Introduction
• After passing health insurance reform 10 years ago, China has made significant progress on the Sustainable Development Goals.
• Country still suffers from healthcare inequities, especially between its urban and rural populations.

Key Takeaways
Thesis Research
• SDG data was highly aggregated, not conducive to analysis.
• Extensive consultations and literature review to develop a new topic.
• New research topic: The political and sociological determinants of healthcare overutilization in China.

Exposure to Health Policy in China
• Despite significant progress, China’s progress on health-related development goals is hampered by inequities and erratic policy decisions.
• Data quality is poor and highly aggregated, no interoperability between hospitals.
• Reform continues across many different tracks (service delivery, financing, drug pricing, etc.).

Objective of Internship
To conduct a mixed-methods analysis of how China’s SDG outcomes have been affected by health insurance reform, and how this progress varies across geographies.

Work profile
• Performed literature reviews, data analysis, and consulted professors on how to conduct analysis.
• Assisted with language translations, literature reviews, and writing for another research project on China’s overall progress on SDG indicators.
• Attended talks on China’s health systems restructuring.

Looking ahead
• Clear path forward on thesis with a testable, feasible research question.
• Solidified interest in China health policy, potentially to be explored in the future through a fellowship or Masters.

Questions
• As China’s population continues aging, how can we encourage a shift toward sustainable, evidence-based policies to reduce strains on healthcare services?
• How can China coordinate healthcare reform across its many sectors and stakeholders?

Conclusion
• Though thesis plans did not go as expected, overall an intellectually and culturally illuminating experience.

Host School Engagement and Cultural Exchange
• Diverse team hailing from vastly different regions and backgrounds (military, overseas students, etc.).
• DKU is Duke’s satellite campus in its inaugural year, unique blend of international and local students made for illuminating conversations.
• Formed relationship with host school program: will serve as an “ambassador” for DKU’s global health program at U.S. colleges.

Acknowledgements
I would like to thank CHW for providing me the funding for making this revelatory experience possible. I would also like to thank Professors Long, Wu, Tang, and Yan at DKU for assisting me with my research endeavors.