Have a great night everyone. Bye!! -- Mel (@mkramer) about 19 hours ago via web

- We don't have internships but NPR does: http://www.npr.org/about/careers/internships.html and many local stations do. about 19 hours ago via web
- Our website is http://freshair.npr.org and our tumblr is http://nprfreshair.tumblr.com about 19 hours ago via web
- I'm melodykramer AT gmail DOT com. My twitter handle is @mkramer. The show is @nprfreshair. about 19 hours ago via web
- I'm going to finish up my writing for the day and head off to pub trivia (We play on Thursdays.) Here are some helpful links/info: about 19 hours ago via web
- I feel like I have a much better understanding of the world and culture. And I like that we mix up our guests -- highbrow/lowlbrow... about 19 hours ago via web
- I like when experts break down really complex topics and make them easy to understand. NYTimes Gretchen Morgenson does this with finance. about 19 hours ago via web
- Dave is interviewing an author. Whenever we have an author on, the host reads the entire book. Sometimes 6-7 books a week. about 19 hours ago via web
- Starting our second interview of the day. Dave Davies is doing this one. about 19 hours ago via web
- Coworker just asked "What is the plural of mancrush?" I have no idea. Any thoughts? about 19 hours ago via web
- My coworker Heidi just gave me a Goldenberg Peanut Chew. Reason #2343 why it's nice to stay in Philly. (They're local.) about 19 hours ago via web
- If you're still at Penn, join the DP or Punch Bowl. If you're out, make a blog. Writing/multimedia skills come with practice. about 19 hours ago via web
- Also nice about public radio: no one cares where you went to college, no one cares about your grades. Seriously. It's basically: clips. about 19 hours ago via web
- I never went to graduate school. A lot of my friends who I graduated college with are now leaving grad school. Make a blog now! That = clips about 19 hours ago via web
- People running media blogs/websites need content. If you're publishing good stuff, it will get out there. about 20 hours ago via web
- I run the Fresh Air tumblr: nprfreshair.tumblr.com. If you're interested in writing, I suggest making a Tumblr and start connecting... about 20 hours ago via web
- But I will say, @nprfreshair has great hours. I work basically 9-5. That's rare in public radio & journalism. And my bosses are very flex. about 20 hours ago via web
- We just wrapped up one interview. Another one's taping in 30 minutes. No one here sits still. about 20 hours ago via web
- Wrapping up Liz Taylor. Starting up on Mildred Pierce, an HBO miniseries. Our TV reviewer David Bianculli's talking about it tomorrow. about 20 hours ago via web
- jillyk @PennCareerDay It depends what kind of journalist you are. In TV news, I met all sorts of other journalists in non-top 10 markets. about 20 hours ago via Nambu in reply to PennCareerDay Retweeted by PennCareerDay
Back to writing...I spent a lot of the day with headphones on. It's a Princess Leia aesthetic.

Just had a nice conversation with producer Amy Salit about possible guests for an upcoming story....

Okay...enough yammering, I'm going to go write some more stuff, this time about Liz Taylor.

But overall: good people, good material, interesting topics, lots to write about and I'm learning a ton -- it's a great gig 5 years out.

If you're a journalist somewhere other than NY/DC, it's hard to meet other people in the field. (I've worked in DC/NY/Chicago.)

The other thing I miss is that I don't really meet many other journalists. We're based here -- in our office -- and don't meet people.

I think data-driven journalism is really fascinating and there's SO much you can do if you know how to look.

I wish I had taken classes in computer programming (APIs) and statistics at Penn. Those would have been really helpful.

My coworkers are currently editing audio, listening to audio, producing an interview and/or trying to find guests.

Right now I'm writing to people about the guests we have booked for next week, to gather all of the information I'll need to write...

Any other questions? I've been at @NPR basically since Aug. 2006. First: fellowship. Then: director @waitwait. Now: @nprfreshair.

