



MQBS1030

Decision Making for Business

Session 1, Online-scheduled-weekday 2024

Macquarie Business School Faculty level units

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General Information

Unit convenor and teaching staff

Unit Convenor

Prashan Karunaratne

prashan.karunaratne@mq.edu.au

Contact via Email

4ER 736

Please see iLearn

Credit points

10

Prerequisites

Corequisites

Co-badged status

Unit description

Throughout their careers, leaders and managers will need to make sound decisions and they will need to take into account and assess many sources of information in the process. In this unit, students will develop skills in economics and analytics to help them develop critical decision-making capabilities. Students will explore drivers of behaviour using economic frameworks and models. Students will explore the validity, reliability and relevance of information and data provided to them and develop an understanding of how to interpret the information and data to make sound decisions. Students will work on analytics techniques and develop problem-solving skills to simplify complex economic information and data for decision-making by business stakeholders.

Important Academic Dates

Information about important academic dates including deadlines for withdrawing from units are available at <https://www.mq.edu.au/study/calendar-of-dates>

Learning Outcomes

On successful completion of this unit, you will be able to:

ULO1: Explain business issues using economic and analytics theories and concepts.

ULO2: Apply economic and analytics techniques to solve business problems.

ULO3: Analyse business decision making using economics and analytics frameworks.

General Assessment Information

Active Engagement In-Class Assessment (expectations, logistics, and special consideration):

Weekly workshop participation is expected throughout the session. Students are expected to attend all workshops and participate in activities. Student performance in these activities will be assessed during class. The best 8 out of 12 workshop marks will count towards your unit grade. Despite this '8 out of 12' requirement, participation in all workshops will enhance your chances of success in the unit, as workshops are where we engage with the unit material via active learning, as well as preparation and revision for other unit assessments. There is a positive correlation between workshop participation and unit success.

You do not need to submit a Special Consideration case unless you miss more than 4 workshops. If you do submit a Special Consideration case for the Active Engagement Assessment - in your case-ticket, you must specify how many workshops you have missed in total for this unit. Students who specify that they have only missed 4 or less workshops in total will have their cases automatically declined - as you still have the opportunity to have 8 submissions.

If you have a serious commitment that will arise during the session that could result in you missing one workshop as a one-off event, please email the Unit Convenors to find an alternative arrangement - you can do this without submitting a Special Consideration case.

Late Assessment Submission Penalty (written assessments):

Unless a Special Consideration request has been submitted and approved, a 5% penalty (of the total possible mark) will be applied each day a written assessment is not submitted, up until the 7th day (including weekends). After the 7th day, a grade of '0' will be awarded even if the assessment is submitted. Submission time for all written assessments is set at 11:55 pm. A 1-hour grace period is provided to students who experience a technical concern.

For any late submission of time-sensitive tasks, such as scheduled tests/exams, performance assessments/presentations, and/or scheduled practical assessments/labs, students need to submit an application for [Special Consideration](#).

Assessment Tasks

Name	Weighting	Hurdle	Due
Active Engagement	25%	No	Weekly from Week 2
Applied Economics Case Study	25%	No	Week 8
Business Analytics Case Study	25%	No	Week 10

Name	Weighting	Hurdle	Due
<u>Skills Showcase Presentation</u>	25%	No	Week 14

Active Engagement

Assessment Type ¹: Participatory task

Indicative Time on Task ²: 10 hours

Due: **Weekly from Week 2**

Weighting: **25%**

Weekly workshop participation is expected throughout the session. Students are expected to attend all workshops and participate in activities. Student performance in these activities will be assessed.

On successful completion you will be able to:

- Explain business issues using economic and analytics theories and concepts.
- Apply economic and analytics techniques to solve business problems.
- Analyse business decision making using economics and analytics frameworks.

Applied Economics Case Study

Assessment Type ¹: Case study/analysis

Indicative Time on Task ²: 20 hours

Due: **Week 8**

Weighting: **25%**

Students are given a case study which they need to analyse from an economic framework/s and support their analysis with a data set which has been provided. Students will prepare a 4-page report, please see iLearn for further details.

On successful completion you will be able to:

- Analyse business decision making using economics and analytics frameworks.

Business Analytics Case Study

Assessment Type ¹: Case study/analysis

Indicative Time on Task ²: 20 hours

Due: **Week 10**

Weighting: **25%**

Students are given a data set which they have to clean, summarise, visualise, pivot, and more, to generate business insights and business intelligence by linking their findings to economic frameworks. Students will prepare a 4-page report, please see iLearn for further details.

On successful completion you will be able to:

- Apply economic and analytics techniques to solve business problems.

Skills Showcase Presentation

Assessment Type ¹: Presentation

Indicative Time on Task ²: 20 hours

Due: **Week 14**

Weighting: **25%**

Students are asked to find their own contemporary business problem or scenario which they will analyse via economic framework/s, and their own data set/s. Students will prepare a 5-minute presentation as well as supplementary slides.

On successful completion you will be able to:

- Explain business issues using economic and analytics theories and concepts.
- Apply economic and analytics techniques to solve business problems.
- Analyse business decision making using economics and analytics frameworks.

¹ If you need help with your assignment, please contact:

- the academic teaching staff in your unit for guidance in understanding or completing this type of assessment
- the [Writing Centre](#) for academic skills support.

