MARIA VILLARROEL

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| New York, NY

EDUCATION

St. John's University - New York, NY // GPA 4.0

Doctor of Philosophy, Multi-Sector Communication	August 2021- December 2025
Master of Science, International Communication	August 2021- December 2023
Bachelor of Science, Journalism	August 2020- December 2022

SKILLS & INTERESTS

Spanish | InDesign | Adobe Illustrator | Excel | PowerPoint | Word | Search Engine Optimization | CMS | AP Style Writing | Interviewing | Business Reporting | Tech Reporting | Political Reporting | Review Writing | Political Communication | Research | Data Collection & Analysis.

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Reporter | The Latin Times | New York, NY   *January 2024- Present*
- Wrote daily articles covering news and political issues pertinent to the Latino community in the U.S.
- Interviewed influential Latino leaders and key figures, providing in-depth coverage and unique insights for readers, particularly in sensitive and timely topics like the 2024 elections and immigration.
- Reported on the ground during key events of the 2024 general election cycle, including the Democratic National Convention in Chicago and Representative Susan Wild's campaign events in Pennsylvania, providing tailored coverage aimed at informing and engaging Latino voters.
- Integrated multimedia elements such as photos, videos, and infographics, as well as SEO strategies, to
- enhance storytelling and reader engagement.

Graduate Assistant | Office of Media Relations, St. John's University | New York, NY   *August 2023- Present*
- Conducted interviews with a diverse selection of students, staff and community members capturing their unique perspectives, and utilizing these insights to create reliable and unique content.
- Cultivated strong relationships with local journalists, proactively reaching out to share noteworthy university events, faculty accomplishments and student success stories.

Freelance Movie and TV Reporter | Game Rant | Remote   *May 2023- December 2023*
- Conducted extensive research on upcoming movie and TV releases, staying up to date with the latest development in the industry to produce high-quality articles.

Will Murphy Electoral Campaign | New York, NY   *May 2023- September 2023*
- Spearheaded successful fundraising efforts for Will Murphy's House of Representatives campaign, utilizing strategic outreach and networking to secure financial contributions.
- Crafted compelling press releases that highlighted the candidate's platforms, accomplishments, and campaign events, resulting in increased media coverage.
- Developed and pitched innovative social media ideas to the campaign team, effectively leveraging various platforms to engage with voters and mobilize supporters.

Summer Editorial Intern | LinkedIn | New York, NY   *May 2022- August 2022*
- Collaborated with the company's editorial teams to bring timely, accurate and fair news to the LinkedIn community.
- Wrote daily articles that educated LinkedIn users on current tech, economy, and business issues, highlighting community members' opinions.
- Researched relevant information to create briefs for podcast and live show guests.

Related Experience

Research Assistant | St. John's University | New York, NY   *January 2024 - December 2025*
- Conducted in-depth research and analysis on political communication, and prepared synthesized literature reviews on academic resources, focusing on propaganda strategies, to support a faculty member's academic work.
- Presented original research on freedom of the press in various Latin American countries and media bias in the U.S., including analyses of outlets like The New York Times, at national academic conferences like the American Journalism Historians Association National Convention.
- Gained expertise in data collection and qualitative analysis within the political communication field, such as formatting surveys and refining effective and informative interview questions.