

Chris Berdik

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Experience

Freelance Journalist and Book Author

2009-Present

- Author of *Clamor* (Norton, May 2025) a book about noise pollution, soundscapes, and taking sound seriously
- Author of *Mind Over Mind: The Surprising Power of Expectations* (Penguin 2012), a book about the placebo effect in medical and non-medical contexts
- Feature writing for *Wired*, the *New York Times*, *Popular Science*, the *Los Angeles Times*, the *Washington Post*, the *Boston Globe*, *Salon*, the *Daily Beast*, *New Scientist*, *Playboy*, *Politico*, *Undark*, and *Boston Magazine*, among other outlets
- Contract writing and editing for the Harvard School of Public Health, Joan Ganz Cooney Center, and Jobs For the Future

Senior Writer / Staff Writer Bostonia and BU Today

2007-2009 / 2005-2007

- Wrote magazine features on research and technology
- Edited articles for daily news website and alumni magazine
- Reported and produced text, audio, slideshow, and video features

Freelance Journalist

2001-2005

- Wrote regular news features for several sections of the *Boston Globe* and the *Sunday Magazine*

Research Editor Mother Jones

1999-2000

- Managed six fact-checkers and directed the internship and fellowship program.
- Wrote investigative pieces on a pharmaceutical company's search for a "shopaholic pill" and the Department of Energy's anti-whistleblower policies

Staff Editor Atlantic Monthly

1997-1999

- Responsible for fact checking, article research, and manuscript evaluation

Education

Stanford University MA Journalism

2001

- Awarded full-tuition fellowship

Harvard University
BA History and Literature**1996**

- Graduated magna cum laude with a focus on Germany and America

Grants and Fellowships

Pulitzer Center on Crisis Reporting**2019, 2013**

- Reporting grant for feature on noise pollution and power in India for Undark.
- Reporting grant for features on Cambodia's Lake Tonle Sap for the New York Times and the Virginia Quarterly Review

Solutions Journalism Network**2018**

- Reporting grant for feature on battle over noise pollution in Olympic National Park for High Country News

Society of Environmental Journalists**2015**

- Reporting grant for feature on conservative evangelical environmentalists for Politico

National Association of Science Writers**2015**

- Career development grant for week-long course in data journalism at Boston University

Institute for Journalism and Natural Resources**2000**

- Summer fellowship for field reporting and workshops on natural resource issues in Maine

Speaking Engagements

- Speaker for "Reporting with the Pulitzer Center: Stories of Power and Water in Asia" at Yale University, hosted by the Yale Program on Climate Change Communication, January 28, 2020
- Panelist for ComSciCon: Communicating Science Conference at MIT, June 9-11, 2016
- Panelist and speaker for "Solutions Journalism Workshop and Storytelling Event in Washington, DC" cohosted by the Pulitzer Center and the Solutions Journalism Network, November 17, 2014
- Panelist for Pew Fellows Program in Marine Conservation Annual Meeting in Dublin, Ireland, hosted by the Pew Charitable Trusts, October 17-18, 2013

Skills and Credentials

- Basic HTML, Web scraping, Microsoft Excel, Audacity sound editing, and Photoshop
- Proficient in German and Spanish
- Member: National Association of Science Writers and Society of Environmental Journalists