

ROB SAMUELSON

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I am a writer, editor and filmmaker. Everything I understand about the world I learned from movies and TV. I have a background in film criticism, magazine feature writing, news-content production, blogging, digital filmmaking and broadcast journalism. I am proficient in AP style, copyediting, audio-visual editing (Avid Media Composer, Adobe Premiere and Audition, Final Cut Pro and iMovie), blogging software (WordPress and Blogger) and social media engagement (Facebook, Twitter, Instagram, Reddit, Sprout, etc.).

EXPERIENCE

Digital Editor for Aggrego - Sun Times Network, Chicago, IL

June 2015 to Present

- A flexible Jack of all trades who has launched programs, engaged national readership, and helped steer a company in a time of massive change
- Intern – June to August 2015 on Sun Times Network city sites for Phoenix, Los Angeles, Seattle, and other West Coast cities
- Editor – August to October 2015 on Phoenix Sun Times, curating local news, entertainment, and sports content
- Digital Editor – October to November 2015 on National Sun Times Entertainment, covering film and television
- Video Producer – October 2015 to January 2016, shooting/editing visual content for Chicago sports and Honey Good advice videos
- Newswire Curator – October 2015 to March 2016 on ViewsMix, an Aggrego pilot program for gallery-based news items
- National Politics – January 2016 to present on PoliticsChatter, a gallery-based political information widget on national news sites

Film Critic, Blogger, Feature Writer for Halfstack Magazine, Chicago, IL

February 2014 to Present

- Review new film releases with an eye toward understanding experience rather than suggesting how readers should spend their money
- Act as backpack multimedia journalist, shooting photographs and interviewing key players in the film, music, art, and business sectors
- Write short, informative movie previews about each week's new releases
- Spearheaded publication's transition to arts criticism

Film Writer for Gurulife Entertainment, Chicago, IL

June 2016 to Present

- Write informative, critical essays on recent releases
- Engage with fellow writers on Gurulife's blogging service
- Expand Gurulife's reach via social media

Travel Writer, Chicago Advice Columnist for MapQuest, Chicago, IL

November 2014 to May 2015

- Wrote pieces to help travelers experience more than tourist traps in Chicago, including food and commuting advice
- Shot and edited short videos on destinations
- Contributed to MapQuest's move from a GPS tool to a more multifaceted, culturally-inclined service to broaden travelers' experiences

Associate Producer for Truman Media Network Television (TMN), Kirksville, MO

January 2010 to May 2011

- Developed pilot for *Truman Talk*, a weekly comedy and talk show featuring local and university guests
- Shot and edited sports and entertainment PKGs every week
- Hosted inaugural TMN TV vlog
- Ran TMN TV social media – Twitter, Facebook and YouTube – now third most “liked” organization at Truman State
- Worked with other management—executive producer, content manager, news director and faculty advisor—on strategies to shape the organization's future as a multipurpose media enterprise

Chief Videographer for News 36, Kirksville, MO

August 2009 to May 2011

- Shot video for news PKGs, VOBs and VOSOTs, between two and five stories per week with full-time class loads
- Edited news PKGs, VOBs and VOSOTs on Avid Media Composer
- Trained every new hire on proper camera use, Avid Media Composer software and proper visual technique

Assistant Content Manager for News 36, Kirksville, MO

August 2009 to May 2011

- Wrote and edited news anchor copy, which amounted to 15 minutes or more of the weekly broadcast
- Aggregated news from CNN Newsource and AP Wire for broadcasts and website
- Worked with all station reporters, typically a staff of 12, on their stories, editing for content, theme and journalistic integrity
- Ran News 36 social media—Twitter, Facebook and YouTube—increasing likes and follows 75 percent
- Increased viewership twofold through social media presence and campus events
- Worked with Content Manager to package news and announcements for Facebook, Twitter and YouTube

EDUCATION

Truman State University, Kirksville, MO

Class of 2013: Bachelor of Arts in Communication-Journalism, Film Studies minor, English minor