



FOBE301

Special Interest Unit 1

S1 External 2014

Applied Finance and Actuarial Studies

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General Information

Unit convenor and teaching staff

Unit Convenor

Peter Mordaunt

peter.mordaunt@mq.edu.au

Contact via peter.mordaunt@mq.edu.au

As this course is an online course students can consult with staff through iLearn or through the e-mail addresses above. Students experiencing significant difficulties with any topic in the unit must seek assistance immediately.

Other Staff

James Cummings

james.cummings@mq.edu.au

Contact via james.cummings@mq.edu.au

Credit points

1

Prerequisites

45cp

Corequisites

Co-badged status

Unit description

For details of this unit contact the Faculty of Business and Economics.

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:

Develop personal financial goals as appropriate to anticipated life stages

Construct and maintain a working budget using appropriate financial tools

Select appropriate investment instruments to support budget results and achieve financial goals

Recognize the features and implications of common financial contracts

Compare and contrast different "employment" structures

Assessment Tasks

Name	Weighting	Due
Assignments	10%	See below
Quizzes	40%	See below
Case Study	50%	See below

Assignments

Due: **See below**

Weighting: **10%**

Warning

This is an online course and therefore it is the student's responsibility to have available and access to the technology to access the material and to complete the tasks. No exceptions or extensions will be granted because of issues with the student's technology, internet provider or internet connectivity.

Submission

Submission is on-line.

Module 1 assignment due mid-night 17th March.

Module 2 assignment due mid-night 31st March.

Extension

No extensions will be granted. Students who have not submitted an assignment prior to the deadline will be awarded a mark of 0 for that assignment, except for cases in which an application for special consideration is made and approved.

Penalties

See "Extension" above.

What is required to complete the unit satisfactorily

In order to pass this subject students must pass the case study which enables them to demonstrate their accumulated and integrated understanding of the unit material. If performance in the case study does not demonstrate this level of achievement, a passing grade overall can be achieved by higher performance in the quizzes and the assignments.

On successful completion you will be able to:

- Develop personal financial goals as appropriate to anticipated life stages

- Construct and maintain a working budget using appropriate financial tools

Quizzes

Due: **See below**

Weighting: **40%**

Warning

This is an online course and therefore it is the student's responsibility to have available and access to the technology to access the material and to complete the tasks. No exceptions or extensions will be granted because of issues with the student's technology, internet provider or internet connectivity.

Submission

Quizzes are conducted on line

Quizzes will open at 6.00am and close at 10.00pm on the day.

Students must give themselves sufficient time to complete the quiz before it closes.

Module 3

Quiz 1 11th April "Basics" and "Interest Calculations".

Quiz 2 28th April "Taxes" and "Shares".

Quiz 3 5th May "Debt" and "Scams".

Quiz 4 19th May "Superannuation" and "Wills".

Module 4

Quiz 2nd June

Module 5

Quiz 13th June

Extension

No extensions will be granted. Students who have not attempted a quiz prior to the deadline will be awarded a mark of 0 for that quiz, except for cases in which an application for special consideration is made and approved.

Penalties

See "Extension" above.

What is required to complete the unit satisfactorily

In order to pass this subject students must pass the case study which enables them to demonstrate their accumulated and integrated understanding of the unit material. If performance in the case study does not demonstrate this level of achievement, a passing grade overall can be achieved by higher performance in the quizzes and the assignments.

On successful completion you will be able to:

- Select appropriate investment instruments to support budget results and achieve financial goals
- Recognize the features and implications of common financial contracts
- Compare and contrast different "employment" structures

Case Study

Due: **See below**

Weighting: **50%**

Warning

This is an online course and therefore it is the student's responsibility to have available and access to the technology to access the material and to complete the tasks. No exceptions or extensions will be granted because of issues with the student's technology, internet provider or internet connectivity.

Submission

Submission is on-line.

Release date is 5th May

Due date 13th June.

Extension

No extensions will be granted. Students who have not submitted the case study prior to the deadline will be awarded a mark of 0 for the case study, except for cases in which an application for special consideration is made and approved.

Penalties

See "extension" above

What is required to complete the unit satisfactorily

In order to pass this subject students must pass the case study which enables them to demonstrate their accumulated and integrated understanding of the unit material. If performance in the case study does not demonstrate this level of achievement, a passing grade overall can be achieved by higher performance in the quizzes and the assignments.

On successful completion you will be able to:

- Develop personal financial goals as appropriate to anticipated life stages
- Construct and maintain a working budget using appropriate financial tools
- Select appropriate investment instruments to support budget results and achieve financial goals

Delivery and Resources

Changes from previous offerings

Now in order to pass this subject students must pass the case study which enables them to demonstrate their accumulated and integrated understanding of the unit material. If performance in the case study does not demonstrate this level of achievement, a passing grade overall can be achieved by higher performance in the quizzes and the assignments.

Classes

- 5 x online modules delivered via iLearn

Prizes

There are no prizes for this unit.

Required and Recommended Texts and/or Materials

- Students will be referred to online resources via iLearn as required for each module.

