

Sayantika Mandal

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Education

- 2017 – 2019 **MFA in Writing (Fiction)**
University of San Francisco, CA
– Workshops: Long Fiction I and II, Nonfiction, Short Fiction
– Seminars: Techniques of Long Fiction, Contemporary Experiments in Fiction, Multimedia Storytelling, Teaching Writing, Special Topics in Poetry
– Thesis: *Driftwood* (a novel)
– GPA: 4.0
- 2015 – 2017 **Master of Arts in English**
Indira Gandhi National Open University (IGNOU), New Delhi
– British Poetry, British Drama, British Novel, Aspects of Language, American Literature, Literary Criticism and Theory, New Literatures in English, American Novel
– Percentage Score: 73.38%, First Class 1:1
- 2009 – 2010 **Postgraduate Diploma in English Journalism**
Indian Institute of Mass Communication (IIMC), New Delhi
– Mass Communication, History of Press, Reporting, Editing, Cyber-journalism, Advertising and Public Relations
– Percentage Score: 72.3%, First Class 1:1
- 2006 – 2009 **Bachelor of Arts (Honors)**
Presidency College, University of Calcutta (CU)
– English (Hons.)
– History, Political Science (General)
– Percentage Score: 59.125%, Upper Second Class 2:1

Editorial Experience

- Aug, 2017 – Present **News Writer at Office of Marketing and Communications, USF**
– Writing and editing articles for USF News and *USF Magazine*
– Managing social media handles and creating social media posts on Facebook and Twitter about the latest articles on USF News.
- Aug, 2018 – Aug, 2019 **Editor-in-Chief at Switchback** (literary journal of USF MFA program)
– Reviewing, selecting and editing fiction and nonfiction for *Switchback*, conducting editorial meetings, contacting authors and preparing publication schedules, overseeing all editorial work
– Representing *Switchback* at Association of Writers & Writing Programs (AWP) Conference 2019, Portland, Oregon
- Jan, 2018 – July, 2018 **Fiction Editor at Switchback**
– Reviewing, selecting and editing stories to be published in *Switchback* journal
- May, 2011 – Apr, 2012 **Copy Editor at Hindustan Times**
– Independently compiled and edited *weekend special* pages of HT
– Independently compiled and edited *metro* pages of HT

- Independently compiled and edited *New Year special* pages of HT
- Wrote *feature stories* for weekend special pages on travel and heritage
- May, 2010 – Apr, 2011 **Trainee Journalist at Hindustan Times**
 - Compiled *Time Out* page of HT Edge, New Delhi edition
 - Editing copies and making *world desk* pages of HT, Kolkata edition
 - Editing copies and making *metro* pages of HT Live, Kolkata Edition
 - Writing *feature stories* for HT Live and weekend special pages
- Jul, 2009 – May, 2010 **Member of the Editorial Team of IIMC News**
 - Reporting, editing, designing and publishing a bimonthly journal at IIMC

Other Professional Experience

- Jan, 2020 – Present **Adjunct Faculty at College of Arts and Sciences, USF**
 - Teaching ENGL220: Introduction to Creative Writing
- Jan, 2019 – Dec, 2019 **Teaching Assistant with Prof. Omar Miranda**
 - Courses: Literature of Exile, Late Romantic Period, Introduction to Literary Study, Romanticism and Exile
 - Mentoring students and providing feedback, grading quizzes and examinations, teaching the classes in Prof. Miranda's absence
- Mar, 2019 – May, 2019 **Creative Writing Instructor**
 - Conducted and taught a six week writing workshop for seniors at Magnolia Senior Center, South San Francisco
 - Conducted and taught a six week writing workshop for middle school students at MagicZone afterschool program, which primarily caters to low income and marginalized youth of color.
- Aug, 2018 – Dec, 2018 **Teaching Assistant, Ignatian Literary Magazine**
 - Mentoring students and helping them run the undergraduate literary magazine, and fundraising.
- Feb, 2018 – May, 2018 **Graduate Research Assistant with Prof. Bruce Snider**
 - Assisting Prof. Snider in his research
- Aug, 2017 – Dec, 2017 **Graduate Student Tutor in Athletics Department, USF**
 - Tutoring and mentoring USF student athletes in their academic activities including helping them with homework and exam preparation

Conferences

- *Lost in Translation*, in panel *Translation and Hybrid Forms*, **NonfictionNOW 2018**, Phoenix, Arizona
- **AWP 2019**, Portland, Oregon

Software Known

- Microsoft Office, Adobe InDesign, Tableau, QuarkXpress

Selected Publications

Literary

- *Lies*, Cerebration, Spring, 2016.
- *It's Time For The Argumentative Bride*, Feminism in India, May 5, 2017.
- *Hunger*, Spellbound, The Times of India, Kolkata edition, Oct. 3, 2008.

Feature articles

- *Eat Like A Don*, USF Magazine, Winter, 2019
- *Making History Matter*, USF Magazine, Summer, 2019.
- *Digging up the Past*, USF Magazine, Summer, 2019.
- *Stuffed Toys Patch Hearts*, USF Magazine, Summer, 2019.
- *Trapped at the Border*, USF News, Mar. 20, 2019.
- *On Stage at SF Opera*, USF Magazine, Winter, 2018.
- *Are Firearms a Public Health Threat*, USF Magazine, Summer 2018.
- *Michelin-Rated Mentorship*, USF Magazine, Winter, 2017.
- *Between two worlds*, Culture Corner, HT, Kolkata Edition, Aug. 1, 2011.
- *Art for arts sake*, Culture Corner, HT, Kolkata Edition, Jun. 20, 2011.
- *Larger than life*, Culture Corner, HT, Kolkata Edition, May 23, 2011.
- *'Founder' status lost, Charnock lies in exile today*, Culture Corner, HT, Kolkata Edition, May 9, 2011.
- *Dharamsala: A refuge for the people of Tibet*, Footloose, HT, Kolkata Edition, Nov. 21, 2010.
- *Web in 2 Mins*, a daily column in HT Edge, New Delhi from May, 2010 to Sep., 2010.

Academic Achievements

- *Postgraduate Teaching Fellowship* at USF for Spring 2020.
- *Jan Zivic Fellowship* from MFA program at USF for Fall 2019.
- *Tin House* craft intensive scholarship for a writing session with **Alexander Chee**, March 2019.
- *Deccan Herald Award* for being the 3rd Topper in English Journalism, 2009-10 at the Indian Institute of Mass Communication.
- *Arun Kumar Roy Memorial Prize* for securing the highest marks in the Part I Test in B. A., 2007, Presidency College, Kolkata.
- *Bholanath Das Memorial Prize* for securing the highest marks in the B.A.(Hons.) annual Exam, 2007, Presidency College, Kolkata.
- Ranked 2nd in Quiz at Roarr09, Indian Institute of Mass Communication, New Delhi.
- *Academic Merit Award* for securing the highest marks in the Higher Secondary Examination, 2006, Bidhan Chandra Institution for Girls, Durgapur.