

Mary D'Ambrosio

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I've worked for three decades as a journalist, correspondent and magazine editor, specializing in international reporting. I'm an assistant professor of professional practice at Rutgers University; the founding director of a summer international reporting program offered first in Istanbul, Turkey, and now in Bologna, Italy; and was the founding editor of Big World Magazine, a multimedia magazine that showcased narrative, visual and multimedia journalism about places.

Academic Experience

Assistant Professor of Professional Practice, Rutgers University. Teach global news, international reporting, magazine writing and a Mediterranean issues course that takes students on a spring break writing and reporting trip to Italy, Turkey or Spain. Developed a new "Writing about Social Issues" course, where students analyze media coverage of income inequality, immigration and climate change, and write social issues stories of their own. Created a "Media Hub" for our department, to encourage student media creation and publishing, and developed a digital magazine, "Kairos," that features top undergraduate student work (three stories from the first edition were awarded prizes in a statewide investigative reporting contest; a later piece grew into a paper that won a campus-wide Henry Rutgers Scholar Award). Serve as faculty co-liaison to our department's Global Media Specialization. Was awarded a joint \$10,000 internal curriculum grant in university-wide competition, in part to relocate an international reporting program I founded in Istanbul, Turkey, to Bologna, Italy. *Sept. 2015 to present.*

Assistant Professor of Journalism (Tenure Track), Central Connecticut State University. Taught street reporting, digital journalism, magazine writing and international reporting, and developed a new multimedia journalism course. Created a "Writing the Mediterranean" course that included a writing and reporting week in Spain, and arranged for professional publication of top student work. Won grants for book research in Albania and Italy, and to report on African and Syrian refugees in Sicily and Turkey; also won a curriculum grant to develop a database of Connecticut ethnic communities, for student use in international reporting class. *Aug. 2012 to Sept. 2015.*

Adjunct Assistant Professor of Journalism, Columbia University Graduate School of Journalism. Advised master's candidates as they produced six-credit 5,000-word capstone projects. *2011 to 2012.*

Adjunct Professor of Journalism, New York University's Arthur L. Carter Journalism Institute. *Sept. 1999 to 2010.*

Developed and taught graduate and undergraduate classes in street, beat, international and multimedia reporting, and in feature and travel writing, to consistently rave reviews.

Founding director of NYU Livewire, the journalism institute's feature syndicate, which published student stories in professional outlets globally. Built the service to more than 200 subscribing editors, consistently placing 90 percent of student stories, in such venues as **The Christian Science Monitor, CNN, the Boston Globe, Newsday, USA Today, the Chicago Tribune, The Daily Beast, the Orange County Register, the Philadelphia Daily News, the Austin American Statesman, the Syracuse Post Standard, Wordpress** and international publications, in the UK, Mexico, Ghana, India, the Philippines, South Korea, Greece, and Turkey. <http://journalism.nyu.edu/pubzone/livewire/bestof/> Project funding ended in 2010. *Sept. 2006 to Sept. 2010.*

Co-editor, with the author **Pete Hamill**, of **Street Level**, the institute's annual online magazine of top undergraduate journalism <http://journalism.nyu.edu/publishing/archives/streetlevel/2009>

Editor, Dispatches from Ground Zero, NYU's daily faculty/student magazine about the impacts of the 9/11 terrorist attacks. Oversaw four faculty editors; 21 of our stories and essays appeared in *9/11 8:48 AM: Documenting America's Greatest Tragedy*, the first book published about the attacks. <http://journalism.nyu.edu/publishing/archives/wtc/> Fall 2001/Winter 2002.

Professor, the Institute for Education in International Media (ieiMedia), 2010 to 2017

Program Director, The Istanbul Project. Developed an award-winning \$100,000 international journalism program in Istanbul, Turkey, in partnership with **San Francisco State University** and Turkey's **Bahçeşehir University**. Created curriculum; hired faculty; recruited students; established eight reporting internships for graduate students. In our first year, a student was awarded a \$5,000 U.S. State Department Gilman Scholarship to study with us; after our second, we were named a finalist for a national "GoAbroad" award. Students produced a digital magazine <http://2013.istanbulstories.net> and print-on-demand book <http://ieimedia.com/faces-of-istanbul-2011>. Beginning in summer 2017, Rutgers University participated in (and subsequently assumed) sponsorship, and the program shifted to Bologna, Italy. *Sept. 2010-2017*.

