THE USE OF INFOGRAPHICS IN NEWSPAPERS’ BUSINESS REPORTING
ABOUT GLOBAL MARKET SWING

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ABSTRACT

In the spring of 2016, I took part in the Washington Program to finish the graduation project for my master’s degree. I worked as an intern at Al Jazeera English for their program The Stream. Through this internship, I learned how to practice journalism and conduct research in international news reporting. This internship also challenged me in transforming from a graduate student into a potential journalist, and working professionally in the broadcasting field.

For the analysis component, I conducted a textual analysis of infographics and articles from five major newspapers covering the devaluation of the Chinese currency, renminbi, and the following stock market swing. This analysis found out that different newspapers cover the story and use infographics differently, mainly based on its location and targeted audiences. But in general, infographics serve as a complement to articles in newspapers’ business reporting. Line charts are often used together with other symbols and images in business reporting to convey one or two related concepts. Most frequently those concepts are related to the U.S. and western financial system. With those symbols and concepts, China is constructed as a country facing serious economic challenge and future uncertainty. The economic challenges in China and other emerging markets was the main reason behind the global market turmoil.