



ACCG847

Forensic Accounting

S1 Evening 2014

Dept of Accounting & Corporate Governance

Contents

<u>General Information</u>	2
<u>Learning Outcomes</u>	2
<u>Assessment Tasks</u>	3
<u>Delivery and Resources</u>	6
<u>Unit Schedule</u>	7
<u>Policies and Procedures</u>	8
<u>Graduate Capabilities</u>	10
<u>Research and Practice</u>	12

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General Information

Unit convenor and teaching staff

Unit Convenor

Renee Radich

renee.radich@mq.edu.au

Contact via renee.radich@mq.edu.au

5-7pm Tuesday. The preferred initial contact is via email.

Credit points

4

Prerequisites

ACCG611 or admission to MAdvProfAcc or admission to MCorpGvnce prior to 2013 or admission to MCom or MIntBus or MEc or MActPrac prior to 2011

Corequisites

Co-badged status

Unit description

This unit examines various techniques of financial fraud prevention, investigation and detection. Topics will include: motivations for financial fraud, symptoms of financial fraud, financial statement fraud, evidence collection and evaluation, legal report writing, interviewing witnesses and perpetrators, and fraud prevention. Case studies will be used.

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:

- Demonstrate an ability to respond to issues associated with an allegation of fraud
- Identify and analyse risk & management weakness from a fraud perspective
- Appreciate the social / legal context of fraud
- Conduct preliminary examination of documents, assemble evidence and write reports
- Understand and use sources of information
- Develop and implement an organisational policy to minimise fraud

Assessment Tasks

Name	Weighting	Due
<u>Class Participation</u>	20%	In designated seminars
<u>Case Study/ Report</u>	30%	11 June 2014
<u>Class Test 1</u>	25%	9 April 2014
<u>Class Test 2</u>	25%	4 June 2014

Class Participation

Due: **In designated seminars**

Weighting: **20%**

Individuals will be required to contribute to assigned class activities and discussions each week. Activities assigned each week will also be submitted online prior to the commencement of the seminar.

Submission:

In your designated seminars.

Extension:

No extension will be granted.

Penalties:

A mark of ZERO will be assigned for non-submission.

On successful completion you will be able to:

- Demonstrate an ability to respond to issues associated with an allegation of fraud
- Identify and analyse risk & management weakness from a fraud perspective
- Appreciate the social / legal context of fraud
- Conduct preliminary examination of documents, assemble evidence and write reports
- Understand and use sources of information
- Develop and implement an organisational policy to minimise fraud

Case Study/ Report

Due: **11 June 2014**

Weighting: **30%**

Case study by a group of 4/5 students.

Submission:

One report for each group is to be submitted online in iLearn by 5PM on 11 June 2014. A five minute presentation by each group will be required in class time on 4 June 2014.

Extension:

No extension will be granted.

Penalties:

Students who have not submitted the task prior to the deadline will be awarded a mark of 0 for the task.

On successful completion you will be able to:

- Identify and analyse risk & management weakness from a fraud perspective
- Appreciate the social / legal context of fraud

- Conduct preliminary examination of documents, assemble evidence and write reports
- Understand and use sources of information

Class Test 1

Due: **9 April 2014**

Weighting: **25%**

Submission:

A 1 hour written test will be held in class and designed to assess a student's knowledge .

Extension:

No extension will be granted. No supplementary test will be offered except in cases in which an application for special consideration is made and approved.

Penalties:

A mark of ZERO will be awarded for not sitting the examination.

On successful completion you will be able to:

- Demonstrate an ability to respond to issues associated with an allegation of fraud
- Identify and analyse risk & management weakness from a fraud perspective
- Appreciate the social / legal context of fraud
- Conduct preliminary examination of documents, assemble evidence and write reports

Class Test 2

Due: **4 June 2014**

Weighting: **25%**

Submission:

A 1 hour written test will be held in class and designed to assess a student's knowledge .