Editor in Chief, Urbino Now Magazine. Taught journalism and led magazine internship for 11 U.S. university students in Urbino, Italy, as we produced a cultural magazine to circulate in Italy's Marche region http://issuu.com/mdambrosio/docs/urbino_now. *June 2010*.

Adjunct Professor of Journalism, Baruch College (CUNY). Developed a class about covering policy issues for Baruch's Master's Program in Business Journalism, *Summer/Fall 2000*.

Journalism Experience

Founding Editor, Big World Multimedia, LLC. Conceived, launched and ran the international cultural affairs magazine **Big World Magazine**, which showcased top writing and multimedia reportage about places. <http://www.bigworldmagazine.com> *Jan. 2008 to Jan. 2014*.

Independent Writer and Editor, New York. Key projects: Book doctor, *Collapse: The Venezuelan Banking Crisis of 1994*, nonfiction book published by **The Group of Thirty** in Washington, DC; writing coach for press officers, **United Nations Development Programme**; Chief editor, **Latin Source/Global Source** global economics and politics analytical service; iPhone app author, "Sizzling Istanbul," **Sutro Media**; Writer, *Peso Power*, an economic outlook for Latin America, **Institutional Investor** magazine; *Hordes at the Gates? Look Again*, **The Huffington Post**; *Her Road from Damascus: A Syrian Refugee's Story*, **Anthropology Now**; *Burying Minority Istanbul: Last Glimpses of the Cosmopolitan City*, **Anthropology Now**; *Return to the Belle Époque*, profile of Turkish historian Çelik Gülersoy, **Islands** magazine; Book reviews of *1491: New Revelations of the Americas Before Columbus*; *Strapped: Why America's 20-Somethings and 30-Somethings Can't Get Ahead*; *First Stop in the New World: Mexico City*; **The San Francisco Chronicle**; *The Most Powerful International Businesswomen*, **Working Woman** magazine; profile of US Trade Rep. Charlene Barshefsky, **Working Woman** magazine; *100 Best Companies for Working Mothers*, **Working Mother** magazine. *May 1997 to present*.

Special Projects Editor, Global Finance Magazine, New York. Managed department and global network of 25 freelance correspondents. Conceived, commissioned, and wrote or edited four to eight magazine articles per month about international business and policy in Europe, Asia and

Latin America. Typical topics: Latin American energy outlook, Russian portfolio investment, Turkish economic climate. Traveled abroad frequently. *May 1996 to May 1997.*

Editor in Chief, Emerging Markets Debt Report/American Banker Newsletters, New York. Responsible for producing a weekly 12-page Wall Street newsletter on developing country political and economic policy. Assigned, edited and wrote breaking and analytical stories about Latin American, Russian/East European and African political and economic developments as they affected markets. Covered Mexican peso crisis, U.S./Latin presidential summit, IMF-World Bank meetings. Oversaw redesign of publication, initiated international bonds coverage, managed small department and six freelance correspondents abroad. *April 1992 to May 1996.*

Correspondent, The Associated Press, Caracas, Venezuela. Covered this nation of 20 million, focusing on international issues, economics and oil. Also served as a desk editor in New York City, monitoring and editing Persian Gulf war coverage on special assignment to the foreign desk, and as a general editor on the special services desk. *April 1990 to Jan. 1992.*

Staff Writer, The Caracas Daily Journal, Caracas, Venezuela. Covered the Venezuelan presidency and international affairs for this respected English-language daily. Wrote about presidential elections, diplomatic issues, foreign debt, trade policy, drug trafficking, riots. *Nov. 1988 to April 1990.*

Special Correspondent, Newsday, The San Francisco Chronicle. Contributor, World Press Review, Radio France Internationale. Freelance political, economic and feature stories from Venezuela. *Nov. 1988 to April 1990.*

