

# John Pendencygraft, Ph.D.

Visual Journalist



Applied Anthropologist

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## Highlights

- Assistant Professor of Visual Journalism at The Pennsylvania State University
- 25-year career at the Tampa Bay Times as photojournalist, enterprise reporter, filmmaker and multimedia specialist.
- Produced documentary for the 2016 Pulitzer Prize in Investigative Reporting.
- Emmy award winner.
- 2017-18 Knight-Wallace Journalism Fellow.
- Book, 2022. *Lost Storytellers: The Information Apocalypse in the Modern Newsroom*, University Press of Florida.

## Professional Summary

Accomplished multimedia journalist, teacher and applied anthropologist specializing in the craft of visual storytelling, the origins of storytelling, and use of narrative in the formation of culture. My core interest is exploring innovative possibilities for healthy local journalism. Exceptional track record of teaching, mentoring, developing team-based projects, producing high-end multimedia journalism, and adapting creative strategies to help traditional journalism values transition to today's digital spaces.

## Work History

### **The Pennsylvania State University** — *Assistant Professor*

June 2022 – present

Instructor of introduction and advanced visual storytelling coursework. Tenure track producer of creative works.

### **Tampa Bay Times**, Tampa, FL — *Multimedia Journalist*

February 1996 - 2022

Multimedia news producer with expertise in documentary video production, traditional photojournalism, feature writing, investigative journalism and team collaboration on long term projects.

## Skills

Award winning educator, multimedia producer and feature writer.

Established the Ethnographic Media Lab at USF. Teaching experience includes photojournalism, visual anthropology, introduction to anthropology, theory classes and regular guest lectures in journalism and anthropology courses.

Proficient in Adobe Cloud (Premiere, After Effects, Photoshop), ARCGis and SPSS to analyze data and produce media.

## Education

### **University of South Florida**, Tampa- *Ph.D.*, *Anthropology*

Dec 2018- May 2025

### **University of South Florida**, Tampa — *M.A.* *Anthropology*

Sept 2015 - Dec 2018

### **University of Texas**, Austin — *B.A.* *Anthropology*

Sept 1989 - May 1992

## Languages

English, Spanish, conversational French

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## Honors and Awards

Recognized for both visual journalism and feature writing by the National Academy of Television Arts and Sciences Emmy awards, National Headliners, the Pulitzer Board, Pictures of the Year International, Best of Photojournalism, Society of News Editors, American Society of News Editors, Scripps Howard, in international film festivals and numerous community journalism organizations.

### 2020

Emmy, Societal Concerns, National Academy of Television Arts & Sciences, Suncoast Chapter. First Place, Green Eyeshades, Videography Online or Television  
Third Place, Pictures of the Year International, News Documentary, Official Selection, Orlando Film Festival  
Official Selection, Naples Film Festival

### 2019

Emmy Finalist, National Academy of Television Arts & Sciences, Suncoast Chapter. Finalist, Dart Awards for Excellence in Coverage of Trauma, *Tampa Bay Times staff*.

### 2018

Best Short Documentary, Orlando International Film Festival  
Emmy Finalist, Societal Issues, National Academy of Television Arts & Sciences, Suncoast Chapter

### 2017

Emmy, Societal Issues, National Academy of Television Arts & Sciences, Suncoast Chapter Emmy Finalist, Local Investigative Journalism, National Academy of Television Arts & Sciences Award of Excellence, Documentary, Pictures of the Year International

### 2016

Pulitzer Prize documentary for Investigative Journalism  
Emmy, Investigative Journalism, National Academy of Television Arts & Sciences, Suncoast Chapter Second Place, News Documentary, National Headliner Awards  
Award of Excellence, Documentary, Photographer of the Year International First Place, Documentary, Atlanta Photojournalism Competition  
Associated Press Media Editors Journalism Awards, Public Service and Sweepstakes Awards First Place, News Video, Florida Society of News Editors  
Official Selection, Gasparilla International Film Festival  
Official Selection, Ft. Myers International Film Festival  
Official Selection, Orlando International Film Festival Third Place, Green Eyeshades, News Video  
Third Place, Green Eyeshades, Best Magazine Cover

### 2015

First Place, News Video, Florida Society of News Editors

### 2014

First Place Videography, Society of Professional Journalists  
Third Place Column Writing on One Subject, National Headliner Awards Third Place Feature Photography, Green Eyeshade Awards

### 2013

First Place Videography, Green Eyeshade Awards  
Emmy Finalist, National Academy of Television Arts & Sciences, Suncoast Chapter

**2012**

First Place Videography, Green Eyeshade Awards  
First Place News Picture Story, Florida Society of News Editors First  
Place Issue Reporting, Pictures of the Year International

**2011**

First Place Magazine Cover, Green Eyeshade Awards Silver  
Medal Feature Story, Society of News Design

**2010**

First Place Videography, Green Eyeshade Awards Silver  
Medal Portfolio, Society for News Design

**2009**

Second Place Column Writing on One Subject, National Headliner Awards

**2008**

First Place Column Writing on One Subject, National Headliner Awards First  
Place Feature Photography, Green Eyeshade Awards  
Third Place Photo Column, Pictures of the Year International First  
Place Portfolio, Society for News Design

**2007**

Portfolio Excellence, Scripps Howard Foundation Awards

**2006**

First Place Portfolio, National Headliner Awards  
Award of Excellence Portfolio, American Society of News Editors  
Award of Excellence General Reporting, Pictures of the Year International Award  
of Excellence Portfolio, Atlanta Photojournalism Seminar  
First Place Portfolio, Society for News Design