



# ACST819

## Actuarial Modelling

S2 Day 2016

*Dept of Applied Finance and Actuarial Studies*

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#### **Disclaimer**

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## General Information

Unit convenor and teaching staff

Unit convenor and teaching staff

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Contact via Contact via Email

E4A 610

Monday 2pm to 4pm during teaching weeks

Teaching staff

Bruce Edwards

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To be advised

Credit points

4

Prerequisites

STAT806 or STAT810

Corequisites

Co-badged status

Unit description

Survival models will be used to estimate decrement rates from actual experience, compare these with standard rates, and prepare new tables. In constructing new tables, consideration will be given to risk factors; selection; data collection; graduation; and testing the graduation. The concept of actuarial modelling will be discussed. The 'actuarial control cycle', a conceptual framework of the processes for developing and managing financial enterprises and products, will be introduced. Students gaining a grade of credit or higher in this unit and ACST818 may apply for exemption from subject CT4 of the professional exams of the Institute of Actuaries of Australia.

## 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:

Describe the principles of actuarial modelling.

Identify the most significant risks for various types of financial institutions and compare ways of managing these risks.

Discuss the concept of the Actuarial Control Cycle and apply it to a variety of straightforward practical commercial situations.

Describe how to test crude estimates for consistency with a standard table or a set of graduated estimates and describe the process of graduation.

Use the binomial and Poisson models for mortality. Derive the maximum likelihood estimator for the model parameter. Describe how to estimate transition intensities depending on age, exactly or using the census approximation.

Identify ethical and professional issues in actuarial and insurance practice.

## Assessment Tasks

Name	Weighting	Due
<u>Class Test</u>	20%	Week 7
<u>Project</u>	20%	Week 3 and Week 10
<u>Final Examination</u>	60%	Examination Period

### Class Test

Due: **Week 7**

Weighting: **20%**

Test will cover Weeks 1 to 5 materials. You will have 1 hour and 15 minutes to complete the test.

No extensions will be granted, unless an application for disruption of studies is made and approved.

Assessment criteria will be provided on iLearn.

It is the responsibility of students to view their marks for each within session assessment on iLearn within 20 working days of posting. If there are any discrepancies, students must contact the unit convenor immediately. Failure to do so will mean that queries received after the release of final results regarding assessment marks (not including the final exam mark) will not be addressed.

On successful completion you will be able to:

- Describe how to test crude estimates for consistency with a standard table or a set of graduated estimates and describe the process of graduation.
- Use the binomial and Poisson models for mortality. Derive the maximum likelihood estimator for the model parameter. Describe how to estimate transition intensities depending on age, exactly or using the census approximation.

## Project

Due: **Week 3 and Week 10**

Weighting: **20%**

A project requiring data analysis, investigation, and professional judgement along with a detailed written report and presentation will be required.

No extensions will be granted. There will be a deduction of 10% of the total available marks made from the total awarded mark for each 24 hour period or part thereof that the submission is late (for example, 25 hours late in submission – 20% penalty). This penalty does not apply for cases in which an application for disruption of studies is made and approved. No submission will be accepted after solutions have been posted.

Assessment criteria will be provided on iLearn.

Project submission is via iLearn.

It is the responsibility of students to view their marks for each within session assessment on iLearn within 20 working days of posting. If there are any discrepancies, students must contact the unit convenor immediately. Failure to do so will mean that queries received after the release of final results regarding assessment marks (not including the final exam mark) will not be addressed.

On successful completion you will be able to:

- Describe the principles of actuarial modelling.
- Identify the most significant risks for various types of financial institutions and compare ways of managing these risks.
- Discuss the concept of the Actuarial Control Cycle and apply it to a variety of straightforward practical commercial situations.
- Identify ethical and professional issues in actuarial and insurance practice.

## Final Examination

Due: **Examination Period**

Weighting: **60%**

A three-hour written exam will be held during the normal university examination period. Questions will cover the entire unit.

On successful completion you will be able to:

- Describe the principles of actuarial modelling.
- Identify the most significant risks for various types of financial institutions and compare ways of managing these risks.
- Discuss the concept of the Actuarial Control Cycle and apply it to a variety of straightforward practical commercial situations.
- Describe how to test crude estimates for consistency with a standard table or a set of graduated estimates and describe the process of graduation.
- Use the binomial and Poisson models for mortality. Derive the maximum likelihood estimator for the model parameter. Describe how to estimate transition intensities depending on age, exactly or using the census approximation.
- Identify ethical and professional issues in actuarial and insurance practice.

