

# MEGAN MENCHACA

mmenchaca@statesman.com | meganmenchaca.com | Twitter: @meganmmenchaca

## JOURNALISM EXPERIENCE

### Austin American-Statesman

*Higher Education Reporter*

*August 2021 - present*

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

*Digital Intern*

*February 2019 – May 2019*

- Wrote dozens of stories about 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

### Houston Chronicle

*Copy Editing Intern*

*June 2021 – August 2021*

- Copy edited articles and wrote headlines and captions for daily print editions of Houston Chronicle and San Antonio Express-News
- Selected to attend weeklong residency on multiplatform editing at the University of Texas through Dow Jones News Fund program

### The Texas Tribune

*Reporting Fellow*

*January 2021 - May 2021*

- Covered stories on the general assignment beat with focus on the 87<sup>th</sup> legislative session, statewide political news and public policy
- Interviewed lawmakers, experts and other Texans for articles on the coronavirus pandemic, proposed bills and 2021 winter storm
- Shared stories of Texans worried over access to COVID-19 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 primary social media accounts, including Twitter, Facebook and Instagram
- Created Twitter threads, Instagram stories and daily social media posts on several subjects, such as COVID-19, abortion and elections
- Assisted with The Brief, a daily political newsletter, and 2020 primary election guide. Reviewed analytics with CrowdTangle and Parse.ly

### The Dallas Morning News

*Audience Engagement Intern*

*June 2020 to August 2020*

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

### The Austin Chronicle

*News Intern*

*June 2019 to August 2019*

- Published multiple news and culture stories about Austin community and surrounding suburban area for local alt-weekly newspaper

### The Daily Texan

*Managing Editor*

*August 2020 to December 2020*

- Led student newspaper with 230+ journalists at the University of Texas, where I approved all content and did final edits on articles
- Edited all non-opinion departments, including news, multimedia and digital teams. Oversaw transition to weekly print due to COVID-19
- Won Weekly Newspaper of the Year from College Media Association, 2<sup>nd</sup> Best Newspaper from Texas Intercollegiate Press Association

## EDUCATION

### The University of Texas at Austin

*Bachelor of Journalism, B.A. in Government — May 2021*