

Charlotte (Charlie) Fong

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EDUCATION

New York University Abu Dhabi, United Arab Emirates (Graduating May 2026)

- Bachelor of Arts in Arab Studies, minors in Arabic and Archaeology. 4.0 Current Cumulative GPA.

International Christian School, Hong Kong (Graduated June 2020)

- American High School Diploma. 3.99 Unweighted Cumulative GPA, Salutatorian. 5's in AP European History, World History and Statistics, 4 in AP Spanish.

JOURNALISTIC EXPERIENCE

Agence France-Presse, *Reporting Intern*, United Arab Emirates (March 2024)

- Completed a week-long internship at leading French news agency AFP during spring break. Interviewed a member of the Dubai police in Arabic. Conducted investigative research on the UAE84 "terrorism" trial. Shot videos at the Dubai Ramadan souq and iftar cannon. Monitored state and maritime agencies' social media changes for latest developments in Houthi Red Sea attacks.

CNN Academy Abu Dhabi, *Fellow*, United Arab Emirates (Sep. 2023 - Dec. 2023)

- One of thirty selected [fellows](#) of CNN Academy Abu Dhabi 2023, participating in a ten-week intensive media training [program](#) learning from the network's journalists with a focus on climate storytelling. Final video about cat overpopulation caused by rising temperatures [aired](#) on CNN's Connect the World with Becky Anderson on December 1 during COP28. Honorable Mention Special Recognition Award at the 2023 Climate Storytelling [Simulation](#) among 110 participants from over 30 countries.

CNN International, *News Intern*, Hong Kong (May 2022 - July 2022)

- Received first [byline](#) on 15th day of internship: "Dead little blue penguins keep washing ashore". Reported [live](#) on July 1 Hong Kong's 25th Anniversary Handover to China. Participated in [producing](#) "Marketplace Asia" hosted by Kristie Lu Stout. Gathered newsworthy videos and photos, creating alerts sent to all CNN producers. Worked across News, Digital and Business Desks.

The Gazelle, New York University Abu Dhabi, United Arab Emirates

- *Managing Editor* (Aug. 2022 - Nov. 2022): Managed university student newspaper of more than 60 staff members. Made final editorial decisions before publication. Acted as liaison between school administration and publication staff. Resigned due to differences in editorial direction. Writer's page can be found [here](#).
- *Senior News Editor* (Aug. 2021 - May 2021): Oversaw News Desk during production on a weekly basis, managing a team of 5 editors and deputies remotely from Hong Kong. Made final editing calls on the desk. Member of the publication's managing board that governed its editorial direction and policies. Represented the desk at pitch and budget meetings. Mentored junior staff writers in writing and editing. Wrote an average of two articles per week, from profiles of students and faculty to investigative news pieces to personal essays.
- *News Editor* (Jan. 2021 - May 2021): Promoted to desk editor from deputy after a semester. Stood

in for the senior editor and directed the desk in their absence. Handled daily affairs of the desk such as rostering editors.

- *Deputy News Editor (Aug. 2020 - Dec. 2020)*: Selected as deputy editor in my first semester with the UAE's only independent publication. Worked under senior editor to cover weekly news items, writing one article per week. Edited articles for style, clarity and grammar.

Coconuts Media, Editorial Intern, Hong Kong (Oct. 2020 - Dec. 2020)

- Covered local breaking news for the Hong Kong bureau of Coconuts, a news outlet with branches all over Southeast Asia. Wrote at least two articles a day. Stories ranged from local crime and politics to a long form feature on two Filipino sisters who lived undocumented for 30 years. Writer's page can be found [here](#).

South China Morning Post Young Post, Reporter and Intern, Hong Kong (Dec. 2014 - Apr. 2021)

- Veteran student reporter at the city's leading English language newspaper with extensive reporting experience. Live reported on the 2019 pro-democracy protests and DSE results day. Interviewed Nelson Mandela's documentary photographer and Angry Birds' creator. Completed two full-time internships at the headquarters and worked alongside professional journalists. Selected by the main paper's photography editor to shadow a photographer for a day. Stories ranged from local arts and culture to op-eds to reviews.

