

Cara Peddle

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EDUCATION

New York University

New York, NY

B.A., International Relations

Dec. 2025

Concentration in Middle Eastern and Islamic Studies & Web Programming and Applications

- 4.0 GPA, Summa Cum Laude, Phi Beta Kappa, Pi Sigma Alpha, Presidential Honors Scholar, Catherine B. Reynolds Fellow
- **Study Away:** NYU Washington, DC (*Spring 2024*), NYU Abu Dhabi (*Spring 2023*), Ahlan World Jordan Arabic (*Summer 2023*)

WORK EXPERIENCE

Savage Wonder Art Center

Beacon, NY

Advancement Operations and Grants Manager

Sept. 2025 - Present

- Built and launched the organization's first recurring membership program, using audience data to design pricing models, benefits, and communication strategies that increased recurring support and deepened engagement
- Implemented full CRM integration, developing data architecture, custom reports, and standardized templates for memberships, donations
- Designed and maintain data analytics systems, tracking revenue, attendance, membership growth for reporting
- Authored organization's first Year-End Report, synthesizing cross-department metrics and establishing a replicable reporting model for future fiscal cycles
- Conceived and authored successful grant proposals, LOIs, and reports to secure public and private funding

Council on Foreign Relations

New York, NY

Executive Office Intern

Sept. 2025 - Dec. 2025

- Prepared high-level briefing materials for the President's meetings with U.S. state officials and international leaders, including engagements during UNGA and with Middle East principals such as Yemeni PLC President al-Alimi
- Conducted independent policy research for executive-level discussions, including analysis of U.S. semiconductor trade and data infrastructure in the Gulf and drafting contingency-based proposals for U.S.-Taiwan joint energy framework
- Pitched topics and co-drafted commentary for *The World This Week*; contributed analysis on Gaza peace process, Venezuela policy, U.S.-China competition (published on CFR.org)
- Synthesized findings from CFR's China Strategy Initiative for distribution to government officials and business leaders

The Washington Institute for Near East Policy

Washington, DC

Military & Security Studies Research Intern

June 2025 - August 2025

- Tracked activity and messaging of Iraqi militias using Arabic-language sources for publication on the Militia Spotlight
- Compiled annotated bibliographies and offer independent analysis to support Senior Military & Security Fellow's research
- Arranged briefing materials for engagements with foreign delegations, facilitate meetings, and synthesize key discussion points
- Used Python and GeoPandas to map and analyze geospatial data, applying diverse methods to visualize complex datasets
- Prepared expense reports for Senior Fellows' travel and organized funding requests and reimbursements for events

U.S. Department of State | Bureau of Near Eastern Affairs

Washington, DC

Front Office Intern

Jan. 2025 - Apr. 2025

- Compiled daily briefing books for Senior Bureau Official and Principal Deputy Assistant Secretary, tasking country desks with materials for meetings with Secretary, NSC, and SFRC
- Oversaw clearance and dissemination of 60+ papers on high-demand days for hearings, travel, and senior engagements
- Reviewed and synthesized embassy communications, identifying key geopolitical developments and disseminating critical intelligence to principals and 300+ bureau personnel
- Trained new staff assistant, reinforcing front office operations and continuity in high-pressure environments
- Represented Front Office in bureau-wide meetings, coordinating with leadership to organize collaboration between offices
- Awarded Certificate of Appreciation by Acting SBO for contributions to quality and impact of U.S. Government operations

People USA

Poughkeepsie, NY

Strategy and Development Intern

June 2024 - Sept. 2024

- Created database of local, state, and national elected officials, identifying priority contacts based on likely support
- Conducted targeted analysis to prioritize regions for fundraising, evaluating officials' potential for advocacy
- Consolidated key impact metrics to strengthen communication and relationship-building with policymakers
- Wireframed and proposed website design updates to improve user experience and accessibility for stakeholders
- Organized grant information in structured database with guidelines and assisted in application development
- Assisted in planning and execution of Annual Breakfast event, engaging 200 key community stakeholders and resulting in 327% increase in YOY net revenue

U.S. House of Representatives | Office of Representative Patrick Ryan, NY-18

Washington, DC

Legislative Intern

Jan. 2024 - May 2024

- Attended briefings and compiled data relevant to legislation to deliver abstracts to legislative staff
- Introduction of "Courage to Serve Act": proofed legislation, drafted letter to members for cosponsorship, researched immigration and military recruitment to anticipate counterpoints and strengthen bill's support
- Facilitated Capitol tours, registered constituents' concerns, and communicated office resources
- Introduced constituents and members of key interest groups to the Congressman and legislative team
- Acted as the first line of communication between constituents and the Congressman
- Compiled daily press clips to circulate to the Congressman and all members of staff

