

Nathan Thompson

Curriculum Vitae

Personal Details

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Summary

- Journalist, consultant and editor based in Southeast Asia for eight years
- Previous media advisor to the UN Fact-Finding Mission on Myanmar
- Editor for United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime
- Former president of the Overseas Press Club of Cambodia
- Journalism bylines for: *The New York Times*, *Al Jazeera*, *Telegraph*, *Guardian*, *CNN*, *BBC*, *NBC*, *USA Today* and others
- Photographer, published widely in major news outlets
- Produced videos for UN Fact-Finding Mission on Myanmar and others
- Previously worked for executive coaching firm. Clients included Costa Coffee, Aviva Insurance and Aegon

Education

2005-2008	Bachelor of Philosophy and Communication Studies, Joint Honors	<i>Cardiff University, Wales</i>
2010	Existentialist Philosophy	<i>University of Texas</i> (online distance course)
2012	Contemporary American Poetry	<i>University of Pennsylvania</i> (online distance course)
2016	Video Journalism	Two-week workshop in Bangkok
2018	Hostile Environments and First Aid Training	<i>Rory Peck Trust</i> (four-day course)
2018	Basic security awareness certificate (BSITF II)	<i>United Nations Department of Safety and Security</i>

Experience

Freelance Journalist and Writer (January 2011 – present)

- Produced features, essays and news reports for international press including: *The New York Times*, *Al Jazeera*, *Telegraph*, *Guardian*, *Independent*, *Christian Science Monitor*, *BBC*, *Slate*, *Salon*, *CNN*, *NBC* and *USA Today*
- Photojournalism published in *CNN*, *BBC*, *Al Jazeera*, *Vice News* and *Christian Science Monitor*
- High understanding of ethics. Including interviewing and photographing children and marginalized groups.
- Covered major and breaking stories in dangerous areas including Uyghur crisis in Xinjiang, the Rohingya genocide, Philippine drug killings and two rounds of Cambodian elections
- Conducted in-depth interviews to the highest ethical standards. Protected sources identities where necessary and held sensitive information using cyber-security techniques

United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (October – December 2018)

Editor

- Provided editorial services for all English-language content created by the Border Management Team
- Reworked and restructured sections and paragraphs for clarity and edited in a consistent style and voice
- Drew on relevant studies to enrich content
- Determined the most efficient approach to managing the large volume of content generated and used “track changes” in Microsoft Word

UN International Independent Fact-Finding Mission on Myanmar (August – October 2018)

Media Advisor

- Coordinated and advised the Fact-Finding Mission (FFM) on media strategy for the launch of its final report on human rights atrocities in Myanmar
- Created a media strategy to ensure the FFM’s report was covered internationally with high impact
- Developed media and communication tools to highlight important findings using graphs and boxes and contributed to the creation of infographics
- Wrote press releases
- [Created a video communication product using satellite data showing the destruction of Rohingya villages](#)
- Organized and facilitated press conferences and interviews
- Communicated on behalf of the FFM with journalists, diplomats and civil society groups

Save the Children (April 2018)

- Edited and conducted research for Dr. Michelle Tauson for the Save the Children report: [Forgotten Futures: The lives of refugee children in urban areas of Indonesia and Thailand](#)
- Researched regional and international studies to help shape the introduction, literature review and created the bibliography to high academic standards
- Helped connect the report findings with relevant international literature

Other Writing and Editing Work (January 2012 – present)

- Developed three official guidebooks for Cambodia's Ministry of Tourism
- Collated data for Goldman Leadership by interviewing top executives to create reports used in coaching engagements. The data they provided was highly sensitive and required utmost discretion
- Produced communication products for Shanghai-based business consultancy, The Suited Monk and advised on media strategies
- Advised the Cambodian Tevoda Organization on media strategy, documented project progress and produced briefings for NGO founder

United Catholics Asia News (June 2016 – June 2017)

Subeditor

- Responsible for copy editing, formatting and proofreading news reports, features and op-eds from across Asia
- Editing to the house style
- Researching and adding background information as necessary
- Some examples include:
 - [Bangladesh protests demand state crackdown on rape](#)
 - [Pakistani villagers reap benefits of tunnel farming](#)
 - [Death of teenager reveals how power is abused in China](#)

Southeast Asia Globe (Part time, September 2013 – May 2015)

Editor (Poetry Section)

- Sourcing the best poetry from the Southeast Asian region, writing introductions for the general reader and commissioning illustrations

Poetry Workshop Facilitator (January 2011 – January 2013)

Freelance

- Published my poetry collection via Wow Books, London in 2016
- Provided spoken word and poetry workshops for schools, adult education centers and as a guest of the European Union
- Consulted with The National Literacy Trust in the UK to create a media campaign to promote spoken word poetry in 30,000 schools including a media kit, videos and a press release
- Delivered the seminar on poetry education at the United Kingdom Literacy Association's 2012 annual conference
- Invited as a guest of the European Union to give poetry workshops and lectures at Palackay University in Czech Republic also in 2012

Goldman Leadership, UK-based International Consultancy (January 2009 – October 2010)

PA to Partner

- Produced 360 Degree Feedback reports by interviewing executive teams in confidence on challenges and opportunities in their team
- Clients included top executives from multinationals including Aviva, Aegon, Bodyshop and Costa Coffee
- Supplied one-to-one coaching for junior staff
- Produced proposals for future engagements
- Managed electronic communications for partner Philip Goldman

Morgan and McKinley, the Strand, London, UK (August 2007 – October 2008)

Researcher

- Responsible for sourcing accountants to fill client vacancies and finding more vacancies. Key clients included KPMG, Ernst and Young and PWC
- Wrote job advertisements for the company website

Professional Associations / Civic Engagement

Co-Founder, Escaping Samsara Podcast (August 2019 – Present)

- I co-founded a podcast covering yoga and meditation available on all podcast apps. There is also an associated Youtube and Instagram channel with about 1400 followers
- Our podcast is downloaded 500-1000 per week

President of the Overseas Press Club of Cambodia (October 2016 – August 2018)

- Throughout a crackdown by the Cambodian government on the free press in Cambodia, I was responsible for coordinating a media strategy and official response on behalf of the journalist community

- Liaising with government and diplomatic officials on rights and protections, overseeing the provision of legal aid and health care and coordinating workshops and events
- I organized a four-day Hostile Environments training programme for 20 journalists aided by the Rory Peck Trust
- Running public events, including debates, films and cultural events
- Vice president (2015-16)

Volunteer, Cambodian Tevoda Organization (January 2013 – January 2014)

- I lived in a pagoda in a rural Cambodian village for 14 months – the only foreigner to have ever lived in Baray village and taught English to the monks and local children
- I helped develop newsletters targeting donors and stakeholders. My newsletters featured compelling human interest stories and described our achievements in supporting the community

Publications

Selected clippings (additional examples are available [here](#)):

- [In Rohingya Refugee Camps Football is a Joyful Escape](#) (The New York Times)
- [Yaba Addiction: The Dark Side of Bangladesh's Increasing Affluence](#) (CNN)
- [Killing in the Name: Inside the Philippines' Bloody Drug War](#) (The Fix)
- [Myanmar Denies Villagers Access to Ancestral Lands](#) (Al Jazeera)
- [Now the Post is muzzled, Cambodia's free press is gone](#) (The Guardian – anonymous op-ed)
- [Cambodia's Election Condemned as a 'Sham'](#) (CNN)

Referees

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