I'm listening to Terry interview an actor. We don't announce who's on in advance..but it should, barring breaking news, air Monday.

Not every part of my job is 100% enjoyable. But I think that's true for most jobs. But 9/10 days, I feel very fulfilled here.

I think my job is particularly well-suited to people who cannot sit still. I have four monitors and am constantly jumping back and forth.

Another job perk: listening to unedited interviews. We edit them down for time and clarity...but listening live is a real treat.

This is what our studio looks like during broadcast: http://bit.ly/euhucA That's our director Sue in the foreground, Terry in bkgrd

A corollary: you know you're working at a good gig when most of your coworkers have been with the show for 20+ years...I learn a lot.

One thing about working on a 30+ year old show: it's pretty well-situated. I imagine at some point it'd be fun to be part of a start-up...

Alright I'm back. Time to learn a lot about an HBO miniseries, Liz Taylor and the movie The Fighter.

Before I leave, here's an interview with South Park's creators: http://n.pr/g6KUb3 I really enjoyed writing that copy/headline.

MicahSchweizer I'm following @penncareerday for a backstage look at @mkramer's life at @nprfreshair. Says the job has been a boon to her pub trivia team...

Retweeted by PennCareerDay and 2 others
Now that the show's finishing up for the day, I'm going to go take a walk to 3rd and Arch and get some hummus with my coworker Sam. BRB. **about 22 hours ago** via web

Our afternoons are *much* less stressful. It's probably more work (actual interviews) but there's no airtime deadline looming.... **about 22 hours ago** via web

. @MappingtheCity I'd also volunteer at your local pub. radio station. Contacts are key in this world. It's really small. **about 22 hours ago** via web **in reply to MappingtheCity**

. @MappingtheCity I've gotten every job through cover letters and clips. Good writing/audio clips are more important than anything else. **about 22 hours ago** via web **in reply to MappingtheCity**

Any questions? I'm happy to answer anything you want to know about #pubmedia or journalism gigs or whatever. **about 22 hours ago** via web

Editing the promos for tomorrow's show. Guests: director David O. Russell, actor Mark Wahlberg. **about 23 hours ago** via web

Yay! Headline on the economy commentary stays: [http://n.pr/f9o3Qc](http://n.pr/f9o3Qc) (Geoff Nunberg is frequently on Language Log, a Penn blog) **about 23 hours ago** via web

(continued): people skills, deadline skills, juggling-things skills, editing skills, media skills, and exposure to every other field. **about 23 hours ago** via web

I also think a few years in public radio could basically be preparation for a career in anything. You get: writing, analytical, research. **about 23 hours ago** via web

A lot of people have asked if I would ever want to be a public radio host. The answer is no. I'd much rather be booking, editing, etc. **about 23 hours ago** via web

I also like my job because e) I can wear anything I want and f) I have really decent coworkers, which makes the stressful part not so bad. **about 23 hours ago** via web

And I try to contact everyone we've booked for next week to gather material for our website (book excerpts, music, etc.) **about 23 hours ago** via web

Okay, basically, once today's show is done at 1, I start on tomorrow's show (Mark Wahlberg from The Fighter), a Liz Taylor obit, a TV review **about 23 hours ago** via web

Terry just called from her studio. She liked the billboard! Yay! (It's the first minute of every broadcast.) **about 23 hours ago** via web

From 2-3 and 4-5 we're recording new interviews today for future broadcasts. **about 23 hours ago** via web

The interviews are pretaped but the intros to each segment aren't. This is so we can rerun pieces in the future. **about 23 hours ago** via web

In the recording studio today: our director Sue, our engineer Fred, and Terry, who reads intros and cues live. **about 23 hours ago** via web

Air time! **about 23 hours ago** via web

Okay. Second piece for the show is live. We interviewed a Canadian doctor about diabetes. [http://n.pr/hskk61](http://n.pr/hskk61) **about 23 hours ago** via web