Staff Writer, The Albany Times Union, Albany, New York. Investigative, general assignment, government, environmental and police reporting during four years as a staff writer for the state capital's largest daily. Wrote prizewinning stories about Central American refugees, U.S. immigration policy, toxic dumping; investigated questionable real estate and entertainment operations, school racial conflicts. *Dec. 1984 to Nov. 1988.*

Staff Writer, The Cortland Standard, Cortland, New York. Education and health reporter, covering two state universities, six public school systems and two hospitals. *Feb. 1984 to Dec. 1984.*

Special Projects

Founding Director, Global Journalism in Bologna, Italy. Established this popular annual 2-4 week, 12-30 student summer journalism program for the Rutgers Department of Journalism and Media Studies, to offer students an opportunity to practice working as foreign correspondents. Developed a partnership with the University of Bologna's Department of Interpretation and Translation; created programming and syllabi; enfranchised colleagues; and arranged for trips and activities, with the help of a \$10,000 Rutgers Global internal "internationalizing the curriculum" grant. The program is regularly oversubscribed, and student work published. *Summer 2017 to present.*

Founding Editor, Kairos. Developed this twice-yearly online magazine, to showcase top Rutgers Department of Journalism and Media Studies undergraduate student writing, videography, photography and TV reporting. Hired a web designer and oversaw design; established a department editorial board; created submission, editorial and production guidelines; and, in consultation with the board, select and edit stories. Special features have included explorations of the future of work; of New Jersey's increasingly international and diverse population; and of state environmental problems, the latter the recipient of three statewide awards <http://kairosmagazine.rutgers.edu/> *Fall 2015 to present.*

Interviews and Media Coverage

AlumKnights (The alumni magazine of the department of journalism and media studies), JMS Takes on Italy, May 2017 <http://alumknights.rutgers.edu/?p=1875>

Rutgers Today, Covering Trump's America: A Rutgers journalism professor helps students navigate media's role in writing about social issues, Feb. 16, 2017 <http://news.rutgers.edu/feature/covering-trump%E2%80%99s-america/20170219#.WLoGSRBngfL>

Daily Targum, Students Can Practice International Reporting in Italy with New Rutgers Program, Dec. 8, 2016 <http://www.dailytargum.com/article/2016/12/students-can-practice-international-reporting-in-italy-with-new-rutgers-program>

The Chronicle of Higher Education, Telling Refugees' Stories (scroll down), March 27, 2016 <http://chronicle.com/article/For-a-Campus-That-Balked-at-a/235836>

Rutgers Today/My Central NJ.com, Reporter Adds Global Focus to Rutgers, Jan. 28, 2016 <http://www.mycentraljersey.com/story/news/education/college/2016/01/28/reporter-adds-global-focus-rutgers/79362192/>

Daily Targum, International journalist joins Journalism and Media Studies faculty, Oct. 22, 2015 <http://www.dailytargum.com/article/2015/10/international-journalist-joins-journalism-and-media-studies-faculty>

World Affairs Council Member Spotlight: Mary D'Ambrosio, Sept. 9, 2014 <http://ctwac.com/2014/09/09/september-member-spotlight-dr-mary-dambrosio/>

Columbia Journalism Review, A Travel Webzine that Pays Its Contributors, June 6, 2012 http://www.cjr.org/news_startups_guide/2012/06/big-world-magazine.php

International Journalists Network, Q&A with Big World Magazine founder and journalism professor Mary D'Ambrosio, Jan. 31, 2012 <http://ijnet.org/en/blog/qa-big-world-magazine-founder-and-journalism-professor-mary-dambrosio>

The Spain Scoop, The Scoop Interviews Mary D'Ambrosio, Journalist, Travel Website Owner <http://www.thespainscoop.com/the-scoop-interviews-no-7-mary-dambrosio-big-world-magazine/>

Talks and Presentations

Presenter, "The New Global Journalist," talk given several times annually in Rutgers University Journalism and Media Studies classes, Sept. 2012 to present.

