

# KEWEI XU

[benedict.xu2000@gmail.com](mailto:benedict.xu2000@gmail.com) <https://benedictxu.github.io/>

## EDUCATION

<b>Northeastern University</b> PhD in Economics	Boston, US Expected Jun. 2030
<b>Northwestern University</b> Master of Social and Economic Policy, Dual Degree Program Grading: 3.86/4.0 Core Modules: Causal Methods for Evaluating Policy, Applied data science	Evanston, US Aug. 2023 - Mar. 2025
<b>The Chinese University of Hong Kong</b> Master of Applied Economics, Dual Degree Program Grading: 3.5/4.0 Core Modules: Microeconomics, Econometrics, Macroeconomics	Shatin, Hong Kong Aug. 2023 - Mar. 2025
<b>Peking University, Guanghua School of Management</b> Exchange Student with Scholarship Relevant Courses: Python Foundation for Data Science, China Economy	Beijing, China Sept. 2021 - Jun. 2022
<b>University of Sydney, Business School</b> Bachelor of Commerce, Major: Finance, Minor: Accounting Grading: Distinction, among the top 10% in the cohort; received honour degree offer Awarded the University of Sydney Business School Student Exchange Travel Scholarships Core Modules: Derivative Security, Corporate Finance, Financial Accounting, Management Accounting	Sydney, Australia Aug. 2019 - Dec. 2022

## RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

<b>Decentralized Autonomous Organization Project</b> , Hong Kong Polytechnic University Research Assistant <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Worked as a co-author with Prof. Wenzhi Ding (Dave)</li></ul>	Kowloon, Hong Kong Mar. 2025 – July 2025
<b>Guided Research Capstone Project</b> , Northwestern University Author <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Conducted independent research and authored a working paper <i>Local Leader Behavior and Economic Performance</i></li><li>Employed the BERTopic and latent Dirichlet allocation to divide local governments' behaviors</li><li>Paper was accepted by PREDOC.org Research Conference</li></ul>	Evanston, US Sept. 2024 - Mar. 2025
<b>Early Life Disease Environment and Disability Project</b> , Northwestern University Co-author <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Wrote literature review on Early Life Health and Cognitive Function in Old Age</li><li>Employed PDS (post-double-selection) model to find appropriate control variables</li></ul>	Evanston, US Sept. 2024 - Dec. 2024
<b>The Smokefree Policy Project</b> , Northwestern University Co-author <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Worked as a co-author with Prof. Hamid NoghaniBehambari and Dr. Hoa Vu</li><li>Merged census data and cigarette tax data, conducted the fixed effect analysis, and explored mechanism in Stata</li><li>Visualized the year of cigarette tax introduction by states using python</li><li>Wrote literature review on smokefree policies and their impacts in America</li><li>This paper <i>Clearing the Smoke: Early-Life Exposure to Cigarette Taxes and Later-Life Old-Age Disability and Mortality</i> is undergoing a peer review process</li></ul>	Evanston, US Feb. 2024 - Dec. 2024
<b>Recruitment Camp for Prospective PhD Students</b> , The Chinese University of Hong Kong Candidate <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Give a presentation about my working paper: <i>Class composition, diversity peer effects and student achievement</i></li></ul>	Shatin, Hong Kong May 2024 - May 2024
<b>A longitudinal field experiment on work team creativity in an extreme context</b> , Peking University Research Assistant <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Collected data from CNKI and polished data with winsorization and tested randomization by ANOVA</li><li>Used Latex for formatting and employed data visualization tools</li></ul>	Beijing, China Dec. 2021 - Jan. 2022

- Served as research assistant for Prof. Wang Lan and provided assistance to the paper by Lan Wang, Xiao-ping Chen, & Jun Yin (2022). Leading via virtual communication: a longitudinal field experiment on work team creativity in an extreme context. *Asia Pacific Journal of Management*.

