



Han Hong Cao comes from Ho Chi Minh City, Vietnam. She attended Dickinson College, Pennsylvania, for her Bachelor of Arts degree in International Studies, and is currently pursuing her Master of Arts degree in International Relations as part of the dual degree program between her undergraduate institution and Johns Hopkins SAIS.

Han's main interests lie in private sector development, public-private partnerships, and impact investing. Her academic focus was spurred on by her experience growing up in Vietnam and living in the United States, where she found herself increasingly drawn to studies of economic development and emerging economies in Asia. She would like to pursue a career in consulting after SAIS, and therefore will be concentrating in international economics and finance with a regional focus on East Asia.

As an undergraduate, Han was active in various student organizations and initiatives that aimed to benefit the communities around her. Starting with volunteer work as a tutor and IRS-certified tax assistant in her first year, Han continuously expanded her extracurricular engagements with more leadership initiatives. She served as a resident advisor, community service chair and class representative during her second year and led the founding of her college's first Women of Color Summit. Through this experience of managing a student-run project with no precedent to build upon, Han was able to hone her ability in leadership as well as communication and organization.

Following her passion for development work, Han interned for an education startup in 2018 where she assisted the structuring of their curricula and their effort to expand access to online English-learning in rural areas of Vietnam. During her gap year, she took part in the creation of an online community for Vietnamese literature as project manager, where she helped manage their social media activities and website-building progress. She also worked at the Strategy and Transactions department of Ernst and Young as a strategy intern.

Han speaks Vietnamese and English fluently and is working to improve her proficiency in Spanish and Italian. Determined, meticulous and high achieving, she has earned two institutional awards for writing and research as an undergraduate while maintaining an advanced academic coursework and active extracurricular involvements. Her career goal is to contribute to equitable and sustainable growth in developing regions through consulting, where she can take part in meaningful work while diversifying her skillset and global experiences.