

Sophia Barro

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SUMMARY

Washington D.C.-based Senegalese-American journalist and digital strategist with newsroom and government experience. Versatile in reporting, multimedia storytelling, and digital political communications, turning complex policy into accessible, audience-focused stories.

EDUCATION

Lehigh University, Bethlehem, PA

Bachelor of Arts in Political Science, *Summa Cum Laude*

May 2025

GPA: 3.8/4.0

Minors: Women, Gender, and Sexuality Studies and Africana Studies

Honors: Phi Beta Kappa, Benjamin A. Gilman Scholar, Political Science Departmental Honors, Pi Sigma Alpha, Dean's List

Related Coursework: Data Journalism, Race and Racism in Global Context, Algorithms & Social Justice, Political Parties & Elections, Race and Politics in Africa and Asia

- **American University**, Washington Semester Program, Washington, DC
- **Vrije Universiteit/IES** Abroad Law & Criminology, Amsterdam, NL

Aug 2024 – Dec 2024

Jan 2024 – June 2024

EDITORIAL & JOURNALISM EXPERIENCE

United States Senate, Digital Fellow | Washington, DC

Sept 2025 – Present

- Drafted social copy and press content that translated complex policy into accessible narratives for broad audiences
- Produced graphics and edited video content for social, print, and digital platforms to advance the Senator's communications
- Assisted with multimedia production for livestreams, events, and rapid-response digital messaging under tight deadlines

The 51st News, Freelance Writer | Washington, DC

Sept 2025 – Present

- Reported on local news and civic issues in Washington, D.C., with a focus on community impact and policy developments
- Conducted in-depth interviews to amplify underrepresented voices and provide original, firsthand perspectives

ELLE Magazine, Editorial Summer Associate, Hearst Magazines | New York, NY

Jun 2025 – Aug 2025

- Pitched, researched, and fact-checked digital and print stories on culture, fashion, lifestyle, and identity under tight deadlines
- Tracked emerging pop culture and arts trends to shape timely, style-forward narratives that engage a global audience

The Brown and White, Lehigh University | Bethlehem, PA

Jan 2022 – May 2025

Opinion Columnist

Jan 2025 – May 2025

- Authored *The Capital from Lehigh*, a politics column analyzing power, policy, and leadership in Washington, D.C.
- Awarded Lehigh University's Williams Prize in Journalism & Communication for excellence in political opinion writing

News Associate Editor

Dec 2024 – May 2025

- Created comprehensive memos to guide reporters through the journalistic process, ensuring clarity and high-quality reporting
- Produced first-round edits on news articles, providing detailed feedback to enhance accuracy and engagement

Teleprompter Operator, Brown and White Weekly

May 2022 – May 2023

- Managed teleprompter functions for *The Brown and White Weekly*, the student-run broadcast summarizing weekly campus events
- Assisted with live script adjustments and pacing during broadcasts, ensuring seamless program flow

News Reporter

Jan 2022 – May 2025

- Ensured accuracy checks were performed before publishing to maintain high journalistic standards
- Produced stories focusing on campus life, student engagement, and the South Bethlehem community

PBS39, News Intern, LehighValleyNews.com | Bethlehem, PA

Sept 2023 – May 2025

- Assisted with story prep, logging events, and managing b-roll for daily broadcasts under tight deadlines
- Tracked breaking news, coordinated video materials, and supported reporters and producers in fast-paced newsroom operations

Ad Valvas, Independent Reporter | Amsterdam, NL

Feb 2024 – May 2024

- Reported and wrote features connecting Dutch university life, cultural debates, and education policy
- Created Instagram content that grew engagement to 3,000+ followers and expanded the outlet's digital reach

POLITICAL & GOVERNMENT EXPERIENCE

The White House, Intern, Office of Presidential Correspondence | Washington, DC

Sept 2024 – Dec 2024

- Researched current events to support high-volume correspondence drafting under tight deadlines
- Filtered and quality-controlled 10,000+ constituent emails for President Biden using Intranet Quorum CRM
- Assisted in identifying trending topics of correspondence and writing weekly summaries for senior staff

Harris for President, Communications Associate | Washington, DC

Jul 2024 – Nov 2024

- Assisted rapid response by drafting statements and media notes to shape coverage and counter opposition narratives
- Supported digital media and stakeholder outreach to mobilize grassroots engagement and amplify campaign visibility in battleground states

United Nations, Youth Representative | New York, NY

May 2023 – Nov 2024

- Selected as one of two students globally to serve as a UN Youth Representative for an NGO advancing widow empowerment
- Represented the NGO at UN Secretary-General press briefings translating global policy discussions into actionable advocacy strategies

United States Senate, Press Intern | Washington, DC

Jun 2022 – Aug 2022

- Assisted in drafting press releases, media advisories, and official statements on key policy issues
- Monitored news coverage and compiled daily press clips to track media narratives relevant to the Senator

SKILLS

Languages: English, French, Wolof, and Pulaar

Technical & Media Skills: Adobe Creative Cloud, CapCut, Box, Canva, WordPress, SEO, Python, AP Style, Sprout Social, Snapstream, Social Media Strategy (Facebook, Instagram, TikTok, X)

Memberships: Black Women in Congressional Alliance, National Association of Black Journalists, Society of Professional Journalists