## ESG Fund Analysis Project

Honour Program

Sydney, Australia

Dec. 2022 - Mar. 2023

- Rank 10% in the Finance Major and be accepted by Professor Shumi Akhtar, Dr. Wei Cui and Dr. Juan Yao as a honour student at the University of Sydney
- Did literature review on the ESG fund and its impact, including Giese, G., Lee, L. E., Melas, D., Nagy, Z., & Nishikawa, L. (2019). Foundations of ESG investing: How ESG affects equity valuation, risk, and performance. *The Journal of Portfolio Management*, 45(5), 69-83. Kelly, B., & Jiang, H. (2014) etc.
- Collected and polished data from LSEG

## CONFERENCE AND SEMINARS

### PREDOC.org Research Conference

Presenter

Washington D.C. ,US

July 2025

- Working paper *Local Leader Behavior and Economic Performance* was accepted

### Applied Social Sciences Alliance (ASSA) Annual Conference 2025

Attendee

San Francisco, US

Expected Jan. 2025

### Fourth Annual Empirical Research Conference on Standardization

Attendee

Chicago, US

Oct. 2025

## PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

### Haitong Securities

Investment Bank Intern

Shenzhen, China

Mar. 2023 - Jun. 2023

- Conducted integrity check, completed Bond Annual Report of Haifa Holding Group Co., Ltd. (2022)
- Prepared the 3 prospectuses with a total value of RMB 6.4 billion independently, including the disclosure of the company's business, financial status, risk factors, etc. All prospectus was accepted by the China Securities Regulatory Commission
- Sorted out the past project experience of Haitong Securities Shenzhen Bond Financing Department and prepared bidding documents

### HuanAn Securities

Equity Research Intern

Shanghai, China

Jan. 2023 - Mar. 2023

- Formed the 5 research reports including Invotech New Shares Report, Huazhong CNC Research Report, Zhejiang Headman Research Report, and Sino Seal Holdings Research Report . Provided support for the company's stock to attract investment and boost valuation
- Participated in 2 exhibitions on the spot, organized 3 performance exchange meeting, and conducted in-depth exchanges with executives
- Used Xiumi and other software, responsible for the typesetting and updating of 5 in-depth reports and 2 weekly views on the official account "Organic Investment". Read volume reached 300

### Meritco Services Management Consulting

Research Analyst Intern

Beijing, China

Mar. 2021 - June. 2021

- Participated in a China restaurant analysis for Sequoia Capital. Used python and an interior database of Merito Service to collect more than 100,000 restaurants' data and did research using PivotTable.
- Participated in the analysis project of luxury goods buyer platform. Data crawling and analysis of hundreds of brands on platforms such as SSENCE and FARFETCH, interviewed with different groups to understand their luxury consumption habits, and helped the team complete analysis reports.

### Bank of Communications

Investment Bank Dept./Inclusive Finance Dept. (Intern)

Ningbo, China

Jan. 2021 - Feb. 2021

- Assisted Ningbo Physics Technology in its cross-border acquisition of Italian OSAI cnc S.R.L. automation company and completed due diligence
- Completed the prospectus of Ningbo Zhongpu Petrochemical Investment Group 2021 Green Medium Term Notes and participated in the whole process of underwriting
- Compared similar projects from various banks and prepared analysis reports and collected data on project promotion and assessed performance of different branches

## SCHOLARSHIP AND HONORS

---

<b>Stipended Graduate Assistantships</b> from Northeastern University	Aug. 2025
<b>Vice Chancellor's Global Mobility Scholarship</b> from the University of Sydney	April. 2022
<b>University of Sydney Business School Student Exchange Travel Scholarships</b>	Aug. 2021

## ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

---

<b>Student Representative:</b> Faculty Board, University of Sydney, Sydney, Australia	Jan. 2021 - Jan. 2022
<b>Languages:</b> Mandarin (Native), Japanese (JLPT n2), English (Fluent: GRE 335)	
<b>Computer Skills:</b> Advanced: Python, Latex, Stata, MS office, Intermediate: Wind, Bloomberg, Think-Cell, SQL, MATLAB, html, CSS	