

# Vanessa Hrvatin

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## About Me

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I am a science communicator, writer and multimedia journalist, currently working as a freelance journalist and Communications Coordinator at UBC's Djavad Mowafaghian Centre for Brain Health. My work has appeared in many mainstream media and medical outlets, including the *Canadian Medical Association Journal*, *Maclean's* and the *National Post*. I am efficient and detail oriented, and have extensive experience working on a variety of writing projects.

## Education

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**Master of Journalism** **2015-2017**  
*University of British Columbia* | Vancouver, B.C.

- Helen Badenoch Scholarship for community health reporting (2017)
- UBC Arts Graduate Research Award (2017)
- UBC Faculty of Arts Graduate Award (2015)

**BSc (Honours) Environmental Science with Specialization in Biology** **2010-2014**  
*Queen's University* | Kingston, Ont.

- Dean's Honor List for sustaining an average over 80% (2012-2014)

**Additional Courses** **April 2021**

- Continuing Studies course on Adobe for Design and Production (InDesign, Illustrator and Photoshop) from Emily Carr University

## Science and Communications Experience

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**Djavad Mowafaghian Centre for Brain Health** **Present**  
*Communications Coordinator* | Vancouver, B.C.

- Responsible for both internal and external communications for the Centre, which is made up of over 100 Principle Investigators
- Write stories highlighting work coming out of the Centre, write weekly newsletters, manage the website, manage social media channels and produce reports
- Work in collaboration with many faculties within UBC and Vancouver Coastal Health

**MDPI** **Present**  
*English editor* | Vancouver, B.C.

- Responsible for copy editing manuscripts for MDPI, an open access science publication
- Edit manuscripts which span a wide range of scientific disciplines

**Kids Brain Health Network (formerly NeuroDevNet)** **Present**  
*Science writer and communicator* | Vancouver, B.C.

- Interview researchers and people living with neurodevelopmental disorders, write feature

stories and contribute to various Network reports

**Vancouver Coastal Health**

**September 2020-January 2021**

*Communications Contractor* | Vancouver, B.C.

- Joined the VCH team as a contractor and worked with the communications department to assist with various communication needs, including writing news story for the web and creating presentations about new initiatives such as launching Slack

**Simon Fraser University**

**July 2017-Nov. 2017**

*Media consultant* | Vancouver, B.C.

- Wrote website content for citizen science radon gas project, interviewed researchers and people affected by radon gas, advised on what information to relay to the public

**The University of British Columbia**

**Sept. 2016-May 2017**

*Teaching Assistant* | Vancouver, B.C.

- Teaching assistant for an undergraduate course focused on communicating science
- Responsible for teaching classes, assisting students and grading assignments

## **Journalism and Other Writing Experience**

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**Freelance Journalist**

**Present**

*Journalist* | Vancouver, B.C.

- Pitch, report, and write stories for several publications including the *Canadian Medical Association Journal*, *Maclean's* and *Reader's Digest*
- On contract with Healthing, a digital publication, where I file a weekly health feature

**CSuite Content**

**July 2019-October 2020**

*Writer* | Vancouver, B.C.

- Produced content for clients which involved curating interview questions, extensive research and writing articles highlighting the client's strategic goals

**Michelle Lang Fellow in Journalism**

**Nov. 2017-Feb. 2019**

*Journalist* | Toronto and Calgary

- Pitched, reported, and wrote daily news stories for the National Post and Calgary Herald
- Produced a three-part multimedia series on Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorder (FASD), which was published in Postmedia papers across the country

**Global News BC**

**Aug. 2017-Nov. 2017**

*Writer* | Burnaby, B.C.

- Wrote broadcast scripts, built the newscast and chased local and international stories

**The Globe and Mail**

**Jan. 2017**

*Intern* | Vancouver, B.C.

- Pitched, reported and wrote daily news stories covering a wide span of topics