

Master's Thesis at Shanghai Jiao Tong University

I spent the spring semester of 2025 writing my Master's Thesis at Shanghai Jiao Tong University under the supervision of an associate professor from the Antai School of Economics & Management. This was made possible through the strong partnership with the university and my home institution. Overall, it was a great experience made even greater thanks to the support from the Swedish School in Beijing scholarship. The scholarship helped greatly in alleviating any monetary worries, allowing me to focus on my studies, build my network, and explore China and its vast culture.

Through the university in Shanghai I gained access to an extensive amount of data, enabling me to conduct a deep dive into sustainability in relation to the Chinese stock market and corporate landscape, which was the center of my thesis work. During the time spent writing my thesis, I improved my analytical abilities, knowledge of sustainability and finance, my Chinese language skills, and more. Most important of all, I had the privilege of meeting a lot of amazing people, both in Shanghai and a lot of other cities I travelled to.

From the outset of my stay in China, as I was close to graduation, the plan was to look for a full-time job opportunity there so I could stay even longer. I have lived in Sweden for my whole life, not counting exchange experiences, so I wanted to try something new and exciting in my career. Also, I was dreading the arrival of the Swedish winter. Thanks to a lot of luck and perhaps also a bit of stubbornness I was able to find such an opportunity, and as I am writing this I have received my Chinese visa and will return once more to Shanghai, but for work this time.

This experience has been transformative both academically and personally. The combination of rigorous research, cultural immersion, and the opportunity to build a professional network in China has shaped my outlook on the future. I am deeply grateful to the Swedish School in Beijing scholarship for its financial support, which allowed me to focus fully on my thesis work and take advantage of everything Shanghai had to offer. I now look forward to beginning my professional journey in Shanghai.

Johan Magnusson
September 2025