

Kelli Smith
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A general assignment journalist at The Chicago Tribune, I am a recent graduate seeking a position as a metro reporter.

Journalism Experience

Don Wycliff Fellow, The Chicago Tribune

Chicago, Illinois | June 2020 to present

Wrote more than 100 stories on the Metro Desk, including breaking and enterprise pieces focused on crime, politics, health and education. Served as lead voting reporter during the 2020 election. Wrote front-page stories on topics including city police, school negligence and surges in crime. Obtained records via FOIA requests, and sorted through and analyzed years of data for investigations.

Editorial Intern, The Dallas Morning News

Dallas, Texas | June 2019 to Aug. 2019

Wrote as many as four opinion pieces a week as a member of The Morning News's Editorial Board with an emphasis on editorials, bylined features and columns. Provided reporting, research and fact-checking support for editorials by the full board, and articulated lines of advocacy for under-served communities and under-reported issues.

Editor-in-Chief, The Observer

Notre Dame, Indiana | March 2019 to March 2020

Led and managed a staff of more than 150 students in producing daily coverage of Notre Dame, Holy Cross College and Saint Mary's College. Supervised day-to-day operations, had final authority on all editorial decisions and managed a six-figure budget. Initiated the creation of several positions, including a social media team, a diversity and inclusion director, an investigative unit and a videography unit. Also edited, proofread and reviewed all content for publication in a 15,000-circulation print edition and on The Observer's website.

Multimedia Intern, KTSM

El Paso, Texas | July 2017 to Aug. 2017

Wrote, reported, produced and edited stories, video and graphics for various platforms. Provided original reporting for an average of a dozen stories weekly. Also assisted with story conception, social media posts and the production of video packages.

Education

University of Notre Dame, bachelor of arts degrees in political science and film, television and theatre with a minor in journalism, ethics and democracy. Winner of the Paul Neville Award for overall excellence in journalism (April 2020), finalist in the International Social Change Film Festival for documentary "Sandbranch." Four-year videographer of all Notre Dame athletics for "Fighting Irish Media." Studied abroad in Israel and Palestine (Spring 2019) and Ireland (Summer 2017). Dean's List for 4.0 GPA (Spring 2020).

Technical Skills and Languages

Spanish, eight years of academic study, including advanced university coursework.

Software and Applications, Proficient in the Adobe Creative Suite (InDesign, Photoshop, Premiere), Avid, WordPress, Microsoft Excel, EDIUS, ENPS, catDV, Facebook, Twitter, Snapchat, Instagram. Basic web design skills using HTML and CSS.