

DEBADRITA SUR

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EXPERIENCE

The Buffalo News, Buffalo

Trending and General Assignment Reporter

September 2023-

Write daily breaking news stories and long-term enterprise features and produce video content.

- Coverage includes [adult literacy programs](#) in the Buffalo-Niagara region, Jewish families in Western New York reacting to the Israel-Palestine conflict, [homeless families](#) being placed in hotels across Erie County, [animal shelters](#) in crises due to overcrowding, [climate-smart](#) communities of New York, and stories about [pedestrian safety crisis](#) being a public health issue in the United States
- Spearheading video production: Produced and edited two videos, one on the homeless folks in Erie County being placed in hotels and motels, and another on a cat shelter that received a \$300,000 donation after the Buffalo Bills lost during a playoff game.

Far Out Magazine, London (remote)

Film columnist at Far Out and its sister website, Best of Netflix

October 2020- June 2022

- Wrote eight articles daily under tight deadlines, including breaking news, features, film reviews, and opinions.
- Monitored traffic and used search engine optimization (SEO) skills to reach daily targets.
- Assisted the social team in daily traffic engagement.

Save The Children / Development Research Communications and Services Center, Kolkata

Field Intern and Researcher

May 2019-June 2019

Visited several low-income zones across Kolkata for research and helped with classroom instruction. Prepared a report on the quality of education in government-assisted school classrooms.

EDUCATION

Columbia University Graduate School of Journalism, New York

Master of Science

May 2023

Coursework has included training in beat reporting, narrative writing, video production and investigative techniques. Reported several stories related to homelessness: How inflation affected soup kitchen operations, whether the labor shortage in New York has led to an increase in homeless employment and a story on an NYPD encampment sweep in Chinatown. Other highlights include:

- Documentary: produced a [12-minute short documentary](#) on food insecurity in the South Bronx.
- Video: produced a [6-minute feature](#) on how inflation has affected the fur suit-making industry and its impact on the furry community.
- Narrative writing: Followed terminally ill patients who are seeking medical assistance in dying in New York State for a long-form immersive piece.
- Master's Project: Interviewed 66 people and gathered medical records for a multimedia story on medical negligence towards women of color in the U.S.

Presidency University, Kolkata

Bachelor of Arts, top Honors in English Literature

May 2021

NOMINATIONS AND AWARDS

Touchstone Independent Film Festival

Nominated for Best Documentary Short

March 2024

SKILLS

Journalistic Skills: Adobe Premiere Pro, Bridge, Audition, Photoshop, Otter. IA, SEO, Excel, FOIA, Pacer, LexisNexis, CANVA, Photography, Videography, Parsley, Google Analytics, WordPress, BLOX

Languages: English, Bengali, Hindi (Native/bilingual proficiency), German (Limited working proficiency)

Leadership: Film and Documentary Coordinator, Society of Professional Journalists, CJS Chapter (2022-23), Class Representative for two years at Presidency University (2019-2021). Publication Secretary at Presidency University Student's Council (2019-2021)

Affiliations: Investigative Reporters and Editors, Society of Professional Journalists, SAJA, AAJA, Buffalo Newspaper Guild