Extension:

No extension will be granted. No supplementary test will be offered except in cases in which an application for special consideration is made and approved.

Penalties:

A mark of ZERO will be assigned for not sitting the examination.

On successful completion you will be able to:

- Identify and analyse risk & management weakness from a fraud perspective
- Appreciate the social / legal context of fraud
- Conduct preliminary examination of documents, assemble evidence and write reports
- Develop and implement an organisational policy to minimise fraud

Delivery and Resources

CLASSES

Students are required to attend one 3 hours face-to-face seminar per week. This will be held in W6B325 on Wednesdays between 6pm and 9pm.

The timetable for classes can be found on the University web site at:

<http://www.timetables.mq.edu.au/>

REQUIRED AND RECOMMENDED TEXTS AND/OR MATERIALS

Required Text

The following text is available from the Co-op Bookshop:

Albrecht, S. W., Albrecht C.C., Albrecht C.O. and Zimbelman M.F., 2011, *Fraud Examination*, South Western, 4th Edition, ISBN-10: 0538470844 or ISBN-13: 9780538470841.

This text will be supplemented with readings available on the unit web site. Also see the seminar discussion and assignments.

The following Journals and texts are useful as additional references:

Recommended journals:

Journal of Forensic Accounting, Auditing and Fraud

Journal of Forensic and Investigative Accounting

Managerial Auditing Journal

Auditing: A Journal of Practice and Theory

Computer Fraud and Security

Forensic Science

Forensic Science International

Environmental Forensics

Other Recommended Texts:

W.S. Hopwood, J.J. Leiner and G.R. Young *Forensic Accounting*, McGraw-Hill, 2006.

TECHNOLOGY USED AND REQUIRED

Students are expected to have:

- Proficiency in Word, Excel and Powerpoint
- Knowledge of Macquarie University iLearn - for downloading lecture materials, etc
- Knowledge of the library research databases - for accessing additional research material.
- Group work is an inherent component of this unit.

UNIT WEB PAGE

Course material is available on the learning management system (iLearn). The web page for this unit can be found at:

<http://mq.edu.au/iLearn/index.htm>

Unit Schedule

Week	Topic	Reading
5 March	Overview and introduction to nature of fraud	Albrecht 1 KPMG Fraud Survey 2012
12 March	Why People Commit Fraud	Albrecht 2 & 3
19 March	Fraud Prevention	Albrecht 4
26 March	Fraud Detection	Albrecht 5
2 April	Financial Investigation	Albrecht 7 & 8

9 April	Inquiry Methods and Fraud Reports Class Test 1	Albrecht 10
12 April - 27 April	Mid-Session break	
30 April	Financial statement fraud - overview	Albrecht 11
7 May	Financial statement fraud - revenue and inventory related	Albrecht 12
14 May	Financial statement fraud - liability, asset and inadequate disclosure	Albrecht 13
21 May	Fraud Against Organisations	Albrecht 14
28 May	Consumer Fraud and Fraud in E-commerce	Albrecht 15 & 17
4 June	Class test 2 and Group Presentations	
11 June	Group Case Study due online	

Policies and Procedures

Macquarie University policies and procedures are accessible from [Policy Central](#). Students should be aware of the following policies in particular with regard to Learning and Teaching:

Academic Honesty Policy http://mq.edu.au/policy/docs/academic_honesty/policy.html

Assessment Policy <http://mq.edu.au/policy/docs/assessment/policy.html>

Grading Policy <http://mq.edu.au/policy/docs/grading/policy.html>

Grade Appeal Policy <http://mq.edu.au/policy/docs/gradeappeal/policy.html>

Grievance Management Policy http://mq.edu.au/policy/docs/grievance_management/policy.html

Disruption to Studies Policy http://www.mq.edu.au/policy/docs/disruption_studies/policy.html *The Disruption to Studies Policy is effective from March 3 2014 and replaces the Special Consideration Policy.*

In addition, a number of other policies can be found in the [Learning and Teaching Category](#) of Policy Central.

