



ACCG930

Enterprise Risk Management - Corporate Governance Perspectives

S1 Evening 2015

Dept of Accounting & Corporate Governance

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General Information

Unit convenor and teaching staff

Lecturer and Unit Convenor

Andrew Skinner

andrew.skinner@mq.edu.au

Contact via accg930@mq.edu.au.

By Appointment - Friday 3 to 5 pm

Rahat Munir

rahat.munir@mq.edu.au

Credit points

4

Prerequisites

ACCG611 or admission to MAdvProfAcc or MCorpGvnce prior to 2013

Corequisites

Co-badged status

Unit description

This unit examines enterprise risk management, processes and techniques aimed at the cost effective loss prevention of an entity's assets and resources. It provides a strong business foundation that can be applied in business planning and decision making. In the wake of the spate of corporate collapses, a risk-based approach to evaluate and plan business activities is now an accepted paradigm. The unit covers topics of risks: strategic, operational, reputational, contractual, financial and information system, while addressing emerging challenges. The unit is presented with a corporate governance focus.

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:

Evaluate risk management exposures from a corporate governance (including internal control and ethics) and compliance perspective

Respond to issues associated with the development, implementation and use of enterprise risk management

Appreciate the social /legal/economic contexts of enterprise risk management frameworks.

Examine the weaknesses of current ERM frameworks.

Understand and apply the importance of concepts such as risk mapping, risk identification, monitoring risk and appropriate sources of information

Develop an awareness of the issues involved in implementing an organisational policy and strategy for enterprise risk management

Assessment Tasks

Name	Weighting	Due
<u>1. Class Test</u>	20%	Week 5
<u>2. Case Study</u>	20%	As scheduled
<u>3. Final Examination</u>	50%	Examination period
<u>4. Participation</u>	10%	On Going

1. Class Test

Due: **Week 5**

Weighting: **20%**

Class Test

The Class test is assessed as follows:

Marking criteria: The test will be 20 questions and marked out of a possible 20 marks, this is a diagnostic test which means it assesses students on progress to date and allows time to address potential challenges in subsequent classes. The questions will be based on the learnings covered during classes week 1- 4 inclusive to ensure students have a thorough understanding of the framework of ERM, corporate governance perspectives, and corporate risk culture, and basic ERM tools and techniques..

Submission: In-class test in week 5. Students will complete the test in class, and the unit convenor will collect the papers from students. If you are late, you will not be allowed to re-sit the test. If you miss the test because of illness you can re-sit upon production of satisfactory medical certificate and approval from the unit convenor via the Disruptions to Studies process.

Extension: No extensions will be granted.

Penalties: None, however if the test is not taken students will forfeit any marks for this assessment task.

Preparation: The in class test is designed so that a student working on average 4-6 hours per week both in attendance at class plus additional reading will be able to achieve satisfactory

marks.

On successful completion you will be able to:

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2. Case Study

Due: **As scheduled**

Weighting: **20%**

Submission: In-class presentation and report in week allocated. Students work in groups. Case studies are graded based on content and presentation style. See below for the marking assessment criteria. Please refer to the University's policy regarding Group Assessment: <http://mq.edu.au/policy/docs/assessment/policy.html>

The purpose of this assessment is to allow the students to work on a significant piece of work and communicate their level of understanding of key risk concepts, theories and issues presented by the case studies during the semester. Students will note that each case has multiple dimensions of risk. This allows students to build their understanding of risk through exposure to the different cases over successive presentations. Each case study requires an oral presentation, approximately 20 minutes, a submitted power point presentation, plus a written report which summarises the key issues raised by the case study. Case study questions and project teams will be allocated in week 2 of semester.

Submission will only be accepted through Turnitin. However, on the date of your presentation a copy of the Powerpoint Presentation and material is also to be provided in a manner expected of that of a business report to the Board of an ASX company. Developing critical presentation skills is an important aspect of verbal and non-verbal board and management presentations.

Pre-submission - Each group is required to submit a Group Planning Paper in the Week 7 class.

Presentation Audience Each group is to present to class and your fellow students are encouraged to ask questions. Each group will have a maximum 'overall' presentation time of 20 minutes. Each group member must speak for a minimum of four minutes depending on the number of students in each group.

Marking Criteria: This assessment task allows the students to display oral and written communication skills to explain the key concepts. 5 (of 20) marks are awarded for the

presentation itself, 15 (of 20) marks are awarded for the written report and presentation slides.

