



# ACCG735

## International Accounting

S2 Evening 2015

*Dept of Accounting & Corporate Governance*

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## General Information

Unit convenor and teaching staff

Unit Convenor

Stephen Haswell

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Contact via [stephen.haswell@mq.edu.au](mailto:stephen.haswell@mq.edu.au)

Credit points

4

Prerequisites

Admission to MRes

Corequisites

Co-badged status

Unit description

This unit focuses on special topics concerned with issues in both financial and management accounting in international contexts. Topics range from ethical behaviour in accounting, external and corporate reporting, to organising, managing and evaluating their global operations and focus on the impact of national culture and how an understanding of cultural differences provides insights into cross-national differences in accounting behaviour and practice. Topics are chosen to encourage students to explore issues in international accounting, and to develop skills in analysis and investigation that are necessary and that are required to undertake more advanced research. A solid understanding of cultural influences on international accounting practices is a requirement for any advanced study of accounting theory. This unit provides students with essential internationally contextualised accounting experiences that develop the concepts and skills necessary for advanced research in accounting and corporate governance.

## 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:

- Understand some of the differences in accounting methods and disclosure practices we might find when we compare the financial reports of companies from different countries.
- Appreciate how accounting and corporate disclosure is regulated in a range of different

nations, and the role that the accounting profession, government and other bodies have in that regulation.

Recognise the cultural, economic, political and historical factors that help explain differences and similarities in patterns of accounting and regulation across nations, and how these factors may influence the move towards international harmonization.

Identify why ethical behaviour is fundamental to the practice of accounting and how accounting numbers can be manipulated.

Comprehend the issues and problems facing international companies in organizing, managing, planning, controlling and evaluating, their global operations.

Develop and strengthen their generic skills in the areas of report writing and topic discussion.

## Assessment Tasks

Name	Weighting	Due
<u>Class Test</u>	15%	Week 4 and 7
<u>Report</u>	35%	Weeks 9-12
<u>Final Examination</u>	50%	University Examination Period

### Class Test

Due: **Week 4 and 7**

Weighting: **15%**

During Week 4 (covering Weeks 1-3) and Week 7 (covering Weeks 4-6) short tests will be conducted during class time. Each test will account for 7.5% of your overall assessment. The first test in Week 4 is an early diagnostic assessment, the results of which will be indicative of the student's application to achieving the learning outcomes of the unit.

**Submission:** Attendance is compulsory.

**Extension:** No extension will be granted unless an application is approved under the Disruption to Studies Policy in accordance with the University rules.

**Penalties:** Zero mark for non-submission.

On successful completion you will be able to:

- Understand some of the differences in accounting methods and disclosure practices we might find when we compare the financial reports of companies from different countries.
- Appreciate how accounting and corporate disclosure is regulated in a range of different nations, and the role that the accounting profession, government and other bodies have

in that regulation.

- Recognise the cultural, economic, political and historical factors that help explain differences and similarities in patterns of accounting and regulation across nations, and how these factors may influence the move towards international harmonization.
- Identify why ethical behaviour is fundamental to the practice of accounting and how accounting numbers can be manipulated.
- Comprehend the issues and problems facing international companies in organizing, managing, planning, controlling and evaluating, their global operations.

## Report

Due: **Weeks 9-12**

Weighting: **35%**

Students will work individually for this assignment. Each student reports on a different topic. Further details are provided on iLearn.

**Submission:** Soft copy of the report to be submitted on iLearn (Turnitin) and hard copy of the report to be submitted in class during the respective week.

**Extension:** No extension is available.

**Penalties:** One mark per day (or part thereof) that your project is submitted late. See iLearn for further penalties regarding plagiarism.

On successful completion you will be able to:

- Appreciate how accounting and corporate disclosure is regulated in a range of different nations, and the role that the accounting profession, government and other bodies have in that regulation.
- Recognise the cultural, economic, political and historical factors that help explain differences and similarities in patterns of accounting and regulation across nations, and how these factors may influence the move towards international harmonization.
- Comprehend the issues and problems facing international companies in organizing, managing, planning, controlling and evaluating, their global operations.
- Develop and strengthen their generic skills in the areas of report writing and topic discussion.

