

STEPHEN JIWANMALL (he/him)

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EDUCATION

Master of Science in Journalism May 2013
Columbia University, New York, NY
Broadcast concentration
Master's Project: "An uphill battle: The job hunt for young adults with autism"
Advisor: LynNell Hancock

Bachelor of Arts in Communication May 2012
La Salle University, Philadelphia, PA
Journalism and Mass Media concentrations
Maxima Cum Laude and General University Honors

TEACHING AND ADVISING

Lecturer of Public Relations (Non-Tenure Track) Aug. 2025 - present
Grady College of Journalism and Mass Communication
University of Georgia, Athens, GA

- Teaching four undergraduate classes in public relations per semester
- Incorporating active learning and Well-Being by Design teaching strategies in the classroom
- Mentoring undergraduate and professional students outside of the classroom
- Serving as academic honesty panelist and college-wide diversity committee member
- Evaluating student presentations in marketing, advertising, and public relations
- Providing professional advice and critiques to student media organizations

Communications Manager (Contractor) June 2024 - present
The Cancer Network

- Serving as a consultant for a national nonprofit regarding messaging and branding needs
- Building internal structures for past, present, and future communications work
- Curating and constructing monthly newsletters and additional digital content as needed
- Managing multiple social media accounts and designing graphics for digital use
- Guided a major rebranding effort involving the creation of a new website

Assistant Professor of Communication (Non-Tenure Track) Aug. 2022 - May 2025
La Salle University, Philadelphia, PA

- Taught four undergraduate courses per semester in journalism, videography, and public relations
- Developed experience in first-year instruction, independent study and graduate courses
- Offered individualized support to students in need of additional education
- Guided students across majors to learn communication through interdisciplinary approaches
- Contributed to department discussions about courses, internships, and curriculum
- Participated in annual department alumni panels about career opportunities after graduation
- Served on School of Arts and Sciences committees for dean search and for graduate curriculum

Professional Video Journalism Mentor (Contractor)

Aug. 2021 - Dec. 2022

Lehigh University, Bethlehem, PA

- Served as a contracted instructor for a seven-week crash course in video journalism each semester
- Trained students on the newspaper staff to achieve proficiency in video editing and filming for news
- Adapted to a hybrid teaching model through virtual education and training
- Used various technology to build skills and enhance the classroom experience
- Provided routine critiques on multimedia content

Director of Communications and Marketing

Dec. 2020 - Aug. 2022

Bradbury-Sullivan LGBT Community Center, Allentown, PA

- Guided, trained, and supervised a social media coordinator and a graphic designer
- Provided media coaching to executive director and team members for press interviews
- Served on key committees (executive search, senior leadership, Pride planning, etc.)
- Developed communications and marketing plans and strategies to build brand awareness

Public Speaking Coach

2016 - 2019

Roseland Academy, Tallahassee, FL

- Prepared interactive lessons for students in elementary school, middle school, and high school
- Offered one-on-one in-person and virtual instruction, guest lecturers, and real-time group feedback
- Addressed core challenges with students who live in multilingual households
- Focused on writing and grammar as the foundation for effective presentation

ESL Instructor

April 2019 - Dec. 2019

VIPTeacher (formerly VIPKid), Beijing, China

- Remotely educated children in China through an online full-immersion language program
- Navigated language and cultural differences to build speaking, writing, and reading skills
- Developed various reward systems to encourage engagement and reinforce lesson content

OTHER EXPERIENCE

Multimedia Journalist

June 2019 - Nov. 2020

Lehigh Valley Public Media, Bethlehem, PA

- Shot, wrote, edited, and reported on-camera daily for PBS39 and on radio for WLVR-FM
- Produced and hosted a weekly television program
- Anchored a live daily television program on COVID-19
- Developed strong community connections as a beat reporter

Multimedia Journalist

April 2015 - April 2019

WTLX-TV, Tallahassee, FL

- Covered multiple assignments on deadline daily as a reporter
- Filled in as producer and anchor as needed
- Created and grew a franchise segment focusing on development
- Led newsroom routinely in social media engagement

Video Reporter

June 2013 - April 2015

Calkins Media, Levittown, PA

- Reported on-air daily for three suburban Philadelphia newspapers
- Earned state and national journalism awards for video series on transgender issues
- Filled in as producer and anchor as needed

COURSEWORK

University of Georgia, Athens, GA

- ADPR 5920: Public Relations Communication (Fall 2025, Spring 2026, Fall 2026)
- ADPR 5930: PR Ethics, Diverse Cultures, and Cross-Cultural Leadership (Fall 2026)