Presentation Marking Criteria (5 of 20 marks)

- Audience Communication and question response
- Presenter linking and group effort and support
- Presentation aids/material quality and use
- Presentation Structure and Innovation
- Overall Clarity and Conviction

Report Marking Criteria (15 of 20 marks)

- Structured report laying out the issues involved in the case
- Demonstrated appreciation of the risk concepts and issues involved, use of relevant case studies as examples
- Use your knowledge of the concepts and the particular case to build a coherent well argued answer

Extension: No extensions will be granted. Presentations must be made in the weeks allocated,

Penalties: Failure to present or submit on time will result in no marks being awarded for this assessment task.

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3. Final Examination

Due: **Examination period**

Weighting: **50%**

Due Date: Examination period

A final examination is included as an assessment task to provide assurance that:

1. the product belongs to the student and
2. that the student has attained the knowledge and skills tested in the exam

A final two hour examination for this unit will be held during the University Examination Period. For session 1 of 2015 between 9 June to 26 June 2015 inclusive. All material covered in the unit is examinable. It is a closed book examination. Further details will be made available via iLearn. Details of the examination time and place will be in the University Examination Timetable: www.timetables.mq.edu.au/exam

Submission method: Submitted in hard copy at end of examination.

The only exception to not sitting an examination at the designated time is because of documented illness or unavoidable disruption. In such circumstances students may wish to apply under the Disruption to Studies policy. Further details are available here:

(http://www.mq.edu.au/policy/docs/disruption_studies/policy.html)

Marking Criteria: The examination represents 50% of the student's overall assessment for this unit. Typically the examination consists of a multiple-choice format in one section followed by more in depth questions in the next section. Questions in the latter section are designed to test student's ability to demonstrate knowledge of the key topics, cases studied and issues discussed in the unit. Students must pass the final examination in order to achieve a passing grade for the unit.

Penalties: Students will not receive any marks for this assessment task if they fail to sit the examination. If a Supplementary Examination is granted as a result of an approved application under the Disruption to Studies policy the examination will be scheduled as per the Supplementary Examination timetable of the Faculty. Please note that the supplementary exam will be of similar format to the final exam.

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and strategy for enterprise risk management

4. Participation

Due: **On Going**

Weighting: **10%**

Submission

Active participation is expected of ACCG930 students. ERM is a dynamic field and thus active discussion of risk in the context of the topic is essential. . Mere attendance is not enough - students are expected to have prepared for lectures and contribute to in-class discussions and activities. An on-line discussion forum will be enabled for active participation and discussion by all students.

Estimated student workload

Students are expected to spend approximately 2 hours reviewing their weekly reading and material before attending class.

Marking criteria

Ongoing participation (out of 10):

0/10 – No participation - No substantial contribution to class discussions and online forum

1-4/10 - Limited participation - for example, occasionally contributing to class discussions and online forum

5-8/10 – Good participation – for example, regularly contributing to class discussions and online forum

9-10/10 – Excellent participation – for example, regularly contributing to class discussions and sharing relevant examples from current media or personal experience and online forum

On successful completion you will be able to:

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Delivery and Resources

Classes

Students are required to attend one 3 hours face-to-face seminar per week.

The timetable for classes can be found on the University web site at: <http://www.timetables.mq.edu.au/>

A typical 3 hour session will be as follows:

- a) Lecture and class discussions (90 minutes)
- b) Class activities and discussions relating to cases or other pre-assigned reading material and questions (45 minutes)
- c) Case study presentation by students (in certain weeks) (20 minutes)

a) Lecture and class discussions. The lecturer will introduce key themes and their practical applications for each week's topic. The lecturer will then facilitate discussions on key issues, challenges and solutions relating to the topic. Students are required to pre-read assigned material and be prepared to lead discussions in turn. **Students are expected to read the course materials for at least two to three hours per week.** A week-by-week list of the topics to be covered is at the end of the unit outline.

(b) Class activities and discussions. Each week, all students will be asked to prepare and contribute to discussion relating to cases or reading material and questions. These tasks will be assigned in advance. The amount of time spent on these discussions will be decided by the lecturer. Contribution to class discussions is part of the learning outcomes and contributes to developing understanding of the key issues (please see the section 'Relationship between Assessment and Learning Outcomes' below).

(c) Case study presentation. In week 2 the lecturer will assign students to groups, and will allocate project work to each group. The groups then will be asked to present their written and oral reports on their project work in the allocated weeks (Week 10, 11 and 12). Group project is an important part of course assessment.