## Final Examination

Due: **University Examination Period**

Weighting: **50%**

The final exam is of three hours and ten minutes duration. The final exam is designed to test you against the learning objectives of the unit. Students in ACCG735 for 2015 will be required to do a

final exam that tests them on all the material covered during the session. The University Examination period in the Second Half Year 2015 is from Monday 9 - Friday 27 November.

**Submission:** Attendance is compulsory

**Extension:** The only exception to not sitting an examination at the designated time is because of documented illness or unavoidable disruption. In these circumstances you may wish to consider applying for Disruption to Studies in accordance with the University rules.

**Penalties:** Students who miss this exam will score zero marks. If a Supplementary Examination is granted as a result of the Disruption to Studies Policy the examination will be scheduled after the conclusion of the official examination period.

To pass the unit students must **pass the final exam** and achieve an **overall passing grade** in their overall assessment.

If a Supplementary Examination is granted as a result of the Disruption to Studies Policy the examination will be scheduled as per the Supplementary Examination timetable of the Faculty. Please note that the supplementary examination will be of the similar format as the final examination.

On successful completion you will be able to:

- Understand some of the differences in accounting methods and disclosure practices we might find when we compare the financial reports of companies from different countries.
- Appreciate how accounting and corporate disclosure is regulated in a range of different nations, and the role that the accounting profession, government and other bodies have in that regulation.
- Recognise the cultural, economic, political and historical factors that help explain differences and similarities in patterns of accounting and regulation across nations, and how these factors may influence the move towards international harmonization.
- Identify why ethical behaviour is fundamental to the practice of accounting and how accounting numbers can be manipulated.
- Comprehend the issues and problems facing international companies in organizing, managing, planning, controlling and evaluating, their global operations.
- Develop and strengthen their generic skills in the areas of report writing and topic discussion.

## **Delivery and Resources**

### **Teaching staff**

**Unit convenor:**

	Stephen Haswell
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E-mail:	stephen.haswell@mq.edu.au

**Lecturer:**

	Professor Chris Patel
Telephone:	9850 7825
E-mail:	chris.patel@mq.edu.au

**Contacting staff**

- Consultation times

Staff will be available for consultation; these times will be posted to unit homepage by Week 1 of the session. You are encouraged to seek help at a time that is convenient to you from staff on this unit during their specified consultation hours. In special circumstances, an appointment may be made outside regular consultation hours. Staff will not conduct any consultations by e-mail. You may, however, phone staff during their consultation hours.

In order to gain access to staff located at levels 1 and 2 of building E4A during their consultation hours please ring the staff member from the phones available in the lobby (phone numbers of relevant staff members will be provided on iLearn and are available next to the phones).

- Other ways of contacting staff

The most effective way for students to contact staff is via email.

Students experiencing significant difficulties with any topic in the unit are strongly encouraged to seek assistance immediately.

**Classes**

- There are 3 hours of contact for learning per week consisting of 1 x 3 hour seminar (lecture and tutorial).

- There are two classes in Session 2/2015.
  - Class\_01 Monday 3pm-6pm in E3B 188

- Class\_02 Tuesday 6pm-9pm in E5A 110

· In order to avoid confusion and issues with overcrowding, which can raise serious occupational health and safety issues, students must attend their registered class each week to be recorded as present. Students will not be allowed to attend or be recorded as attending other classes in the unit.

### **Required and Recommended texts and/or materials**

*ACCG835 International Accounting by Dr Parmod Chand*, 4<sup>th</sup> edition, 2011, Pearson Australia, ISBN 9781442556751.

This text is a composite book made of selected chapters from four different texts published by Pearson Education Australia. By using a composite text we can focus only on chapters that are suited to this unit, which is cost-effective to the student.

