### KEWEI XU

|benedict.xu2000@gmail.com| https://benedictxu.github.io|

#### **EDUCATION**

Northeastern University
PhD in Economics
Boston, US
Expected Jun. 2030

Northwestern University Evanston, US

Master of Social and Economic Policy, Dual Degree Program

Aug. 2023 - Mar. 2025

Grading: 3.89/4.0

Core Modules: Causal Methods for Evaluating Policy, Applied data science

The Chinese University of Hong Kong

Shatin, Hong Kong

Master of Applied Economics, Dual Degree Program

Aug. 2023 - Mar. 2025

Grading: 3.5/4.0

Core Modules: Microeconomics, Econometrics, Macroeconomics

Peking University, Guanghua School of Management

Beijing, China

Exchange Student with Scholarship Sept. 2021 - Jun. 2022

Relevant Courses: Python Foundation for Data Science, China Economy

University of Sydney, Business School

Sydney, Australia

Aug. 2019 - Dec. 2022

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

#### RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

Decentralized Autonomous Organization Project, Hong Kong Polytechnic UniversityKowloon, Hong KongResearch AssistantMar. 2025 - July 2025

• Worked as a research assistant of Prof. Wenzhi Ding (Dave)

Guided Research Capstone Project, Northwestern University

Evanston, US

Author Sept. 2024 - Mar. 2025

- Conducted independent research and authored a working paper *Local Leader Behavior and Economic Performance*
- Employed the BERTopic and latent Dirichlet allocation to divide local governments' behaviors
- Paper was accepted by PREDOC.org Research Conference

Early Life Disease Environment and Disability Project, Northwestern University

Evanston, US

Co-author

• Wrote literature review on Early Life Health and Cognitive Function in Old Age

• Employed PDS (post-double-selection) model to find appropriate control variables

# The Smokefree Policy Project, Northwestern University

Evanston, US

Co-author

Feb. 2024 - Dec. 2024

Sept. 2024 - Dec. 2024

- Worked as a co-author with Prof. Hamid Noghanibehambari and Dr. Hoa Vu
- Merged census data and cigarette tax data, conducted the fixed effect analysis, and explored mechanism in Stata
- Visualized the year of cigarette tax introduction by states using python
- Wrote literature review on smokefree policies and their impacts in America
- This paper Clearing the Smoke: Early-Life Exposure to Cigarette Taxes and Later-Life Old-Age Disability and Mortality is undergoing a peer review process

**Recruitment Camp for Prospective PhD Students**, The Chinese University of Hong Kong Candidate

Shatin, Hong Kong May 2024 - May 2024

• Give a presentation about my working paper: Class composition, diversity peer effects and student achievement

**A longitudinal field experiment on work team creativity in an extreme context**, Peking University Beijing, China Research Assistant Dec. 2021 - Jan. 2022

- Collected data from CNKI and polished data with winsorization and tested randomization by ANOVA
- Used Latex for formatting and employed data visualization tools

• 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**

Sydney, Australia

Honour Program 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**

Washington D.C. ,US

Presenter July 2025

• Working paper Local Leader Behavior and Economic Performance was accepted

**Applied Social Sciences Alliance (ASSA) Annual Conference 2025**Attendee

San Francisco, US Jan. 2025

Fourth Annual Empirical Research Conference on Standardization

Chicago, US Oct. 2025

RROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Haitong Securities
Investment Bank Intern

Attendee

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 SecuritiesShanghai, ChinaEquity Research InternJan. 2023 - Mar. 2023

- Formed the 5 research reports including Invotech New Shares Report, Huazhong CNC Research Report, Zhejiang Heademan Research Report, and Sinoseal 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**

Beijing, China

Research Analyst Intern

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

Ningbo, China

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

Jan. 2021 - Feb. 2021

- Assisted Ningbo Physis 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**

Stipended Graduate Assistantships from Northeastern UniversityAug. 2025Vice Chancellor's Global Mobility Scholarship from the University of SydneyApril. 2022University of Sydney Business School Student Exchange Travel ScholarshipsAug. 2021

## **ADDITIONAL INFORMATION**

Student Representative: Faculty Board, University of Sydney, Sydney, Australia

Jan. 2021 - Jan. 2022

Languages: Mandarin (Native), Japanese (JLPT n2), English (Fluent: GRE 335)

Computer Skills: Advanced: Python, Latex, Stata, MS office, Intermediate: Wind, Bloomberg, Think-Cell, SQL,

MATLAB, html, CSS