Required and Recommended Texts and/or Materials

Prescribed textbook

No text is prescribed for the course. Reading list will be provided for each week. The main case study will be on a selection of 5 examples of failure of ERM, or a failure suggest by your group, Hard copies will be provided to students in week 2.

Students are expected to read the business pages of the Sydney Morning Herald (www.smh.com.au) daily or the Australian Financial Review (www.afr.com.au), this helps to familiarise yourself with business issues, political developments and the companies we will be

discussing in class.

References:

- Taleb, Nassim N., 2005, “Fooled by Randomness: The Hidden Role of Chance in Life and in the Markets”, Random House Trade Paperbacks, 2005

The above book is suggested since it is a comprehensive analysis of the way that probability and statistical representation is used, and abused in the area of risk management. It is not compulsory but you will find it invaluable, and I hope, interesting.

On-line sources will be advised for different topics before these topics are covered in the class.

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>

Technology Used and Required

Students are expected to have:

- Proficiency in Word, Excel and PowerPoint
- Knowledge of the library research databases – for accessing additional research material.

Changes to this offering since last semester:

Participation Mark.

Expectations and Workload

Students are expected to spend 150 hours working on this unit. As a guide a student should spend these approximate amounts of time on each of the following activities:

	Activities	Hours
1	Weekly Seminars (note Good Friday class is cancelled)	36
2	Class Test Week 4	12
3	Report	40
4	Weekly readings/self study/preparation for exam	62
	TOTAL	150

Unit Schedule

Week	Week starting	Topic
1	Friday 27 Feb 2015	Course overview An introduction to ERM and creating enterprise value
2	6 March 2015	Corporate governance, internal control and ERM frameworks i Group Projects Assigned
3	13 March 2015	Risk culture and developing risk strategy
4	20 March 2015	ERM techniques and tools - monitoring risk.
5	27 March 2015	Introduction to categories of risk: Financial; Credit; Operational, and Market risk <i>In-class test - One Hour</i>
6	3 April 2015	Good Friday
	3 April 2015 to 19 April 2015	Mid session break
7	24 April 2015	Financial risk management, measuring strategic and operational risk
8	1 May 2015	Reputation risk
9	8 May 2015	Information risk

10	15 May 2015	Project risk and Class presentations
11	22 May 2015	Environmental risk and business and Class presentations
12	29 May 2015	Implementing an ERM strategy, challenges and future developments.and Class presentations
13	5 June 2015	Course summary

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](#).

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>

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 - Capable of Professional and Personal Judgment and Initiative

Our postgraduates will demonstrate a high standard of discernment and common sense in their professional and personal judgment. They will have the ability to make informed choices and decisions that reflect both the nature of their professional work and their personal perspectives.

This graduate capability is supported by:

Learning outcomes

- Evaluate risk management exposures from a corporate governance (including internal control and ethics) and compliance perspective
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Assessment tasks

- 1. Class Test
- 2. Case Study
- 3. Final Examination
- 4. Participation

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

- Evaluate risk management exposures from a corporate governance (including internal control and ethics) and compliance perspective
- Respond to issues associated with the development, implementation and use of

enterprise risk management

- Appreciate the social /legal/economic contexts of enterprise risk management frameworks.
- Examine the weaknesses of current ERM frameworks.
- Understand and apply the importance of concepts such as risk mapping, risk identification, monitoring risk and appropriate sources of information
- Develop an awareness of the issues involved in implementing an organisational policy and strategy for enterprise risk management

Assessment tasks

- 1. Class Test
- 2. Case Study
- 3. Final Examination
- 4. Participation

PG - Critical, Analytical and Integrative Thinking

Our postgraduates will be capable of utilising and reflecting on prior knowledge and experience, of applying higher level critical thinking skills, and of integrating and synthesising learning and knowledge from a range of sources and environments. A characteristic of this form of thinking is the generation of new, professionally oriented knowledge through personal or group-based critique of practice and theory.

This graduate capability is supported by:

Learning outcomes

- Evaluate risk management exposures from a corporate governance (including internal control and ethics) and compliance perspective
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Assessment tasks

- 1. Class Test

- 2. Case Study
- 3. Final Examination
- 4. Participation

Changes from Previous Offering

This unit is similar to previous offerings.

Research and Practice

Research & Practice and Global & Sustainability

This unit 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 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 (list provided in the unit guide) 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.