This text is available for purchase from the Co-op book shop at Macquarie University. Two copies of the custom publication are available in the reserve section of the library.

No changes in the text since the last offering of this unit

### **Technology Used and Required**

You will need basic skills with Microsoft Word, Microsoft Excel and Microsoft PowerPoint. The research report e-copy can be submitted in Word or PDF.

You will also be required to access the Internet in order to conduct research and Macquarie University's iLearn teaching facility (refer to the detail contained below in Unit Web Page).

### **UNIT WEB PAGE**

The university's on-line learning site "iLearn" is used to provide announcements, forms, some course materials (including weekly lecture notes) and to submit e-copies of the assignment.

Login at <http://learn.mq.edu.au/>

Reading material for this unit is all available on the Library's e-Reserve. Access to the e-Reserve is made using the student number and password supplied to you by the Library. A link will also be provided on iLearn.

## **Unit Schedule**

### **SUMMARY OF ACCG 735 PROGRAM: SESSION 2 - 2015**

Week	Commencing	Topic
1	July 27	Introduction, distribution of material and organization of student work groups.
2	August 3	The concept of culture and its relevance to international accounting diversity.
3	August 10	Ethical behaviour in accounting
4	August 17	Management planning and control <b>(In class test)</b>
5	August 24	Management planning and control in an international context: performance evaluation Case study - Del Norte Paper Company (C).
6	August 31	Management planning and control in an international context: transfer pricing Case study – Del Norte Paper Company (A).
7	September 7	External reporting in an international context: similarities and differences. <b>(In class test)</b>
		<b>Sept 14 &amp; Sept 21, MID-SESSION BREAK (2 Weeks Break)</b>
8	September 28	External reporting in an international context: preparing and adjusting financial statements for international accounting standards: Kookaburra Pty Limited case study



9	October 5	Corporate reporting regulation: understanding differences — USA.
10	October 12	Corporate reporting regulation: understanding differences — Japan and China.
11	October 19	Corporate reporting regulation: understanding differences — The Netherlands, France and Germany.
12	October 26	International convergence of accounting: historical background, benefits and problems, global players, recent developments and controversies.
13	November 2	Week 13 is a revision week

## 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](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](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](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/](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](http://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](http://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

- Understand some of the differences in accounting methods and disclosure practices we might find when we compare the financial reports of companies from different countries.
- Appreciate how accounting and corporate disclosure is regulated in a range of different nations, and the role that the accounting profession, government and other bodies have in that regulation.
- Identify why ethical behaviour is fundamental to the practice of accounting and how accounting numbers can be manipulated.
- Comprehend the issues and problems facing international companies in organizing, managing, planning, controlling and evaluating, their global operations.

## Assessment tasks

- Class Test
- Report
- Final Examination

## 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

- Understand some of the differences in accounting methods and disclosure practices we might find when we compare the financial reports of companies from different countries.
- Appreciate how accounting and corporate disclosure is regulated in a range of different nations, and the role that the accounting profession, government and other bodies have in that regulation.
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- Comprehend the issues and problems facing international companies in organizing, managing, planning, controlling and evaluating, their global operations.

- Develop and strengthen their generic skills in the areas of report writing and topic discussion.

## Assessment tasks

- Class Test
- Report
- Final Examination

## 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

- Appreciate how accounting and corporate disclosure is regulated in a range of different nations, and the role that the accounting profession, government and other bodies have in that regulation.
- Recognise the cultural, economic, political and historical factors that help explain differences and similarities in patterns of accounting and regulation across nations, and how these factors may influence the move towards international harmonization.
- Identify why ethical behaviour is fundamental to the practice of accounting and how accounting numbers can be manipulated.

## Assessment task

- Report

## Research and Practice, Global and Sustainability

This unit gives you opportunities to conduct research with regard to group report. Further information on the group report is provided in the Assessment guide.

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. 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.

The unit materials have a reference list at the end of each chapter/module/text containing all references cited by the author. These provide some guidance to references that could be used to research particular issues.