ACADEMIC EXPERIENCE

New York University Abu Dhabi, Research Assistant, United Arab Emirates (Jan. 2022 - July 2022)

- Assisted Senior Humanities Research Fellow Kathryn Miller on her project titled "Risky Business: Studies of Christian-Muslim Partnerships in the Late Medieval Mediterranean". Conducted literature review in Spanish. Read and summarized scholarly articles on pre-modern Mediterranean history, Islamic law, historical chronicles, letters, merchant manuals, and travel memoirs.

The Chinese University of Hong Kong, Research Assistant, Hong Kong (Jan. 2022 - May 2022)

- Worked at the Center for the Study of Islamic Culture under Professor James Frankel. Conducted field and library research and drafted reports for the Center's partnership project with the Intangible Cultural Heritage Office on cultural practices and festivals by non-Chinese groups. Assisted in day to day administrative and ad hoc tasks such as translation and contacting associated organizations.

ADDITIONAL EXPERIENCE AND ACTIVITIES

Rock Climbing Wall at NYU Abu Dhabi, Climbing Assistant (Nov. 2023 - May 2024): Maintaining order and safety during open climb sessions. Performing safety checks and occasional emergency rescues. Reception and equipment management. Proficient in top rope climbing and belaying.

Arab Crossroads Studies Program at NYU Abu Dhabi, Student Assistant (Sep. 2023 - May 2024): Acting as liaison between faculty and students. Curating a weekly departmental newsletter. Organizing and promoting events such as open house and luncheon lectures.

Tin Shui Wai Yan Chai Community Center, Football Head Coach (July 2023 - Aug. 2023): Sole football coach of a group of grassroots boys aged 5 to 11. Instilled in them correct character, discipline, attitude and sportsmanship through drills and scrimmages. Organized a family fun day involving parents. Received gifts of gratitude from parents and children at the end of the 8 week summer course.

Africa Center Hong Kong, Education Programs Intern (May 2021 - July 2021): Creating content for and

curating educational programs including African art, indigenous religions and refugees.

Kilna Beirut, Website Designer (Sep. 2020 - Nov. 2020): Designed the website of an NGO that collects and distributes aid to victims of the Aug. 4 Beirut explosion in multiple languages.

Photo4Good Hong Kong, President & Head of Photography (2019 - 2020): Directed a network of volunteer student photographers to provide free, high quality services to nonprofits. Connected 60+ student photographers with 20+ organizations, including KELY Support Group, Kids4Kids, Hong Kong Model United Nations, etc.

AWARDS

Winner of Hong Kong Student Letter Writing Competition (2020) – Received a trophy, certificate and 1000 HKD cash prize.

Winner of Literary Writing Lodge in Hong Kong Voices (2018) – Chosen from 30 students at the Baptist University's writing workshop.

Finalist of Best Volunteering Report Award (2014) – Presented at South China Morning Post Young Post's Junior Reporter Awards.

LANGUAGES

English – Native proficiency C2

Cantonese (Traditional Script) – Bilingual proficiency C2

Spanish – Advanced-High working proficiency C1

Arabic (Modern Standard and Egyptian) – Advanced-Mid working proficiency B2

Mandarin (Simplified Script) – Advanced-Mid working proficiency B2

Japanese – Intermediate-Mid proficiency A2

SKILLS AND INTERESTS

Fact Checking – Completed free online courses by Agence France-Presse on combating misinformation.

Final Cut Pro X – Basic proficiency of video editing on this software.

Adobe Lightroom – Basic knowledge of photo editing and color correction.

Mentoring – Providing active mentorship to teenagers age 12-18 at St. Andrew's Church Abu Dhabi.

Public Speaking – Former **TEDxYouth** speaker “Avoiding, erasing, acknowledging – journey to self-reconciliation”. Preparing and presenting sermons at youth group.

Discussion Facilitation – Leading small group discussions in religious and secular settings.

Sports Coaching – Building character and instilling life values of young children through football.

Babysitting and Tutoring – Taught and took care of children from 3 to 10 from various cultural, linguistic and religious backgrounds.

Acoustic Guitar – Arranging fingerstyle covers, composing original music and leading worship.

Football – Active player in club and school teams for 8 years and counting.

Rock Climbing – Avid boulderer and part time student assistant at the university rock climbing wall.