FortyGuard Tech

Abu Dhabi, UAE

Content Creation Intern

Mar. 2023 - June 2023

- Crafted articles to be published on company blog and edited language and structure of teammates' stories
- Created 3- and 6-month content plans with defined goals targeting intended audiences of each platform
- Collaborated with design team to efficiently propose, research, create, and release effective content
- Analyzed trends in content performance across platforms and detected areas for improvement

New York State Senate | Office of State Senator Jen Metzger, NY-42

Middletown, NY

Research Intern

Mar. 2020 - Sept. 2020

- Compiled lists of over 90 COVID-19 resources for constituent reference to be displayed on Senate website
- Analyzed COVID impacts on veterans and individuals with disabilities and communicated findings to Senator
- Directed research on New York State's actions toward climate justice and gave policy recommendations
- Acted as a liaison between Senate office and local nonprofit organization Sustainable Warwick

RESEARCH

New York University

New York, NY

International Relations Honors Thesis

Sept. 2024 - Present

- "The Effects of Israeli Air and Artillery Attacks on Attitudes Toward the USA and Democracy in Palestine and Lebanon"

University at Albany, SUNY & New York University Langone

New York, NY

Independent Researcher

June 2018 - May 2022

- Collaborated with top medical professionals and conducted a systematic review of literature regarding the impacts of environmental contaminants on women's health
- Presented research at NYU Dean's Undergraduate Research Conference
- Peddle, C., Naftolin, F., & Arslan, A. (2022). Assessing Androgen Levels in People with Polycystic Ovary Syndrome (PCOS) with Varying Exposures to Bisphenol A: A Systematic Review of Literature. *Inquiry: A Journal of Undergraduate Research*, XXVI, 91. <https://cas.nyu.edu/content/dam/nyu-as/cas/documents/inquiry/xxvi.pdf>.

REPORTS WRITTEN

Security Briefs

- "Israel Rejected the Proposal of a 21-Day Ceasefire Deal with Hezbollah, Continuing Airstrikes in Lebanon, and 100,000 Syrian and Lebanese Refugees Fled to Syria," *Counter Threat Center* (October, 2024). Accessible to subscribers.
- "ISKP Attack Killed Shiite Civilians in Daykundi Province, Afghanistan, and Turkey Targeted a PKK Meeting With a Drone Strike in Iraq," *Counter Threat Center* (September, 2024). Accessible to subscribers.
- "Houthi Released Footage of them Boarding the Greek-Flagged Oil Tanker MV Sounion Detonating Bombs and Khalil Al-Rahman Brigade Claimed Responsibility for Killing 3 Israeli Police Officers in West Bank," *Counter Threat Center* (August, 2024). Publicly accessible.

Situation Update Reports

- "Super Typhoon Yagi: Escalating Risks and Emergency Responses in Southern China and Vietnam," *Counter Threat Center* (September, 2024). Accessible to subscribers.

Imminent Warnings

- "Iranian Terrorist Plot Increases the Threat to Jews and Israelis in Europe," *Counter Threat Center* (September, 2024). Accessible to subscribers.

LEADERSHIP EXPERIENCE

Naval Academy Foreign Affairs Conference

Annapolis, MD

Civilian Delegate

Apr. 2024

- Recognized as Outstanding Delegate for stimulating roundtable discussion on civilian oversight of West African militaries
- Acted as DOD leadership in simulation of U.S. strategy in Afghanistan from 2016-2020
- Participated in Q&A events with CIA Director William Burns, Ambassador Kevin Rudd, Dr. Peter Feaver

West Point Military Academy Student Conference on U.S. Affairs

West Point, NY

Civilian Delegate

Nov. 2023

- Established robust military-civilian relationships to enhance mechanisms for American growth abroad
- Stimulated roundtable discussions on international institutions among cadets and delegates by identifying gaps in effective U.S. policy and negotiated a plan of action to be presented to government officials
- Adapted policy suggestions after group interview and lecture by Special Presidential Envoy John Kerry

SKILLS & INTERESTS

Computer: Python, JavaScript, HTML, CSS, SQLite, Excel, Microsoft Office, Google Workspace

Languages: English (Native), Arabic (Working Proficiency), French (Limited Working Proficiency)

Certificates: SUNY WCC A to Z Grant Writing, FEMA National Incident Management System, FEMA Workplace Security, FEMA Critical Infrastructure Security and Resilience, UN Responding to Active Shooter Incidents

Interests: Foreign Policy, Politics of the MENA Region, Environmental Sustainability, Travel, Music Production

HONORS

Scholarships: NYU Presidential Honors Scholars, Catherine B. Reynolds Fellowship

Awards: NYU DC Director's Award, NAFAC 2024 Outstanding Delegate, Dean's List (2021, 2022, 2023, 2024, 2025)

Societies: Phi Beta Kappa, Pi Sigma Alpha