



# MRes/PhD in Accounting Information Session

Tuesday 19 November 2024

This session will be recorded



Department of  
**Accounting**



# Welcome & Introductions

## ■ Doctoral Programme Directors

- Dr Xi Li (EoA Track)
- Dr Tommaso Palermo (AOI Track)



## ■ Programme Manager

- Rebecca Baker



# This session will cover:

- What is an MRes/PhD?
- Why a PhD in Accounting?
- Programme Structure
- Research Areas
- Application Process
- Funding a PhD
- Q&A



# What is an MRes/PhD?

- It's **hard work!**
- You attend taught courses, research seminars, workshops; you give seminar presentations and work-in-progress seminars – all from your first year!
- It requires **full-time commitment** – 5 years of your life
- But ... it is **rewarding** for those who have a passion for research and want a career in academia



# Why a PhD in Accounting?

- Excellent research environment for PhD students
- Top-ranked researchers in Accounting
- Faculty at the cutting edge of their disciplines – working on relevant, topical and interesting problems
- Opportunity to interact with well-known senior faculty as well as up-and-coming younger researchers



# Why a PhD in Accounting?

- An opportunity to carry out research on fundamental and challenging problems and questions in a broad range of accounting and accounting-related subject areas (e.g., economics, finance, sustainability, social policy)
- Links with Centre for Analysis of Risk and Regulation (CARR)
- Access to research seminars, workshops, and national and international conferences



# Why a PhD in Accounting?

## ■ Research facilities:

- Individual desks
- Shared research student office
- Computer facilities
- Support for conference attendance
- Library and data support



# Programme Structure:

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- Five year programme, available on a full-time basis only
- MRes → Two years, taking taught courses to the value of six units
- PhD → Three years, focussing on your thesis
- Progression criteria apply for each year
- Offered in two tracks
  - **AOI Track:** Accounting, Organisations and Institutions
  - **EoA Track:** Economics of Accounting





# Research Areas

## Accounting, Organisations and Institutions (AOI Track)

- Financial regulation and financial reporting
- Use and interpretation of financial numbers in capital markets
- Accounting reforms in the public sector
- Valuation processes and the social consequences of quantification
- Transformations of the auditing profession and auditing practices
- Social studies of markets and risk regulation
- Historical studies of accounting
- Management accounting in the digital economy

..... to study the societal, institutional and organisational roles of accounting broadly conceived mainly through **qualitative research methods**



# Research Areas

## ■ **Economics of Accounting (EoA Track)**

- Financial reporting and capital markets
- Economic and real effects of accounting and disclosure
- Non-traditional financial intermediaries (e.g., crypto currency) and social media
- Corporate governance (e.g., executive compensation, board of directors, ownership structure)
- Credit markets and green debt
- Sustainability and environmental, social and governance (ESG) investing
- Financial misconduct, fraud, and political connections
- Auditing and analysts
- Employees and labor markets
- Contracting and performance evaluation

.....mainly **empirical archival** analysis.



# Outline of MRes: AOI Track

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## Year 1:

- AC502 Foundations of Accounting, Organisations and Institutions
- AC500 Topics in Accounting Research (AOI) (examined in Year 2)
- Methodology courses (e.g. MY500, MY521, MY551)
- Other elective courses (e.g. SO470 The Sociology of Markets)

## Year 2:

- AC599 Research Paper in Accounting
- AC504 Topics in Accounting Research (AOI)
- Other elective courses
- AC507 Accounting work in progress seminar (not examined)

Plus attendance of research seminars and workshops.



# Outline of MRes: EoA Track

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## Year 1:

- EC400 Introductory Course in Mathematics and Statistics (pre-sessional)
- AC506 Topics in Accounting Research (EoA) (examined in Year 2)
- EC411 Microeconomics
- EC402 Econometrics
- FM436 Financial Economics

## Year 2:

- AC599 Research Paper in Accounting
- AC501 Topics in Accounting Research (EoA)
- Other elective courses (e.g. MY474 Applied Machine Learning for Social Science, MY559 Quantitative Text Analysis, FM502 Corporate Finance)
- AC507 Accounting work in progress seminar (not examined)

Plus attendance of research seminars and workshops.



