



FOBE800

Contemporary Business Issues

S2 Evening 2015

Dept of Accounting & Corporate Governance

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General Information

Unit convenor and teaching staff

Craig Terry

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Credit points

4

Prerequisites

(Admission to MCom or MAcc(Prof)MCom or MBioBus) and 48cp

Corequisites

Co-badged status

Unit description

This is a program-wide capstone unit and must be taken by students in their final session of study. The unit will broaden students' understanding of the importance of strategic business issues in the organisation's planning, operations, control and leadership, ethics and industry relationship, and broader economic & global developments. The unit is not only reflective and integrative, but also future-focused, offering opportunities for "real world" preparatory experience. Students will work individually and collaboratively with peers to understand "real world" business issues and challenges requiring cross-disciplinary insights and knowledge. While the unit aims at giving students an opportunity to explore strategic business issues within the context of a business environment, students will be exposed to comprehensive case studies, which will give them the opportunity to learn about the practical implications of business issues and challenges. Students will also work in self-managing teams to prepare group reports and complete a session long individual research-based project that will be assessed by the academic staff.

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:

Integrate discipline-specific knowledge and skills and apply subject knowledge critically, analytically and creatively to different bodies of knowledge or practice.

Synthesise knowledge from alternative perspectives and generate critical thinking and

problem-solving skills in formulating and implementing strategy.

Apply knowledge to complex ethical and global issues and understand its impact on organisations and/or in simulated situations.

Research and critically analyse recent or developing business issues, appraise the outcomes of proposed solutions and defend propositions.

Demonstrate professional written and interpersonal competencies, including critical reflection on personal, social and practical issues in a team environment.

Appraise the quality of business judgements to formulate improved decision-making or problem-solving processes.

Assessment Tasks

Name	Weighting	Due
Reflection A	10%	Week 2
Capstone simulation (Capsim®)	15%	Ongoing
Reflection B	10%	Week 6
Business project	40%	Week 8 and 10
Capsim evaluation presentation	25%	Week 12/3

Reflection A

Due: **Week 2**

Weighting: **10%**

Individual

Estimated student workload - 3 hours

Submission - via iLearn

Extensions - No extension will be granted unless a 'Disruption to Studies' application has been approved.

Penalties - Late submission will not be accepted for marking, i.e., a mark of ZERO will be assigned accordingly.

On successful completion you will be able to:

- Integrate discipline-specific knowledge and skills and apply subject knowledge critically, analytically and creatively to different bodies of knowledge or practice.
- Demonstrate professional written and interpersonal competencies, including critical

reflection on personal, social and practical issues in a team environment.

Capstone simulation (Capsim®)

Due: **Ongoing**

Weighting: **15%**

Individual (5%) + Teamwork (10%)

Estimated student workload: 14 hours (2 hours per week on average for 7 weeks).

Submission - Online via capsim.com

Extensions: No extension will be granted unless a 'Disruption to Studies' application has been approved.

Penalties: Late submission will not be accepted for marking, i.e., a mark of ZERO will be assigned accordingly.

On successful completion you will be able to:

- Integrate discipline-specific knowledge and skills and apply subject knowledge critically, analytically and creatively to different bodies of knowledge or practice.
- Synthesise knowledge from alternative perspectives and generate critical thinking and problem-solving skills in formulating and implementing strategy.
- Appraise the quality of business judgements to formulate improved decision-making or problem-solving processes.

Reflection B

Due: **Week 6**

Weighting: **10%**

Individual

Estimated student workload - 3 hours

Submission - via iLearn

Extensions - No extension will be granted unless a 'Disruption to Studies' application has been approved.

Penalties - Late submission will not be accepted for marking, i.e., a mark of ZERO will be assigned accordingly.

On successful completion you will be able to:

- Synthesise knowledge from alternative perspectives and generate critical thinking and problem-solving skills in formulating and implementing strategy.
- Demonstrate professional written and interpersonal competencies, including critical

reflection on personal, social and practical issues in a team environment.

Business project

Due: **Week 8 and 10**

Weighting: **40%**

Individual

Part A (15%) + Part B (25%)

Estimated student workload - 25 hours

Submission - via iLearn

Extensions - No extension will be granted unless a 'Disruption to Studies' application has been approved.

Penalties - Late submission will not be accepted for marking, i.e., a mark of ZERO will be assigned accordingly.

On successful completion you will be able to:

- Integrate discipline-specific knowledge and skills and apply subject knowledge critically, analytically and creatively to different bodies of knowledge or practice.
- Synthesise knowledge from alternative perspectives and generate critical thinking and problem-solving skills in formulating and implementing strategy.
- Apply knowledge to complex ethical and global issues and understand its impact on organisations and/or in simulated situations.
- Research and critically analyse recent or developing business issues, appraise the outcomes of proposed solutions and defend propositions.
- Demonstrate professional written and interpersonal competencies, including critical reflection on personal, social and practical issues in a team environment.

Capsim evaluation presentation

Due: **Week 12/3**

Weighting: **25%**

Individual (5%) + Team (20%)

Estimated student workload - 10 hours

Submission - In weekly seminar

Extensions - No extension will be granted unless a 'Disruption to Studies' application has been approved.

Penalties - Late submission will not be accepted for marking, i.e., a mark of ZERO will be assigned accordingly.

On successful completion you will be able to:

- Synthesise knowledge from alternative perspectives and generate critical thinking and problem-solving skills in formulating and implementing strategy.
- Research and critically analyse recent or developing business issues, appraise the outcomes of proposed solutions and defend propositions.
- Demonstrate professional written and interpersonal competencies, including critical reflection on personal, social and practical issues in a team environment.
- Appraise the quality of business judgements to formulate improved decision-making or problem-solving processes.

Delivery and Resources

Classes

- This unit includes thirteen three-hour weekly seminars (classes) as detailed in this unit guide.
- The timetable for classes can be found on the University web site at: <http://www.timetables.mq.edu.au/>
- Class attendance for this unit is compulsory.
- Students are expected to get involved in class discussion and debate including in-class completion of simulations and case studies.

Required and Recommended Texts and/or Materials

Compulsory text:

Johnson, G. Whittington, R. Scholes, K. Angwin, D. and Regner, P. 2014. Exploring Strategy: Text and Cases 10th ed, Pearson.

You must have read the relevant materials before coming to class and in completing the assessment tasks as well as undertaking your own further research. Direction will be provided by the lecturer on additional research materials.

Unit Web Page

You are required to access a computer and the internet at various times in completing this unit, to download course material available on the learning management system (iLearn) and to complete assessment tasks.

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/

Results

Results shown in *iLearn*, 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.

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.

Research & Practice, Global & Sustainability

This unit also addresses global and sustainability issues as direct areas of study and as necessary implications arising from the materials, assessment and academic discussion and debate in classes/seminars. We promote sustainability by developing ability in students to research and locate information within accounting discipline. We aim to provide students with an opportunity to obtain skills which will benefit them throughout their career.

This unit also 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 necessary to complete their tasks. The unit encourages students to read journals of interest and publications in these journals have a reference list at the end of each article containing all references cited by the author. These provide some guidance to references that could be used to research particular issues.

Changes since First Published

Date	Description
23/07/2015	Due dates for Reflection A and Business Project, Workload for CapSim, and added required textbook.