La Salle University, Philadelphia, PA

- COM 101: Media and Society (Fall 2024)
- COM 150: Presentation Skills (Fall 2024)
- COM 206: News Writing (Fall 2022, Fall 2023, Fall 2024)
- COM 207: Principles of Public Relations and Advertising (Spring 2024)
- COM 208: Introduction to Digital Video (Fall 2022 - Spring 2025)
- COM 306: In-Depth Journalism (Fall 2023, Spring 2025)
- COM 357: Public Relations Writing (undergraduate) (Fall 2022, Spring 2023, Fall 2023, Fall 2024)
- COM 368: Video Editing (Spring 2023, Spring 2024, Spring 2025)
- COM 408: Media Production Practicum (Fall 2022, Spring 2023, Spring 2024, Spring 2025)
- COM 623: Public Relations Writing (graduate) (Fall 2023)

Lehigh University, Bethlehem, PA

- JOUR 012: Brown and White Videography (Fall 2021, Spring 2022, Fall 2022)

HONORS AND AWARDS

- Fellow, 2026 APPEAL National Leadership Training
- Fellow, 2026 University of Georgia Active Learning Summer Institute
- Finalist, 2025 University of Georgia Outstanding PR Teacher of the Year
- Recipient, 2023 Lenfest Institute for Journalism Next Generation Fund
- Winner, 2022 *Lehigh Valley Business* Forty Under 40
- Finalist, 2016 Florida Associated Press Broadcasters Awards: Feature | Hard News
- Winner, 2015 NLGJA Excellence in Journalism Awards: Online Journalism
- Winner, 2015 Keystone Press Awards: Distinguished Visual

PROFESSIONAL ASSOCIATIONS

- Society of Professional Journalists (SPJ): 2023 - present
- Association for Education in Journalism and Mass Communication (AEJMC): 2023 - present
- Public Relations Society of America (PRSA): 2021 - present
- NLGJA: The Association of LGBTQ+ Journalists: 2014 - present
- Asian American Journalists Association (AAJA): 2013 - present
- South Asian Journalists Association (SAJA): 2012 - present

SERVICE

- Gatekeeper Instructor, QPR Institute: Nov. 2025 - present
- Newsletter Editor, Commission on LGBTQIA+ Communities, AEJMC: 2026 - present
- Secretary, Broadcast and Mobile Journalism Division, AEJMC: 2024-26
- Judge, NLGJA Excellence in Journalism Awards: 2023 - present
- Host/Producer, The Aavidum Podcast: 2023-25
- Board of Directors, SPJ Keystone Pro Chapter: 2023-25
- Board of Directors, Aavidum: 2022-25
- Video Production Assistant, Wesley United Methodist Church: 2020-25
- Judge, New York Emmy Chapter and Lone Star Emmy Chapter: 2021
- Support Group Facilitator, Desi Rainbow Parents & Allies: 2021-24
- Contributor, Brown Girl Magazine: 2021-23
- Communication and Marketing Committee Member, United Way of the Greater Lehigh Valley: 2021-22

PRESENTATIONS AND LECTURES

“Caring for the Storyteller: Balancing Ambition, Identity and Self-Care in Classrooms and Newsrooms”
Aug. 6, 2026 | AEJMC National Convention panelist

“The Power of Investing in NH/PI and AA Communities through Commercial Tobacco and Cancer Prevention: A Community Perspective”
June 11, 2026 | APPEAL National Policy Summit

“Representation Matters: Strategies for Elevating Authentic Voices in News Media”
Aug. 7, 2025 | AEJMC National Convention panelist

“Guiding the Next Generation of Journalists”
Sept. 6, 2024 | NLGJA National Convention moderator

“Building Bridges and Sharing the Spotlight: How Media Outlets Gain Trust and Share Stories of Historically Marginalized Communities”
Aug. 10, 2024 | AEJMC National Convention moderator

“In the Courts and In the Classroom: Covering the Backlash to LGBTQ+ Expression in 2023”
Sept. 8, 2023 | NLGJA National Convention panelist

“Diversity in the Newsroom and Beyond”
Sept. 14, 2023 | SPJ Keystone Pro Event panelist

“Unapologetically Intersectional: Navigating Life as a Queer Brown Man”
Nov. 28, 2022 | Oberlin College keynote speaker

“Meet Philly’s Public Relations Agency Leaders”
May 18, 2022 | Multicultural Media Professionals Week moderator

“MMJ Life: Surviving and Thriving”
Aug. 9, 2018 | AAJA National Convention panelist