

Why Op-Eds?

One of the most important components of a liberal arts education is learning how to conduct research and prepare academic papers. However, for those interested in working in policy, one of the most important skills that they can learn is how to distill the complex information learned through research into a condensed format that is more likely to be read by both policymakers and the general public—whether through policy briefs, op-eds, or social media campaigns. Developing these skills is often not part of our educational curriculum, but is critical for the job market. One area where students and researchers can get a head start developing these skills and bolstering their resumes is by leveraging their research and unique world views to write and publish editorials on one of the many different policy sites or newspapers that accept open submissions. Navigating the op-ed writing and pitch process can, however, be daunting.

Reach out now for
pricing and availability!



About Adam

Adam Ratzlaff is a specialist and consultant in Inter American affairs and a member of Diplomatic Courier's World in 2050 Brain Trust.

With over a decade of experience conducting research on regional affairs, Ratzlaff has consulted for the World Bank, the Inter-American Development Bank, and the U.S. Department of State and worked with various organizations on analyzing Inter-American affairs. He also regularly engages with stakeholders on Inter American affairs in the public, private, and non profit sector to provide policy recommendations and analysis. Ratzlaff is the author or co-author of over 100 public-facing analyses, reports, and academic works on topics related to regional affairs.

Ratzlaff is a PhD Candidate (ABD) in International Relations at Florida International University and holds an MA from the Josef Korbel School of International Studies (University of Denver) and a BA from Tulane University, where he triple-majored in international relations, economics, and Latin American studies.

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Op-Ed Workshop & Mentoring



Adam Ratzlaff
Specialist in Inter-American Affairs

Op-Ed Fundamentals Workshop

To introduce writers to the importance and fundamentals of op-ed writing, Ratzlaff offers a workshop on op-ed writing and maximizing policy impact.

The workshop covers:

- Why Write an Op-Ed
- How Op-Eds Can Influence the Policy Making Process
- Finding Your Argument
- Style and Voice in an Op-Ed
- Choosing a Publication Venue
- Recommendations for Pitching Your Article

Op-ed workshops can be tailored to the school or organization in order to focus on specific topics and the levels of participant expertise.



Where We've Published

Ratzlaff has published over 100 op-eds and analyses that have been featured on over 25 sites and newspapers. Program participants have been featured in The National Interest, Global Americans, Diplomatic Courier, LatinoAmerica21, and the Young Professionals in Foreign Policy's Charged Affairs.

Testimonials

"Attending the workshop was a transformative experience for me. Beyond mastering the art of thinking and writing op-eds, the workshop taught me how to effectively communicate complex ideas and critical analysis to wide-ranging audiences. Thanks to Adam's guidance, my career reached new heights. Now, my op-eds have been featured in esteemed platforms like The Diplomat, NACLA, Global Americans, and EUI's Latam Focus Group, amongst others. I highly recommend it to anyone serious about making an impact through their writing!"

Salvador Lescano

"Adam's workshop helped me demystify what it means to write an Op-Ed. For me, the writing process is not usually straightforward, and Adam's editorial comments helped me reflect on my writing process, giving me a good nudge in the right direction."

Nicolás Cabrera-Schneider

Adam helped me write my own Op-Ed, focusing on translating a technically heavy academic paper into digestible language for a broader audience. I want to highlight Adam's direct yet kind and empathetic review process. I never felt like anything was overlooked, and I genuinely felt encouraged to enhance my research, drafting, and editing skills at a steady pace... I highly recommend his writing workshops to any professional looking to share their ideas effectively through written mediums."

Zacarias Saderup



Writing Mentorship Program

Leveraging his experience as a writer and editor, Adam provides tailored 1-on-1 mentorship for interested individuals.

Through a series of virtual meetings, personalized editorial feedback, and coaching, Ratzlaff helps writers hone their argument, polish their article, and pitch their op-ed to reputable websites and newspapers.

Opportunities are available for individuals of all experience levels. Adam has worked with undergraduate and graduate students as well as faculty to transform their ideas into policy relevant publications.

*Discounted participation in the mentorship program is available for writing workshop participants and can be incorporated into workshop pricing packages.



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