

Jake Neenan

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EDUCATION

Columbia University Graduate School of Journalism | New York, N.Y. | Expected August 2023

Master of Science, Data Journalism, with advanced training in investigative and computational techniques of data acquisition and analysis to report stories focusing on institutional failure. Master's project: Currently working on an investigation into deaths of incarcerated people in New York State prisons and jails. Projects so far include:

- Investigation into New York State's use of prison labor and the conditions of incarcerated workers
- Statistical analysis of 10 years of Boston Police Department disciplinary and promotion records

Boston University | Boston, Mass. | May 2022

Bachelor of Arts, Physics. Rigorous grounding in experimental and mathematical methods of classical and modern physics.

JOURNALISM EXPERIENCE

Journalism Intern, Boston University Spark!, Boston, Mass., Jan. 2021 – May 2022

Worked on multiple data-driven journalistic projects for media outlets that partnered with BU's start-up incubator, including:

- Reported and wrote an investigative [piece](#) on the Massachusetts Department of Correction that was published on the front page of the Boston Globe. Requested and analyzed thousands of pages of inmate grievance forms.
- Read and classified 1000+ federal appellate decisions and newspaper archives to train machine learning models to identify instances of prosecutorial misconduct.
- Aided in the design of textual analysis algorithms to develop a tool for identifying racial bias in local news coverage for the NAACP and GBH, a Boston NPR affiliate.
- Analyzed 2009-2019 Boston voter and census data for correlations between voting patterns and demographic changes. Analysis formed the basis for a [story](#) in the Bay State Banner, a local Boston newspaper that serves the city's Black and Latino residents.

Student Journalist, The Boston Globe, Boston, Mass., Sept. 2021 – Jan. 2022

Partnered with Boston University and The Boston Globe to report daily and enterprise stories on news events in the Boston suburb of Newton. Published stories on topics including how parents [adjusted](#) to the pandemic and the [restoration](#) of a historic church tower.

ADDITIONAL EXPERIENCE

Intern, Boston University Physical Electronics Lab, Boston, Mass., Jan. – May 2020

Built and used C to program a gaussmeter capable of accurately measuring magnetic fields thousands of times weaker than a kitchen magnet. Organized and ensured delivery of components for physics students and researchers to complete remote lab work.

SKILLS

Programming: Python, Java, R, Playwright, Pandas, Beautiful Soup Tika/tesseract, SQL, Command line, Scraping, Regex

Investigative: Court records, FOIA, State record laws, PACER, Excel, Advanced Google search

REFERENCES

Brooke Williams | Professor, Computational Journalism, Boston University | (202) 615-3551 | brooke@bu.edu

Jonathan Soma | Director of Data Journalism, Columbia Journalism School | (540) 850-7667 | js4571@columbia.edu