write longform stories on migration in Spain that were published in Spanish. Conducted research and interviews primarily in Spanish for 15 hours per week

Professional Development and Skills

- Investigative Reporters and Editors: member since January 2025, attended IRE 2025 conference on behalf of Northwestern University
- NLGJA: The Association of LGBTQ+ Journalists: member since June 2023, selected for mentee program January 2024
- The Chronicle of Higher Education: selected to attend The Chronicle's higher education reporting workshop on behalf of American University student journalism

Community Service and Additional Experience

Student Associate, American University Sine Institute of Policy and Politics, Washington, DC Dec. 2022 – May 2023

Assisted in preparing material for NPR Vice President Terence Samuel's seminar series at American University promoting topics such as local news, disinformation, and democracy

Hotline Worker, CAIR Coalition, Washington, DC

August 2021 - May 2023

Utilized Spanish fluency to guide immigrants to legal services, translated over 75 pages of documents.