

# ELIAS PODBER

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## SUMMARY

Excellent writer and communicator who is able to consider varying viewpoints when approaching issues. Recent college graduate with interdisciplinary education in international affairs and German. Passionate about national security, intelligence, European history and politics.

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## EDUCATION

**Lafayette College;** Easton, PA

*Graduated May 2024*

- 3.96/4.00 GPA
- Bachelor of Arts in International Affairs with a double major in German.

### Awards

- Marquis Scholarship: four-year, half-tuition merit scholarship; Marquis Award: four-year, percentage-based merit scholarship.
- Max Kade Award: merit-based scholarship for studying abroad in Germany.
- Dean's List: every semester.
- Phi Beta Kappa Honors Society (inducted Spring 2023), Vice President of International Affairs Honors Society Sigma Iota Rho (2023-24), National College Athlete Honors Society Chi Alpha Sigma (inducted Spring 2023), German Honor Society Delta Phi Alpha (Spring 2024)
- Rexroth Prize in German (Spring 2024)
- Fulbright Austria Recipient (grant year 2024-25)

### Prominent Coursework

- International Politics; European and Eastern European Politics; German Language, Literature and Culture; Russian History; East Asian International Relations; Globalization; Statistical Concepts; Economics; Research Methods in International Affairs; Anthropology and Sociology.
- Created a full-length news segment that aired on PBS39 on 2020 election night about felon disenfranchisement; conducted a research project on populist rhetoric in Germany in German (<https://sites.Lafayette.edu/ger421-sp23/afd-rhetorik>).

### Activities and Leadership

- Four-year member of the varsity NCAA Division I Men's Cross Country and Track Teams: I was named to the leadership group on the team as a senior and in the same year I was selected to be a part of the OAKS Leadership Academy for student-athletes. I also received the Leopard Award for the 2022 Cross Country season for my leadership skills and impact.
- Copy editor for student-run newspaper *the Lafayette* (2021-24): I edited newspaper stories every week for the print and online newspaper, as well as edited the print version of the paper prior to printing. My role increased in Fall 2023 as I was given the responsibility to edit stories from every section, not just Sports, and I had design input on the print paper.
- Secretary of the German Club (2023-24): Organize meeting notes and help organize events like film screenings, conversation hours, cabaret evenings and more. Prior to leadership role, I had been a member of the club since my first semester in college.

**Akademie für internationale Bildung;** Bonn, Germany

*May 2022 to June 2022*

- Summer study abroad program where I took two Advanced German courses over a six-week period.
- I gained a significant educational experience through living with a host family and participating in cultural exchange activities outside the classroom.

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## PROFESSIONAL HISTORY

### **The Resource Hub at Lafayette College, German Conversation Partner** *Oct 2023-Present*

- Create lesson plans for monthly hour-long meetings with students in the GERM 225 Business German class as part of a peer-based learning system.

### **City of Atlanta City Council, District 6 Intern** *June 2023 to July 2023*

- Worked under City of Atlanta District 6 Council Member Alex Wan.
- Observed and took notes on official meetings and the legislative process, assisted with constituent services and day-to-day office operations.
- Built the District 6 Office's official website ([www.atldistrict6.com](http://www.atldistrict6.com)) from scratch and built an unreleased website ([www.atlcurfew.com](http://www.atlcurfew.com)) for the Communications Department about a new set of curfew regulations.

### **The Resource Hub at Lafayette College, Peer Tutor** *May 2022 to May 2023*

- Certified peer tutor for German courses 101, 102, 111 and 112.

### **Park Tavern, Banquet Server** *June 2021 to August 2021*

- I worked full-time hours during summer 2021 and tasks included setting up for, serving and cleaning weddings and other events like corporate events and parties.

### **Pancake Social, Server's Assistant and Server** *November 2019 to February 2021*

- My tasks at this breakfast/brunch restaurant were food and drink running, bussing tables, waiting on large parties and training new staff.

### **YMCA Camp High Harbour at Lake Allatoona, Camp Counselor** *May 2018 to June 2020*

- Worked as a Counselor in Training in summer 2018 (three weeks); Assistant Counselor in summer 2019 (four weeks); Head Counselor (two weeks, cut short due to COVID).
- Tasks included leading a cabin of campers in Cabin 6 (ages 8-11) and Water Sports Cabin (ages 13-15), cleaning camp, teaching skills like wakeboarding and archery, and doing administrative work.
- I was nominated for staff MVP during week three in 2019 and nominated for Assistant Counselor of the session in 2019 for session 1-3.

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## SKILLS & INTERESTS

### **Skills**

- German language (Proficient); R Statistical Modeling (Moderately Proficient); Academic and Journalistic Writing (Proficient).

### **Interests**

- National Security; Intelligence Gathering and Analysis; Diplomacy; International Organizations; German and European Politics, History and Culture; Running, Cycling and Endurance Sports.