Speaker, "Telling People Stories in the Multimedia Age," Society of Professional Journalists "Excellence in Journalism" region 1 conference, New York, NY, April 8, 2017

Moderator and presenter, "Globalizing Your Beat," Society of Professional Journalists "Excellence in Journalism" region 1 conference, New York, NY, April 8, 2017

Moderator and discussant, "No Friends But the Mountains," Q&A with journalist and author Judith Matloff, Columbia University School of Journalism, New York, NY, March 27, 2017

Presenter, “21st Century Journalism: Visions of your Future Career,” Garden State School Press Association annual conference, Rutgers University, New Brunswick, NJ, Sept. 2015.

Presenter, “21st Century Journalism: Visions of your Future Career,” talk given four times annually in a range of Rutgers University journalism and media classes, New Brunswick, NJ, Sept. 2012 to present.

Presenter, “Taking Your Digital Magazine to the Next Level,” talk on entrepreneurial journalism for JMS majors, Rutgers School of Communication and Information, New Brunswick, NJ, Sept. 2015

Panelist, “Free-lancing?” The conundrum of working for free. Women in Communication, New York University student chapter, New York University Kimmel Center, New York, NY, March 3, 2010.

Moderator and presenter, “Killer Portfolio: Using Your Work to Land Assignments and Jobs,” panel on portfolio building, New York University’s Arthur J. Carter Journalism Institute, New York, NY, four sessions in 2009 and 2010.

Presenter, “Turning Your Great Adventures into Great Stories,” talk on travel writing given periodically at the City University of New York School of Journalism, and GAP Adventures Seminars, New York, NY, 2008 to present.

Languages and Citizenship

Dual U.S./Italian citizen. Native English / Fluent Spanish / Conversational Italian / Survival French

Education

M.Sc., Economic History, The London School of Economics and Political Science, 1998

European Integration. The postwar history of European integration, the Marshall Plan, the European Coal and Steel Community and European monetary union.

Development of the Third World. The development of Asia, Africa and Latin America, focusing on the role of multinationals, corruption, state policy, population growth, income distribution, agriculture and famine.

Thesis: Albanian Exodus: 500 Years of Flight. An examination of how chronic state weakness fostered widespread emigration from Albania, not just since the collapse of Communism, as is usually thought, but over the past half millennium. Conducted original research at the Biblioteca Nazionale di Roma and the Italian Interior Ministry. Now developing this research into a book.

Special projects: Participated in a week of briefings at NATO and the European Union in Brussels, a program organized by the LSE’s International Affairs department.

B.S., Journalism, Syracuse University, Newhouse School of Public Communications, 1983

Specialized in magazine journalism; spent my senior semester studying in Florence, Italy.

Additional studies

Knight Digital Media Center multimedia journalism fellowship, University of California, Berkeley, Jan. 2011

Street photography workshop with former Newsweek contract photojournalist Peter Turnley, New York, Aug. 2016

My Grants and Awards

Rutgers Journalism and Media Studies Department annual Service Award, spring 2016

Rutgers university-wide “internationalizing the curriculum” grant, awarded to develop a program of undergraduate study abroad initiatives, including annual embedded classes to the U.K., France, Italy, Spain, Turkey and Guatemala (taught by three faculty); and a 2-4 week journalism study abroad residential program in Bologna, Italy. Rutgers Centers for Global Advancement and International Affairs, \$10,000, Feb. 2016.

Connecticut statewide AAUP Research Grant and department reassigned time, for “Humanizing Migration,” an archive of written, photographic and audio portraits of African and Middle Eastern migrants in Sicily and Izmir, Turkey, central entry points for mass migration to Europe, \$4,750 (full funding), Spring 2015.

Connecticut statewide AAUP Research Grant, for research in Italy on the prospective book, “The Family that Killed Communism, and the Mad Act that Brought Down a Nation,” \$3,880, Summer 2013.

