Melissa Wasserman

Content Developer • Content Designer • UX Writer

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About Me

Writer with over 10 years in journalism, 8 years in e-learning content development, and UX design training. A meticulous wordsmith, curious reporter, and people advocate focused on creating productive user experiences.

Experience

Senior Content Developer, Instructional Designer NIIT- Cognitive Arts

Evanston, IL • April 2015- April 2023 Worked with the following clients:

USAA

- Secured an annual contract with this client six times
- Drafted and maintained curriculums used to educate and certify the company's 37,000 employees, allowing them to handle phone calls from over 13.5 million members
- Distilled complex information into understandable, engaging content that spoke to specific audiences, while capturing the company's voice and brand standards
- Collaborated with subject matter experts, project managers, and other teams to develop modules and style guides, while exchanging feedback to improve each iteration
- Mentored and led teammates by facilitating weekly meetings and devising instructional guides and a team directory

Bank of America

- Created and edited training modules leading approximately 212,000 employees to understand various banking regulations, procedures, and resources
- Formulated grammatically sound narratives that aligned with the company's mission and quality assurance standards, while continuously editing
- Managed content workflows and processes for efficiency and to meet organizational goals
- Partnered with other designers to ensure high-quality work was delivered on time

Meta

- Reviewed training courses geared toward over 86,000 employees about safety best practices
- Challenged material with detailed feedback to create useful resources
- Introduced content and functionality improvements through presentations and comments

Key Bank

- Built learning modules educating about 18,000 employees on company processes
- Mapped out required curriculums for employees based on their roles, using content and infographics
- Participated in SCRUM meetings to ask questions and update the team on the project's progress

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Experience (cont.)

Senior Freelance News Reporter Windy City Times

Chicago, IL • July 2012- November 2022

- Conducted over 300 interviews with LGBTQ+ community members and organizations for first-hand
- Wrote over 150 engaging articles for over 125,000 online readers monthly
- Arranged and edited information into informative, compelling stories using AP style
- Proposed feature ideas that would appeal to readers across the Chicagoland area
- Contributed to attracting about 40,000 social media followers
- Gained knowledge of LGBTQ+ culture and inclusive language as an ally, prior to the widespread awareness of pronouns and inclusivity practices, as well as the legalization of same-sex marriage

Arts and Entertainment Contributing Writer Pioneer Press

Glenview, IL • May 2011- October 2017

- Interviewed over 200 people to gain a deeper understanding of their stories and various topics
- Informed larger audiences of smaller organizations and upcoming events
- Authored news articles for Chicago Tribune Media's weekly newspaper distributed to 32 Illinois suburbs in print and online
- Utilized AP style writing

Education
Indiana University Bachelor of Arts, School of Journalism Bloomington, IN CareerFoundry UX Design certificate University of Wollongong Study abroad program New South Wales, Australia
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