

# Sinyi Au

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## EDUCATION

**Northwestern University**, Evanston, Ill.

Master of Science in Journalism, Expected August 2025

- Investigative reporting specialization, data journalism concentration, GPA: 3.96/4

**The Chinese University of Hong Kong**, Hong Kong

Bachelor of Social Science, July 2020

- Major in Journalism and Communication, minor in Sociology
- Winner of 2019 Hong Kong Human Rights Press Awards (Student Video and Audio, Chinese)

## EXPERIENCE

**Medill News Service**, Washington, D.C.

*Student Reporter*, January 2025 – present

- Serve as a contributing reporter for ProPublica's national investigative series about U.S. drug safety under guidance of Pulitzer-winning journalist Professor Debbie Cenziper
- Report and analyze complex legal filings and overseas corporate disclosure to expose weaknesses in the FDA's drug safety policies
- Expanding on the series, now work on an investigation into related medical safety issues for an upcoming bylined story
- Analyze 90,000+ public health records on mental health emergency services and produced data visualization for an upcoming MindSite News investigation

**Ignites Asia, Financial Times**, Hong Kong

*Reporter*, (Full time January 2023 – September 2024; Freelance March 2025 – present)

- Published over 200 original stories on the Asian asset management industry for the Financial Times specialist publication with a focus on Hong Kong, Taiwan and China
- Conducted exclusive interviews leading to scoops on the rise of exchange-traded funds, crypto funds and regulatory shifts across Asia, cited by the Financial Times and translated by Taiwan's United Daily News, China Times and FT Chinese
- Wrangled and analyzed large-scale, unstructured Chinese-language datasets of over 20,000 rows to identify key market trends
- Transformed complex data analysis into clear data visualizations using Flourish and authored original articles explaining findings to a specialist financial audience

**Bloomberg Businessweek/Chinese Edition**, Hong Kong

*Reporter*, September 2020 – December 2022

- Produced six cover stories and 15+ in-depth stories on global and local finance, tech and politics for the Traditional Chinese edition of Bloomberg Businessweek, published by Modern Media in Hong Kong and Taiwan
- Wrote investigative stories examining the economic impact of COVID-19 on Hong Kong's aviation hub status, the reflection of shifting consumer behavior in the art toy market, and the effects of the 2019 U.S. election on U.S.-China relations
- Provided editorial training and mentorship to six interns, from story conception to final publication of feature packages

**Radio Television Hong Kong**, Hong Kong

*Junior Chinese News Reporter (Part-time)*, September 2018 – September 2020

- Provided extensive on-the-ground coverage of major political events for TV and radio news, including the 2019 Hong Kong protests and the subsequent District Council elections
- Reported from the frontline of public health crises, including the Hong Kong-China border during the initial COVID-19 outbreak, producing over 50 audio features and news packages

**Citizen News**, Hong Kong

*Intern Reporter*, May 2019 – July 2019

- Analyzed hours of on-site footage of large-scale protests and online data to verify and counter official government claims as part of a pioneering investigation into hidden police identification policies
- Produced multiple 800+ word in-depth political features from the frontlines of the protests under intense deadlines
- Wrote a series of in-depth features to mark the 30th anniversary of the 1989 Tiananmen Square protests, demonstrating ability to handle historically significant and politically sensitive topics

## SKILLS

- Reporting: FOIA, financial reporting, investigative reporting
- Data analysis & visualization: Python, R, SQL, Excel, Flourish, Datawrapper
- Web development: HTML, CSS, JavaScript, GitHub
- Multimedia: Adobe Premiere Pro, Photoshop, Lightroom, DSLR photography, Audacity
- Language: Cantonese (Native), Chinese Mandarin (Native), Korean (Conversational)

**Work Authorization:** Eligible to work in the U.S. for 3 years (STEM OPT)