Connecticut statewide Curriculum Development Grant, to develop a course in international journalism, \$1,612, Summer 2013

Connecticut statewide Faculty Development Grant, for training on the video editing program Final Cut Pro X, and purchase of a personal copy of the software, \$1,694

Finalist, GoAbroad 2012 Innovative New Internship Program (for ieiMedia Istanbul), April 2012
<http://www.goabroad.com/news/goabroad-innovation-awards>

Knight Digital Media Center multimedia fellowship, University of California, Berkeley, Jan. 2011

First Prize News, Hearst Corp. bridge collapse, 1987

First Prize Feature, Hearst Corp., Central American refugees, 1987

First Prize Enterprise, Hearst Corp., illegal toxic dumping, 1986

First Prize News, Hearst Corp., suicide of diet specialist Nathan Pritikin, 1985

Honorable Mention, Hearst Corp., circus accident, 1986

Robert Schneider Journalism Award, 1982

New York State Journalist of the Year, 1980

My Students' Awards

Henry Rutgers Scholar Award (\$1,250), to Kayla Brantley, for an outstanding undergraduate research thesis. The thesis began as a class assignment to chronicle an odyssey, and was featured as the lead story in Kairos, the journalism department’s magazine of top undergraduate work. Spring 2017.

U.S. State Department-funded Gilman Scholarship (\$2,500) to Rutgers Journalism and Media Studies student Angelica Morales, to study in Bologna, Italy, Summer 2017

New Jersey Statewide Environmental Reporting Awards, Second Place, Third Place and Honorable Mentions, to three students in “Writing about Social Issues” class, Spring 2016

Hearst Multimedia Journalism Award, 10th place nationally – The Esteemed Muezzin, By Rachel Aston <http://www.hearstawards.org/hearst-multimedia-competition-i-winners-named/>, 2015

Two U.S. State Department-funded Gilman Scholarships to study in Turkey, in 2013 (\$5,000) and 2011 (\$4,000).

Hearst Multimedia Journalism Award Finalist, Janset Karamin – A Pantomime in Istanbul, By Kat Russell <http://ieimedia.com/blog/iei-media-in-the-news/istanbul-project-student-a-hearst-multimedia-award-finalist>, 2012

Best Travel Writing Solas Award (Gold), Young Traveler, “Automatic Weapons,” By Jessica Kerry <http://www.besttravelwriting.com/btw-blog/great-stories/young-traveler-category—gold-winner-automatic-weapons/>, 2007

Best Travel Writing Solas Award (Silver), Men’s Travel, “Money or Nothing,” By Ryan Kearney <http://www.besttravelwriting.com/btw-blog/blog/mens-travel-category—silver-winner-money-or-nothing/>, 2007

Best Travel Writing Solas Award (Bronze), Shopping, “Bridge Climb,” By Janna Leyde <http://www.besttravelwriting.com/btw-blog/great-stories/travel-and-shopping—bronze-winner-bridge-climb/>, 2007

Travel

Albania, Argentina, Barbados, Belgium, Brazil, Colombia, France (including Corsica), Germany, Greece, Israel, Italy, Mexico, Morocco, Nicaragua, Portugal, Russia, Spain, Switzerland, Turkey, Venezuela and the U.K.

Other Affiliations and Abilities

Member: AEJMC (international communication and magazine divisions), The Online News Association, The Authors Guild, Journalism and Women Symposium, The Society of Professional Journalists, The World Policy Institute, The Mediterranean Studies Association, The International Association for Literary Journalism Studies (IALJS)

Social media groups: Founded the Facebook groups “International Reporting Profs,” a venue for faculty and foreign correspondents to discuss trends and techniques in international reporting; “Writing the Mediterranean,” a public group for discussion of Mediterranean affairs; and “Media Hub,” a brand to encourage Rutgers Journalism and Media Studies students to publish their work, and to create media of their own. Members of the first two groups include the former head of the BBC World Service; the founder of the news literacy movement; NPR’s former ombudsman; and the director of the Overseas Press Club Foundation
<https://www.facebook.com/groups/293448624192894/>

Created the Twitter lists: “journalism faculty” (Tweeting educators, around the world); “Turkey movers and shakers,” and “developing world thinkers.”

Skilled in: Social media use, photojournalism, videography, Wordpress and CMS management and video editing with Final Cut Pro X.

