

# Mary D'Ambrosio

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**I've worked for two decades as a journalist, correspondent and magazine editor, specializing in international reporting. I'm an assistant professor of professional practice at Rutgers University, direct a summer foreign reporting program that alternates between Istanbul, Turkey, and Florence, Italy, and am the founding editor of Big World Magazine, a multimedia magazine that showcases narrative journalism about places.**

## Academic Experience

**Assistant Professor of Professional Practice, Rutgers University.** Teach magazine writing and travel writing, and am developing a new "Writing about Social Issues" course, where students will analyze media coverage of income inequality, immigration and climate change, and write social issues stories of their own. I am also developing a digital magazine that will feature top undergraduate student work. *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 about the Mediterranean" course that included a writing and reporting week in Spain, and arranged for professional publication of top student work. Won research 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 writer **Pete Hamill**, of **Street Level**, the institute's annual online magazine of top undergrad 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 present**

**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** <http://ieiimedia.com/istanbul>. 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://ieiimedia.com/faces-of-istanbul-2011>. *Sept. 2010-present*

**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](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 and launched the international cultural affairs magazine **Big World Magazine**, to showcase top writing and multimedia reportage about places. Launched: March 11, 2009. <http://www.bigworldmagazine.com> Twitter @bigworldmag *Jan. 2008 to present.*

**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**; *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** (daily circ 100,000/Sunday 177,000), 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** (circ 15,000), Cortland, New York. Education and health reporter, covering two state universities, six public school systems and two hospitals. *Feb. 1984 to Dec. 1984.*

## Interviews and Media Coverage

Daily Targum <http://www.dailytargum.com/article/2015/10/international-journalist-joins-journalism-and-media-studies-faculty>

World Affairs Council Member Spotlight <http://ctwac.com/2014/09/09/september-member-spotlight-dr-mary-dambrosio/>

Columbia Journalism Review [http://www.cjr.org/news\\_startups\\_guide/2012/06/big-world-magazine.php](http://www.cjr.org/news_startups_guide/2012/06/big-world-magazine.php)

International Journalists Network <http://ijnet.org/en/blog/qa-big-world-magazine-founder-and-journalism-professor-mary-dambrosio>

The Spain Scoop <http://www.thespainscoop.com/the-scoop-interviews-no-7-mary-dambrosio-big-world-magazine/>

## Languages/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.

### **My Grants and Awards**

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, January 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**

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

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

Best Travel Writing 2007 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/>

Best Travel Writing 2007 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/>

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

## **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 division), The Online News Association, The Committee of Concerned Journalists, The Authors Guild, Journalism and Women Symposium, The World Policy Institute, The World Affairs Council of Connecticut

Social media groups: Founded the Facebook groups “International Reporting Profs,” a venue for faculty and correspondents to discuss trends and techniques in international reporting; and “Writing the Mediterranean,” a public group for discussion of Mediterranean affairs. Members include the former head of the BBC World Service; the founder of the news literacy movement and NPR’s former ombudsman <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, content management systems (CMS) Wordpress and Moveable Type; editing with Final Cut Pro X.