

# James Benedict



jamesbenedict0@gmail.com  
[jamesbenedict.github.io](https://github.com/jamesbenedict)  
317-544-8031

## Experience

### Reuters News Agency - Washington D.C. (remote)

#### News Apprentice, March - August 2017

Reported for an investigative series about Tasers with the national desk. Helped populate our database with original reporting and cowrote a story. Streamlined my reporting with Python. Conducted interviews, gathered primary documents and researched using media/legal databases.

### Indiana Daily Student - Bloomington, IN

#### Digital Redesign Manager, February - April 2017

Worked with editorial, advertising and a contracted CMS provider to redesign the website. Focused on improving mobile user experience and increasing ad revenue. Tested and revised mockups based on user feedback.

#### Investigations Reporter, January - December 2016

Analyzed and visualized data. Created maps, charts, and custom websites. Stories on campaign finance, campus crime and health care.

#### Digital Director, August - December 2015

Managed editors producing interactive and social content. Created multiple responsive websites and data visualizations. Developed well documented software. Managed homepage during breaking news.

#### Digital Editor, January - May 2015

Produced interactive graphics, websites and videos. Introduced analytics into editorial meetings. Developed a digital style guide.

#### Photographer, Jan 2014 - Dec 2016

Made photo essays, breaking news, and illustrations. Designed websites for optimal photo layouts. Covered beats. Toned and selected own photos.

### Daily Monitor - Kampala, Uganda

#### HIV Reporting Intern, May - June 2016

Reported on HIV medication shortages and patient records for East Africa's largest independent newspaper. Wrote a story for an Ugandan audience and another for an American. Made photos and developed a website for the story. Studied at African Centre for Media Excellence.

### Society for News Design - Bloomington, IN

#### Designer, June 2015 - June 2017

Designed pages for the 36th-38th "Best of News Design Book". Wrote software to improve efficiency on the 38th book.

#### President and Treasurer, October 2016 - May 2017

Managed the club and organized designers for the SND38 Book. Responsible for managing a \$10 thousand budget.

#### Facilitator, January 2016 - January 2017

Facilitated the SND37 and 38 contests by helping select individual pages to appear in the book from the winning entries.

## Education

### Indiana University, May 2017

Bachelor of Arts in Journalism  
Certificate in Informatics (28 credits)  
GPA 3.59

## Awards

### Columbia Scholastic Press Association Gold Circle

1st Photo Illustration, 2015  
1st News Feature - Digital, 2014

### Society for Professional Journalists

National Finalist Online News Reporting,  
2016

### Indiana Collegiate Press Association

2nd Animation / Interactive Graphic, 2017  
2nd Informational Graphic, 2016  
1st News Feature Reporting Online, 2016  
1st Feature and Sports Photo Yearbook, 2016  
1st News Photo, 2016  
2nd Photo Essay, 2015

## Skills

### Web Development

Javascript, JQuery, HTML, CSS, SASS, D3, Flask, Leaflet, CartoDB, Gulp, Git, Responsive design, Basic PHP, Wordpress.

### Data Analysis

Python, SQL, Excel, Pandas, Numpy, Matplot, Jupyter notebook, Web scraping, Relational database design.

### Additional

Illustrator, Photoshop, InDesign, QGIS, UI design, AP Style, FOIA Requests, DSLR Photography, Nexis, Factiva, Westlaw.

## References

### Jason Szep, Reuters

jason.szep@thomsonreuters.com  
202-310-5477

### Peter Eisler, Reuters

peter.eisler@thomsonreuters.com  
202-898-8430

### Ron Johnson, Indiana Daily Student

ronejohn@indiana.edu