

BAHAR OSTADAN

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EDUCATION

Columbia University Graduate School of Journalism — *M.S. Journalism* AUG 2021 - MAY 2022

- Received honors in reporting and writing classes. Executive board member, Arab and Middle Eastern Journalists Association. Courses: Investigative techniques, documentary making.
- Master's project: Female pedophiles who were sexually abused as children.

Tufts University — *B.A. Economics and International Relations* AUG 2013 - MAY 2017

- Graduated *Cum Laude*. Semester abroad: American University in Cairo; studied Arabic and economics. Summer abroad: London School of Economics; studied political economics.

EXPERIENCE

Freelance reporter, New York, NY APR 2019 - PRESENT

- Published in [The Guardian](#), [The Village Voice](#), [Vogue](#), [The Washington Post](#), [The New York Daily News](#), [The Asian American Writers' Workshop](#), and [SF Chronicle](#).
- Reported on: A vigilante biker gang that combats child abuse; first-time pawn shop users, desperate after federal pandemic aid dried up.
- Produced a short documentary about single moms in the homeless shelter system who can't find a landlord to accept their rental assistance vouchers.

Acumen, New York, NY — *Communications Associate* OCT 2019 - JUL 2021

- Nonprofit fund of \$153M that invests donations into social enterprises based in high-risk countries. Observed the pitfalls of using capitalist models to yield a social return on investment.
- Wrote narrative features. Led psychographic audience research and marketing analytics. Created first growth marketing strategy for small donor acquisition.

Kantar Media, New York, NY — *Research Manager* AUG 2017 - SEP 2019

- Market research firm that measures digital advertising effectiveness. Observed how companies position their products to consumer groups based on race. Learned how to manage complex datasets.
- Managed team of 4 analysts and 3 data scientists for \$2M clients. Designed research strategies across industries: cloud technology, consumer packaged goods, and financial services.

Tufts Institute for Global Leadership, Tunis, Tunisia — *Investigator* JAN 2014 - MAY 2016

- Investigated Tunisia's transition to democracy after the Arab Spring. Spent 3 weeks interviewing government officials drafting the country's new constitution in a Google doc.

Grameen Bank, Dhaka, Bangladesh — *Researcher* DEC 2014 - MAY 2015

- Researched the impact of microloans on poverty and health indicators. Spent 5 weeks interviewing rural village residents outside Dhaka 1-3 years after their microloan disbursement.

LANGUAGES/SKILLS: Farsi; Arabic (read/write); Adobe Audition; Adobe Premiere Pro; Microsoft Excel

REFERENCES:

Dale Maharidge: Master's advisor, Columbia Journalism School: dm2021@columbia.edu

Howard French: Reporting professor, Columbia Journalism School: hf2205@columbia.edu