

MEGAN MENCHACA

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JOURNALISM EXPERIENCE

Houston Chronicle

Houston ISD Reporter

July 2023 - present

- Cover the state takeover of Houston ISD, the largest school district in Texas, with focus on accountability and data-driven stories
- Broke several stories, including the district's illegal suspension of homeless students and removal of \$2.5K employee stipends
- Develop and co-author "The Report Card," a weekly newsletter giving readers an inside look at Houston-area education news

Copy Editing Intern

June 2021 – August 2021

- Copy edited articles and wrote headlines, captions for print editions of Houston Chronicle and San Antonio Express-News
- Selected to attend weeklong residency on multiplatform editing through selective Dow Jones News Fund annual intern program

Austin American-Statesman

Higher Education Reporter

August 2021 - July 2023

- Reported breaking news, daily articles and enterprise on higher education, the University of Texas at Austin and UT System
- Covered education issues at the Texas Legislature, including debates over tenure and diversity, equity and inclusion efforts
- Authored four-part series exploring on-campus housing affordability and campus wages for students and faculty at UT-Austin
- Contributed to K-12 coverage, including reporting on Uvalde school shooting and Austin ISD interim superintendent selection

Digital Intern

February 2019 - May 2019

- Wrote several stories on trending news and arts events, including SXSW and the Legislature, for the Statesman and Austin 360
- Re-launched "Austin Answered" series, a project where I solicited and reported answers to audience questions about local news

The Texas Tribune

Reporting Fellow

January 2021 - May 2021

- Covered statewide politics, public policy, the COVID-19 pandemic and additional political news during the 87th legislative session
- Interviewed lawmakers, experts and other Texans for articles on COVID-19, proposed state legislation and 2021 winter storm
- Shared stories of Texans worried over access to vaccines, relaxed business restrictions and loss of unemployment benefits

Engagement Fellow

August 2019 - May 2020

- Helped manage and produce content for The Texas Tribune's social media accounts, including Twitter, Facebook and Instagram
- Created Twitter threads, Instagram stories and other digital posts on several subjects, such as COVID-19, abortion and elections
- Assisted with the daily political newsletter and 2020 primary election guide. Reviewed analytics with CrowdTangle and Parse.ly

The Daily Texan

Managing Editor

August 2020 - December 2020

- Led University of Texas student newspaper with 230+ journalists, where I approved all content and oversaw all non-opinion teams
- Won Weekly Newspaper of the Year from College Media Association, 2nd Best Newspaper from Texas Intercollegiate Press Association
- Previously served as digital director, news editor, social media editor, newsletters editor, associate news editor and senior news reporter

The Dallas Morning News

Audience Engagement Intern

June 2020 - August 2020

- Published daily social media posts, managed homepage, moderated website comments and sent desktop and mobile alerts
- Produced newsletters featuring updates on COVID-19, Black Lives Matter protests, state news and major local news stories
- Managed DMN Politics Twitter, assisted with coverage of Gov. Greg Abbott and wrote social media posts for July runoff election

EDUCATION

The University of Texas at Austin

Bachelor of Journalism and B.A. in Government

Graduation: May 2021