

## **Typical PhD programme structure (subject to revision)**

All PhD students, whether under normal track or HKPFS, will follow the same programme structure. Students typically take 4-5 years to complete the programme. The normal study period is simply an estimation of the time to complete the programme. For example, any student can complete the programme in 4 years if he/she meets all the graduation requirements, the most important of which is having at least 3 working papers, one of which must be a sole-authored thesis.

### Year 1

#### Coursework

- AF6005 Microeconomic Foundations of Financial Economics
- AF6210 Theories of Accounting and Finance
- AF6305 Asset Pricing and Investment
- AF6003 Econometric Methods
- AF6105 Capital Market Research in Accounting
- AF6304 Corporate Finance
- Academic teaching and writing courses

Attendance of all PhD workshops

Research proposal before the end of Year 1

### Year 2

#### Coursework

- AF6108 Contemporary issues in Accounting Research
- AF6306 Contemporary issues in Empirical Finance
- MM6001 Research Methodology
- HIT6081 Ethics: Research, Professional & Personal Perspectives

Minimum attendance of at least 20 research seminars

Qualifying exam in the middle of Year 2

Research paper before the end of Year 2

Students must successfully complete of Years 1 and 2 to continue the PhD programme.

### Years 3-5

Minimum attendance of at least 20 research seminars per year

PhD thesis must be submitted by end of February in the year of graduation, with thesis defense typically scheduled before mid-June