Student Code of Conduct

Macquarie University students have a responsibility to be familiar with the Student Code of Conduct: https://students.mq.edu.au/support/student_conduct/

Grades

Macquarie University uses the following grades in coursework units of study:

- HD - High Distinction
- D - Distinction
- CR - Credit
- P - Pass
- F - Fail

Grade descriptors and other information concerning grading are contained in the Macquarie University Grading Policy which is available at:

<http://www.mq.edu.au/policy/docs/grading/policy.html>

Grading Appeals and Final Examination Script Viewing

If, at the conclusion of the unit, you have performed below expectations, and are considering lodging an appeal of grade and/or viewing your final exam script please refer to the following website which provides information about these processes and the cut off dates in the first instance. Please read the instructions provided concerning what constitutes a valid grounds for appeal before appealing your grade.

http://www.businessandconomics.mq.edu.au/new_and_current_students/undergraduate_current_students/how_do_i/grade_appeals/

Student Support

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

Learning Skills

Learning Skills (mq.edu.au/learningskills) provides academic writing resources and study strategies to improve your marks and take control of your study.

- [Workshops](#)
- [StudyWise](#)
- [Academic Integrity Module for Students](#)
- [Ask a Learning Adviser](#)

Student Services and Support

Students with a disability are encouraged to contact the [Disability Service](#) who can provide appropriate help with any issues that arise during their studies.

Student Enquiries

For all student enquiries, visit Student Connect at ask.mq.edu.au

IT Help

For help with University computer systems and technology, visit <http://informatics.mq.edu.au/help/>.

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

Graduate Capabilities

PG - Discipline Knowledge and Skills

Our postgraduates will be able to demonstrate a significantly enhanced depth and breadth of knowledge, scholarly understanding, and specific subject content knowledge in their chosen fields.

This graduate capability is supported by:

Learning outcomes

- Demonstrate an ability to respond to issues associated with an allegation of fraud
- Identify and analyse risk & management weakness from a fraud perspective
- Appreciate the social / legal context of fraud
- Conduct preliminary examination of documents, assemble evidence and write reports
- Understand and use sources of information
- Develop and implement an organisational policy to minimise fraud

Assessment tasks

- Class Participation
- Case Study/ Report
- Class Test 1
- Class Test 2

PG - Research and Problem Solving Capability

Our postgraduates will be capable of systematic enquiry; able to use research skills to create new knowledge that can be applied to real world issues, or contribute to a field of study or practice to enhance society. They will be capable of creative questioning, problem finding and

problem solving.

This graduate capability is supported by:

Learning outcomes

- Demonstrate an ability to respond to issues associated with an allegation of fraud
- Identify and analyse risk & management weakness from a fraud perspective
- Appreciate the social / legal context of fraud
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- Develop and implement an organisational policy to minimise fraud

Assessment tasks

- Class Participation
- Case Study/ Report
- Class Test 1
- Class Test 2

PG - Effective Communication

Our postgraduates will be able to communicate effectively and convey their views to different social, cultural, and professional audiences. They will be able to use a variety of technologically supported media to communicate with empathy using a range of written, spoken or visual formats.

This graduate capability is supported by:

Learning outcomes

- Demonstrate an ability to respond to issues associated with an allegation of fraud
- Identify and analyse risk & management weakness from a fraud perspective
- Appreciate the social / legal context of fraud
- Conduct preliminary examination of documents, assemble evidence and write reports
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Assessment tasks

- Class Participation
- Case Study/ Report
- Class Test 1
- Class Test 2

Research and Practice

The unit gives you opportunities to conduct your own research and gives you practice in applying research findings in your assessment tasks. Students will be required to use library resources to research beyond these materials in undertaking research to complete their tasks.