# Graduate Destinations

- Copenhagen Business School
- Deutsche Bank
- Harvard Business School
- HEC Montreal
- HEC Paris
- Imperial College London
- INSEAD
- Ivey Business School
- King's College London
- Lancaster University
- London School of Economics and Political Science
- Monash University
- Oxford University
- University of California, San Diego
- University of Illinois at Chicago
- University of Mannheim
- University of New South Wales



# Recent Theses and Placement Highlights: AOI Track

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**Charlotte Bartels (2024) Deutsche Bank:** *Shifting corporate concerns: Three papers on sustainability, corporate responsibility and the changing role of accounting*

**Finia Kuhlmann (2023) HEC Paris:** *Accounting for vulnerability*

**Rani Suleman (2022) HEC Montreal:** *Accounting for altruism: tracing the transformation of the modern-day charity in the United Kingdom*

**Dmitrii Zhikharevich (2020) European University at St Petersburg:** *Heuristics of capital: A historical sociology of U.S. venture capitalism, 1946-1968*

**Brett Considine (2019) Monash University:** *Auditor professional scepticism: A qualitative exploration of its development and operation in the United Kingdom*

**Nadine de Gannes (2018) Ivey Business School:** *The emergence and work processes of executive remuneration consultants*

**Robert Charnock (2016) University of Birmingham:** *Accounting and climate change: The two degrees target and financing the transition to a low-carbon economy*



# Recent Theses and Placement Highlights: EoA Track

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**Andrey Perez-Silva (2022) University of California, San Diego**  
*Essays on Firm Stakeholders*

**Felix Vetter (2020) University of Mannheim (now M.I.T)**  
*Essays on financial gatekeeper regulation*

**Yang Wang (2019) Lancaster University**  
*Essays on financial analysts and broker-hosted conferences*

**Daphne Hart (2019) University of Illinois at Chicago**  
*Essays on the relation between accounting and employment, risk and valuation*

**Rodney Brown (2018) University of New South Wales**  
*Essays at the intersection of taxation and financial accounting*

**Hami Amiraslani (2017) INSEAD**  
*Essays on debt contracting*



# Application Process

- Look at the research interests of faculty members  
Apply for each track separately - have an idea of the general direction you want your research to take and articulate this in your application
- Apply through the Graduate Admissions online system and include all required documents. Incomplete applications will not be released to selectors
- GMAT/GRE score must be included for EoA. English Language test scores can be provided later
- When the initial evaluation is favourable, you will be invited to interview to present your proposal





# PhD Funding

- Full funding is available. Applicants are entered for funding when application is made, no separate process or form:
  - Fees + generous bursary
  - Supplemented with class teaching
- Successful applicants are normally fully funded



# Application deadline

- Application deadline: **22 May 2025**
- But: the selection process for funded places takes place earlier:
  - First round deadline: **15 January 2025**
  - Second/final deadline for *funded places*: **25 April 2025**
- Selection for funding is based on receipt of a **complete application** – including all ancillary documents, references etc.
- **The Department strongly encourages early applications.**



# Top Tips

■ **Apply Early:** Strongly recommend you submitting before the first deadline on 15 January. Applications are reviewed and offers are made on a rolling basis, so places may fill up early.

■ **Do NOT** contact individual faculty. All inquiries should be directed to Doctoral Programme Directors (DPDs).

■ **What are we looking for (EoA Track)?**

- Outstanding academic performance in previous degrees
- Strong **quantitative** skills
- Demonstrated **commitment** and **determination** for research
- Strong **communication** skills: the ability to effectively convey ideas both orally and in writing
- Intellectual curiosity



# Common Q&As (EoA Track)

## ■ Do I need to have a master's degree or a degree in accounting/finance to apply?

No, but you need to have relevant knowledge in economics, accounting, and/or finance.

## ■ Is there a minimum requirement for GPA or GMAT/GRE score?

No, we evaluate applications holistically. However, we place greater emphasis on quantitative courses and scores.