² Indicative time-on-task is an estimate of the time required for completion of the assessment task and is subject to individual variation

Delivery and Resources

This unit is an inter-disciplinary unit of Economics and Business Analytics

Economics - Optional textbook

- Principles of Economics (Richard Holden, Betsey Stevenson, Justin Wolfers), First Edition 2023

The text is available for purchase from [Booktopia](#) or [directly from the publisher](#). There are also copies available at the Macquarie University library.

Additional weekly readings and resources will be made available on the unit iLearn site during the session.

Only topics and materials that are covered in classes are examinable. This textbook includes material beyond the scope of this unit.

Business Analytics - Optional resources

- [Excel Skills for Data Analytics and Visualization](#)

This is a suite of 3 Massive Open Online Courses produced by Macquarie University in partnership with Coursera. You can access [the entire specialisation here](#).

You may wish to access this suite of resources for more practice, to further enhance your Microsoft Excel skills beyond this unit, and/or obtain the additional certifications to populate your portfolio and LinkedIn profile.

Only topics and materials that are covered in classes are examinable. This resource includes material beyond the scope of this unit.

Microsoft Office including Microsoft Excel

- All Macquarie University computer labs have Microsoft Office including Microsoft Excel.
- All workshops will be conducted in computer labs.
- If you have a laptop, during even weeks (Weeks 2, 4, 6, 8, 10, 12) - you are encouraged to bring this to lectures - to work alongside the lecturer for any Microsoft Excel activities.
- If you do not have a laptop, during even weeks (Weeks 2, 4, 6, 8, 10, 12) - you are encouraged to borrow one from the library (for free!) for the duration of the lecture (<http://www.mq.edu.au/about/facilities/library/study-support/facilities>) - to work alongside the lecturer for and Microsoft Excel activities.
- You can install Microsoft Office (including Microsoft Excel) on your own devices (for free!) by following these instructions: <https://students.mq.edu.au/support/technology/software/microsoft>

Policies and Procedures

Macquarie University policies and procedures are accessible from [Policy Central](https://policy) (<https://policy>)

[s.mq.edu.au](https://www.mq.edu.au)). Students should be aware of the following policies in particular with regard to Learning and Teaching:

- [Academic Appeals Policy](#)
- [Academic Integrity Policy](#)
- [Academic Progression Policy](#)
- [Assessment Policy](#)
- [Fitness to Practice Procedure](#)
- [Assessment Procedure](#)
- [Complaints Resolution Procedure for Students and Members of the Public](#)
- [Special Consideration Policy](#)

Students seeking more policy resources can visit [Student Policies \(https://students.mq.edu.au/support/study/policies\)](https://students.mq.edu.au/support/study/policies). It is your one-stop-shop for the key policies you need to know about throughout your undergraduate student journey.

To find other policies relating to Teaching and Learning, visit [Policy Central \(https://policies.mq.edu.au\)](https://policies.mq.edu.au) and use the [search tool](#).

Student Code of Conduct

Macquarie University students have a responsibility to be familiar with the Student Code of Conduct: <https://students.mq.edu.au/admin/other-resources/student-conduct>

Results

Results published on platform other than [eStudent](#), (eg. iLearn, Coursera etc.) or released directly by your Unit Convenor, are not confirmed as they are subject to final approval by the University. Once approved, final results will be sent to your student email address and will be made available in [eStudent](#). For more information visit ask.mq.edu.au or if you are a Global MBA student contact globalmba.support@mq.edu.au

Academic Integrity

At Macquarie, we believe [academic integrity](#) – honesty, respect, trust, responsibility, fairness and courage – is at the core of learning, teaching and research. We recognise that meeting the expectations required to complete your assessments can be challenging. So, we offer you a range of resources and services to help you reach your potential, including free [online writing and maths support](#), [academic skills development](#) and [wellbeing consultations](#).

Student Support

Macquarie University provides a range of support services for students. For details, visit <http://students.mq.edu.au/support/>

The Writing Centre

[The Writing Centre](#) provides resources to develop your English language proficiency, academic writing, and communication skills.

- [Workshops](#)
- [Chat with a WriteWISE peer writing leader](#)
- [Access StudyWISE](#)
- [Upload an assignment to Studiosity](#)
- [Complete the Academic Integrity Module](#)

The Library provides online and face to face support to help you find and use relevant information resources.

- [Subject and Research Guides](#)
- [Ask a Librarian](#)

Student Services and Support

Macquarie University offers a range of [Student Support Services](#) including:

- [IT Support](#)
- [Accessibility and disability support](#) with study
- Mental health [support](#)
- [Safety support](#) to respond to bullying, harassment, sexual harassment and sexual assault
- [Social support including information about finances, tenancy and legal issues](#)
- [Student Advocacy](#) provides independent advice on MQ policies, procedures, and processes

Student Enquiries

Got a question? Ask us via [AskMQ](#), or contact [Service Connect](#).

IT Help

For help with University computer systems and technology, visit http://www.mq.edu.au/about_us/offices_and_units/information_technology/help/.

When using the University's IT, you must adhere to the [Acceptable Use of IT Resources Policy](#). The policy applies to all who connect to the MQ network including students.

Changes from Previous Offering

Macquarie Business School Bachelor degrees have undergone an extensive internal and external review during 2022 and 2023. We created this new unit, for a 2024 launch, in line with the recommendations of the review panels which included senior academics from other universities, Macquarie University alumni, and industry experts.

Unit information based on version 2024.03 of the [Handbook](#)