Technology Used and Required

Technology used

- Learning Management System (iLearn)
- Microsoft Office
- Internet
- Voice boards

Technology requirements

- Access to a computer
- Access to Microsoft Office
- Access to the Internet

Unit Web Page

Course material is available on the learning management system (iLearn).

The web page for this unit can be found at www.iLearn.mq.edu.au

Teaching and Learning Strategy

- Students are expected to listen to online lectures and read the material supplied via the Learning Management System.
- Students are expected to apply the knowledge in answering the various quizzes and assignments.

Unit Schedule

Modules

1. Goals (anticipated student workload 4 hours)

- Online presentation of content
- Online discussion
- Reading/website reference
- Set your own goals
- Individually written discussion

2. Budgets (anticipated student workload 5 hours)

- Online presentation of content
- Your Money – ASIC resource and associated activities
- Online discussion
- Complete, explain & submit your own budget

3. Investments (anticipated student workload 24 hours)

- Basic Principles
- Interest calculations
- Tax
- Overview of Financial Scams
- Overview of investment options
- Overview of debt management Overview of Superannuation
- Asset protection issues
- Case Study
- Complete online tests

4. Common Contracts (anticipated student workload 7 hours)

- Introduction
- Overview of common contracts
- Online Test

5. "Employment" Structures (anticipated student workload 5 hours)

- Introduction
- Overview of common employment structures
- Online Test

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/

Academic Honesty

The nature of scholarly endeavour, dependent as it is on the work of others, binds all members of the University community to abide by the principles of academic honesty. Its fundamental principle is that all staff and students act with integrity in the creation, development, application and use of ideas and information. This means that:

- all academic work claimed as original is the work of the author making the claim
- all academic collaborations are acknowledged
- academic work is not falsified in any way
- when the ideas of others are used, these ideas are acknowledged appropriately.

Further information on the academic honesty can be found in the Macquarie University Academic Honesty Policy at http://www.mq.edu.au/policy/docs/academic_honesty/policy.html

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/

Special Consideration Policy

The University is committed to equity and fairness in all aspects of its learning and teaching. In stating this commitment, the University recognises that there may be circumstances where a student is prevented by unavoidable disruption from performing in accordance with their ability. A special consideration policy exists to support students who experience serious and unavoidable disruption such that they do not reach their usual demonstrated performance level. The policy is available at:

http://www.mq.edu.au/policy/docs/special_consideration/policy.html

Supplementary Exams Further information regarding supplementary exams, including dates, is available here http://www.businessandconomics.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://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

Capable of Professional and Personal Judgement and Initiative

We want our graduates to have emotional intelligence and sound interpersonal skills and to demonstrate discernment and common sense in their professional and personal judgement. They will exercise initiative as needed. They will be capable of risk assessment, and be able to handle ambiguity and complexity, enabling them to be adaptable in diverse and changing environments.

This graduate capability is supported by:

Learning outcomes

- Develop personal financial goals as appropriate to anticipated life stages
- Construct and maintain a working budget using appropriate financial tools
- Select appropriate investment instruments to support budget results and achieve financial goals

Assessment task

- Case Study

Discipline Specific Knowledge and Skills

Our graduates will take with them the intellectual development, depth and breadth of knowledge, scholarly understanding, and specific subject content in their chosen fields to make them competent and confident in their subject or profession. They will be able to demonstrate, where relevant, professional technical competence and meet professional standards. They will be able to articulate the structure of knowledge of their discipline, be able to adapt discipline-specific knowledge to novel situations, and be able to contribute from their discipline to inter-disciplinary solutions to problems.

This graduate capability is supported by:

Learning outcomes

- Develop personal financial goals as appropriate to anticipated life stages
- Construct and maintain a working budget using appropriate financial tools
- Select appropriate investment instruments to support budget results and achieve financial goals

- Recognize the features and implications of common financial contracts

Assessment tasks

- Assignments
- Quizzes
- Case Study

Critical, Analytical and Integrative Thinking

We want our graduates to be capable of reasoning, questioning and analysing, and to integrate and synthesise learning and knowledge from a range of sources and environments; to be able to critique constraints, assumptions and limitations; to be able to think independently and systemically in relation to scholarly activity, in the workplace, and in the world. We want them to have a level of scientific and information technology literacy.

This graduate capability is supported by:

Learning outcomes

- Develop personal financial goals as appropriate to anticipated life stages
- Construct and maintain a working budget using appropriate financial tools
- Select appropriate investment instruments to support budget results and achieve financial goals
- Recognize the features and implications of common financial contracts

Assessment tasks

- Assignments
- Quizzes

Problem Solving and Research Capability

Our graduates should be capable of researching; of analysing, and interpreting and assessing data and information in various forms; of drawing connections across fields of knowledge; and they should be able to relate their knowledge to complex situations at work or in the world, in order to diagnose and solve problems. We want them to have the confidence to take the initiative in doing so, within an awareness of their own limitations.

This graduate capability is supported by:

Learning outcomes

- Develop personal financial goals as appropriate to anticipated life stages
- Construct and maintain a working budget using appropriate financial tools
- Select appropriate investment instruments to support budget results and achieve financial goals

Assessment tasks

- Quizzes
- Case Study

Research and Practice

This unit uses research from external sources.

This unit gives you practice in applying research findings in your assignments.