My favorite commercial: [http://youtu.be/egLRZwc4Oaw](http://youtu.be/egLRZwc4Oaw) **about 23 hours ago** via web

I'll add a d) sometimes you get to watch old Spaghetti O's commercials with Terry Gross. **about 23 hours ago** via web

You can find internships and jobs at member stations and NPR. A good resource is the CPB Jobline: [http://www.cpb.org/jobline/](http://www.cpb.org/jobline/) **about 23 hours ago** via web

I highly recommend public radio as a field because you a) get to write b) get to learn about everything and c) get to play with sound. **about 23 hours ago** via web
• I send about 500 emails a day. Mainly to editors at NPR in DC, publicists for guests, my coworkers....I sort everything in Gmail. about 23 hours ago via web
• Everyone here is constantly juggling about 15 topics in their heads at all times. What's on today, tomorrow, next week... about 23 hours ago via web
• This is the first segment of today's show: http://n.pr/i1RqbL I wrote the copy, headline and captions on Tuesday afternoon. about 23 hours ago via web
• Okay. Ditched the clip idea. The Barry Manilow YouTube Spaghetti-O video didn't have good sound quality. about 23 hours ago via web
• If you ever wondered "Who sang the original spaghetti-o's theme song?" the answer is Barry Manilow. Just learned that. about 24 hours ago via web
• We just decided to possibly add a clip to the intro. So now I'm searching for commercials from the 1950s on YouTube. about 24 hours ago via web
• Terry just called. "Can you edit the intro?" she said. So now I'm editing the show's intro. It's about Italian food. about 24 hours ago via web
• Any questions? about 24 hours ago via web
• Our toughest days are doing turnarounds, which means taping an interview at 9am, let's say, and then airing it at noon. Not a lot of time. about 24 hours ago via web
• Okay, everything that needed to go to DC for edits today is now in DC....phew! about 24 hours ago via web
• I've come up with a headline. "We're Broke': Empty Bank Accounts, Empty Meaning?' -- Question is, will we change it? Thursday, March 24, 2011 10:56:30 AM via web
• And I live about 15 minutes away from my parents and brothers, which is nice. (My little brother is a sophomore at Penn.) Thursday, March 24, 2011 10:54:22 AM via web
• At my old job @waitwait, we traveled about once a month....but @nprfreshair is in Philly 100% of the time. I'm happy not to travel. Thursday, March 24, 2011 10:52:15 AM via web
• Interestingly, most of our guests are *not* in person. They go to a studio close to their house. We stay in Philly in our studio. Thursday, March 24, 2011 10:51:30 AM via web
• My favorite interviews so far here have been physicist Brian Greene, Joan Rivers, Queen guitarist Brian May, and the South Park creators. Thursday, March 24, 2011 10:51:05 AM via web
• Now writing headlines, writing teasers for pieces and making sure everything in the queue @NPR in DC will be edited by air-time. Thursday, March 24, 2011 10:49:38 AM via web
• The director of our show tweets under the name @extrenergy. Thursday, March 24, 2011 10:41:18 AM via web
• "Don't liveblog this. Don't liveblog this." -- my coworkers have just figured out I'm liveblogging. Thursday, March 24, 2011 10:39:24 AM via web
• Also, we get almost every book that comes out, so I never lack reading material. And I LOVE to read. So that's a nice perk. Thursday, March 24, 2011 10:38:01 AM via web
• I will say: every day here I do something different and I'm rarely, if ever, bored. There's basically no time for boredom. Thursday, March 24, 2011 10:37:39 AM via web
• Now I'm trying to find a picture that says 'broke.' We're running a commentary today about the word and I need to convey it, visually. Thursday, March 24, 2011 10:34:20 AM via web
• We're now joking around. (Sue, me, AnnMarie, Terry, Dorothy.) We have 1.5 hour until show time. Thursday, March 24, 2011 10:30:35 AM via web
(This job has made my weekly pub trivia team very happy.) Thursday, March 24, 2011 10:24:16 AM via web

