

James Benedict



The best display of my work is found at jamesbenedict.github.io. I've also included links on my resume and below for your convenience.

Longform template

As the Indiana Daily Student's Digital Director, I developed an educational web design template that allowed other designers to focus on designing and not debugging. The project also served as the first official digital microsite style guide for the paper.

Making a tool for others was tremendously rewarding. Watching the number of people with digital skills on our staff multiply made me feel as if I had given something back to a newsroom I love. Beyond reducing my time designing longform stories, it's trained more than twenty designers and became integral to the curriculum of the most advanced visual storytelling class at Indiana University.

Indiana Daily Student Website redesign

The Indiana Daily Student has a 150 year history of great independent reporting, but is relying more on its website because it is reducing the number of days in print. I lead the digital redesign and reorganization project that helped transition the IDS to a web first publication cycle.

Untreated

The opioid crisis affects Indiana tragically like much of the country. Despite advice from medical experts, the state overwhelmingly does not use medicine to treat addiction.

I created a series of graphics contextualizing the narrative and developed a custom website to improve user experience on a lengthy story. I reported the data used in all graphics.

Lost in Transition

Clinics treating HIV in rural Uganda cannot keep track of migrant workers who travel between clinics frequently. This discourages fishermen from maintaining treatment in Kalangala, a chain of islands in the middle of Lake Victoria.

I reported on HIV in Uganda for a month as an intern with the Daily Monitor, East Africa's largest independent paper. I spoke with sources ranging from the president's personal doctor and adviser to the fisherfolk. I wrote two stories, one for an Ugandan audience and another for an American.

Shock Tactics: The Toll

Reuters found more than 150 deaths attributed to a Taser's stun, despite the weapon being marketed as non-lethal. Reuters compiled records of over a thousand Taser related deaths to create the largest database of its kind.

I played an integral part in creating this database as a researcher and wrote one story in the larger series. I interviewed officials, analyzed legal documents and filed requests across the country.