## Delivery and Resources

The timetables for classes can be found on the University website at:

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

Tutorials will commence in Week 2 of the session.

Lecture handouts are available for download from the website in advance of lecture classes. It is expected that you will print these notes and bring them to the relevant lectures.

You will be required to use the teaching website, Word, PDF, and Excel.

Course materials are available on iLearn. To access the website, go to <http://ilearn.mq.edu.au> and log in using your usual login and password.

## Unit Schedule

Week Topic

- 1 Exposed to Risk
- 2 Exposed to Risk
- 3 Exposed to Risk
- 4 Exposed to Risk
- 5 Statistical Tests
- 6 Graduation
- 7 Class Test
- 8 Control Cycle
- 9 Control Cycle

- 10 Control Cycle
- 11 Control Cycle
- 12 Control Cycle
- 13 Revision

## 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)

**New Assessment Policy in effect from Session 2 2016** [http://mq.edu.au/policy/docs/assessment/policy\\_2016.html](http://mq.edu.au/policy/docs/assessment/policy_2016.html). For more information visit [http://students.mq.edu.au/events/2016/07/19/new\\_assessment\\_policy\\_in\\_place\\_from\\_session\\_2/](http://students.mq.edu.au/events/2016/07/19/new_assessment_policy_in_place_from_session_2/)

Assessment Policy prior to Session 2 2016 <http://mq.edu.au/policy/docs/assessment/policy.html>

Grading Policy prior to Session 2 2016 <http://mq.edu.au/policy/docs/grading/policy.html>

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

Complaint Management Procedure for Students and Members of the Public [http://www.mq.edu.au/policy/docs/complaint\\_management/procedure.html](http://www.mq.edu.au/policy/docs/complaint_management/procedure.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](http://ask.mq.edu.au).

### Supplementary exams

Information regarding supplementary exams, including dates, is available at: [http://www.businessand economics.mq.edu.au/current\\_students/undergraduate/how\\_do\\_i/special\\_consideration](http://www.businessand economics.mq.edu.au/current_students/undergraduate/how_do_i/special_consideration)

## Student Support

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

[dents.mq.edu.au/support/](https://dents.mq.edu.au/support/)

## Learning Skills

Learning Skills ([mq.edu.au/learningskills](https://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](https://ask.mq.edu.au)

## IT Help

For help with University computer systems and technology, visit [http://www.mq.edu.au/about\\_us/offices\\_and\\_units/information\\_technology/help/](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.

## 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

- Describe the principles of actuarial modelling.
- Identify the most significant risks for various types of financial institutions and compare ways of managing these risks.
- Discuss the concept of the Actuarial Control Cycle and apply it to a variety of straightforward practical commercial situations.
- Describe how to test crude estimates for consistency with a standard table or a set of graduated estimates and describe the process of graduation.
- Use the binomial and Poisson models for mortality. Derive the maximum likelihood

estimator for the model parameter. Describe how to estimate transition intensities depending on age, exactly or using the census approximation.

- Identify ethical and professional issues in actuarial and insurance practice.

## **Assessment tasks**

- Class Test
- Project
- 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**

- Describe the principles of actuarial modelling.
- Identify the most significant risks for various types of financial institutions and compare ways of managing these risks.
- Discuss the concept of the Actuarial Control Cycle and apply it to a variety of straightforward practical commercial situations.
- Describe how to test crude estimates for consistency with a standard table or a set of graduated estimates and describe the process of graduation.
- Use the binomial and Poisson models for mortality. Derive the maximum likelihood estimator for the model parameter. Describe how to estimate transition intensities depending on age, exactly or using the census approximation.
- Identify ethical and professional issues in actuarial and insurance practice.

## **Assessment tasks**

- Class Test
- Project
- Final Examination

## **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**

- Describe the principles of actuarial modelling.
- Identify the most significant risks for various types of financial institutions and compare ways of managing these risks.
- Discuss the concept of the Actuarial Control Cycle and apply it to a variety of straightforward practical commercial situations.
- Identify ethical and professional issues in actuarial and insurance practice.

## **Assessment tasks**

- Project
- Final Examination

## **Changes since First Published**

Date	Description
01/09/2016	The class test is now 1 hour and 15 minutes long.