Writing headlines, writing summaries, writing copy about diabetes and Italian food and the movie The Fighter and rubber ducks. Thursday, March 24, 2011 10:23:50 AM via web

So far, three of the four pieces that are airing today have been web-ified and sent to DC for edits. Working on fourth one now. Thursday, March 24, 2011 10:08:05 AM via web

Uploading a promo I just wrote to a server where public radio stations can dl and use it today, if they'd like. It's about cheese. Thursday, March 24, 2011 10:02:39 AM via web

If anyone has any questions, let me know. Happy to answer. I majored in English, minored in HSSC, took lots of science classes. Thursday, March 24, 2011 9:54:34 AM via web

There are 12 of us here. Bookers, host, exec. producer, director, producers. We all pitch ideas. We all do research. Lot of reading/writing. Thursday, March 24, 2011 9:52:38 AM via web

We tape our live broadcast at noon. It airs in some markets then and then across the country later in the day. But everything - done at 12. Thursday, March 24, 2011 9:47:45 AM via web

gteresa Following @penncareerday to get a peek into @mkramer's life @nprfreshair Thursday, March 24, 2011 9:26:20 AM via HootSuite Retweeted by PennCareerDay and 1 other

Every day, I learn about a new topic and write about it. There's no such thing as writer's block when you have an hour till airtime. Thursday, March 24, 2011 9:46:00 AM via web

I've been at Fresh Air for about 15 months. In that time, I've written about finance, celebs, science, medicine, lit, int'l events. Thursday, March 24, 2011 9:45:04 AM via web

Finishing billboard. Onto making our web content for the day. Four pieces -- four websites -- that's about 2400-3200 words. I have an hour. Thursday, March 24, 2011 9:44:00 AM via web

Writing the one-minute billboard. Trying to fit descriptions of everything on the show today into a minute of text, with audio clips. Hard. Thursday, March 24, 2011 9:31:21 AM via web

I also update the show's FB, Twitter and Tumblr feeds. This is our Tumblr: http://nprfreshair.tumblr.com Thursday, March 24, 2011 9:08:42 AM via web

We are figuring out which clip works the best in terms of grabbing our listeners' attention -- and also time. It can't be too long. 10:05 AM Mar 24th via web

I've found some audio clips from our interview with John Mariani that seem billboard-worthy. Talking to Terry about them. 9:50 AM Mar 24th via web

At Penn, I wrote a column for the DP. That led to a fellowship at NPR called the Kroc: http://n.pr/hckh9w -- I've been at NPR ever since. 9:44 AM Mar 24th via web

My job is filled with really tight deadlines. Sometimes I have minutes to write something that will air directly after. I like that. 9:41 AM Mar 24th via web

So right now, I'm looking for an 8-10 second audio clip from each segment we're airing today, to see how I can write around them. 9:40 AM Mar 24th via web

Every day I write all of our web content (freshair.npr.org) and a one-minute billboard for the show that airs in the first min. of broadcast 9:40 AM Mar 24th via web

We edit all of our interviews. Some are taped same-day (breaking news.) Others sit on our shelf to air at some point in the future. 9:38 AM Mar 24th via web

So there are four segments on today's show -- as of now -- and we're taping three reviews and two interviews that will air in the future. 9:37 AM Mar 24th via web

Okay. I'm at WHYY. In a nutshell: I write a lot. So I'm about to see what's finalized for the show today, so I can start writing. 9:33 AM Mar 24th via web
• I'm about to walk to work so catch you in a little bit. I'm @mkramer on Twitter. The show is @nprfreshair. Any Q's? Let me know. 9:05 AM Mar 24th via web
• Today I'll be talking about what I do all day and how I got into pub. radio in the first place. 9:04 AM Mar 24th via web
• Good morning everyone. I'm Mel and I'm an associate producer at NPR's Fresh Air with Terry Gross.