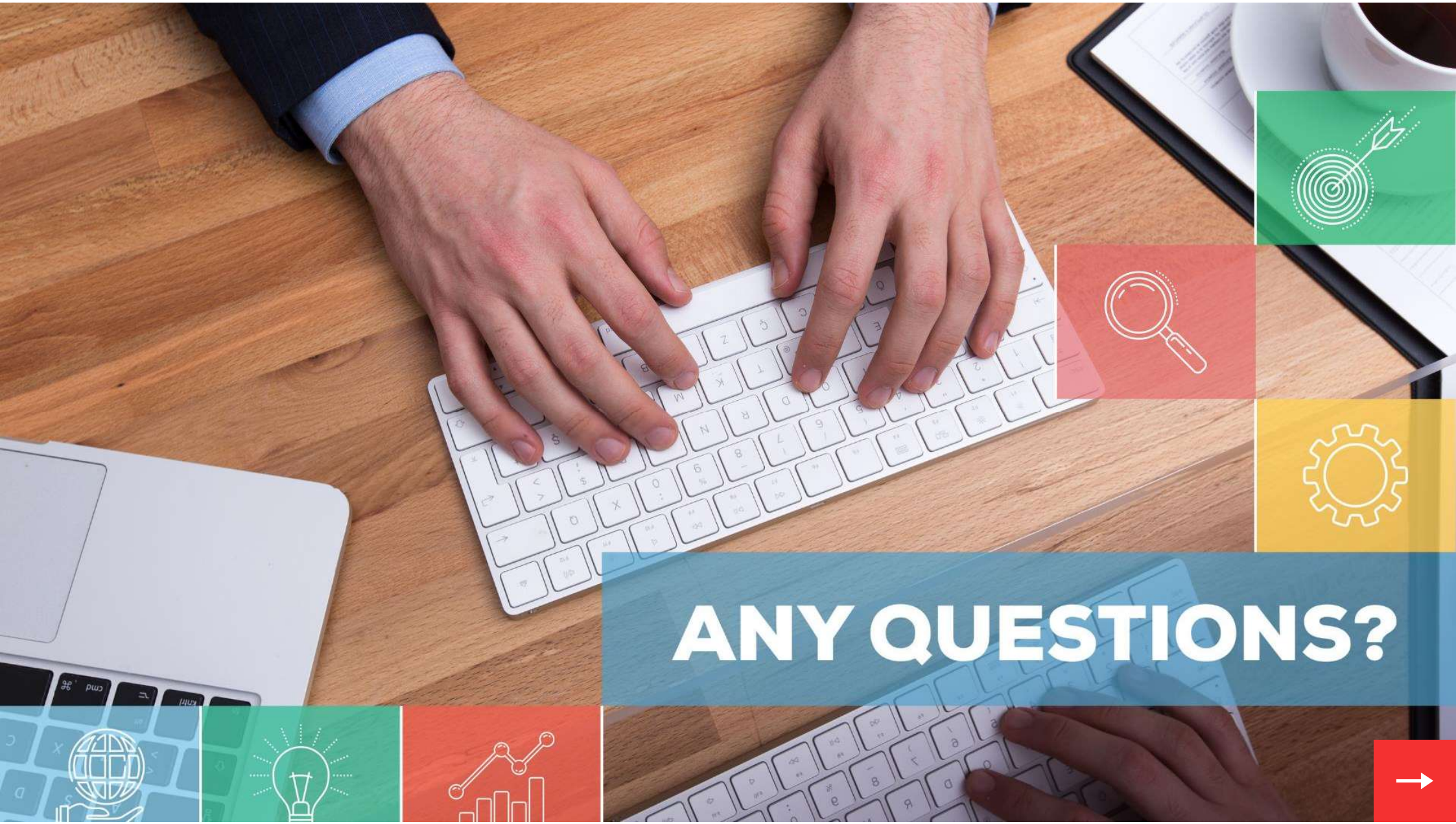
## ■ Do I need to have prior research experience?

No, but we look for candidates with a strong commitment and determination for research. Prior research experience is one way to demonstrate these qualities.

## ■ Do I need to have programming skills?

No, you can learn them during the PhD program. However, familiarity with programming languages (e.g., Python, R, SAS, Stata) is a plus, as it demonstrates your commitment to research.





**ANY QUESTIONS?**





# Thank you for joining us

If you have any further questions, please do not hesitate to get in touch:

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Graduate Admissions:  
<https://www.lse.ac.uk/study-at-lse/graduate/contact-graduate-admissions>



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