



# ACCG847

## Forensic Accounting

S2 Day 2017

*Dept of Accounting & Corporate Governance*

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### Disclaimer

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## General Information

Unit convenor and teaching staff

Moderator

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Contact via Email

Lecturer

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Credit points

4

Prerequisites

ACCG611 or admission to MAdvProfAcc

Corequisites

Co-badged status

Unit description

This unit examines various techniques of financial fraud prevention, investigation and detection. Topics will include: motivations for financial fraud, symptoms of financial fraud, financial statement fraud, evidence collection and evaluation, legal report writing, interviewing witnesses and perpetrators, and fraud prevention. Case studies will be used.

## 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:

1. Demonstrate an ability to respond to issues associated with an allegation of fraud.
2. Identify and analyse risk management weaknesses from a fraud perspective.
- 3.

Appreciate the social / legal context of fraud. 4. Conduct preliminary examination of documents, assemble evidence and write reports. 5. Develop and implement an organisational policy to minimise fraud.

## General Assessment Information

To complete this unit satisfactorily, students must attempt all components of the assessments and obtain a minimum aggregate grade of 50%.

### Extensions

You are expected to submit written assessment tasks by the published due date UNLESS you have received written permission to submit your work at a later date from the Unit convenor. 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.

Details of how the University defines serious and unavoidable disruption to studies, and information about the processes involved, are contained in the Disruptions to Studies Policy.

## Assessment Tasks

Name	Weighting	Hurdle	Due
<u>Participation</u>	12%	No	Weekly
<u>Internal class test</u>	25%	No	Week commencing 11 Sep
<u>Case Study/Report</u>	13%	No	18 October 2017
<u>Final examination</u>	50%	No	Examinations period

### Participation

Due: **Weekly**

Weighting: **12%**

Individuals will be required to attend and actively contribute to assigned class activities and discussions each week. Activities (homework) assigned each week will be required to be submitted online prior to the commencement of the next week's class.

### Submission:

In your designated class.

Extension:

No extension will be granted.

#### Penalties:

A mark of ZERO will be assigned for weekly non-submission or non attendance.

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## Internal class test

Due: **Week commencing 11 Sep**

Weighting: **25%**

### Submission:

A one hour written test will be held in class and designed to assess a student's knowledge. The class test will be held the week commencing 11 September in your normal lecture class time and day.

#### Extension:

No extension will be granted. No supplementary test will be offered except in cases in which an application is made and approved under the University's Disruption to Studies Policy.

#### Penalties:

A mark of ZERO will be awarded for not sitting the examination.

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## Case Study/Report

Due: **18 October 2017**

Weighting: **13%**

Case study by a group of 5/7 students.

## Submission:

One report for each group is to be submitted online in iLearn by commencement of class 18 October 2017. The report will be worth 10 marks. Each group member will be asked to submit a percentage assessment of both their own input and the input of each class member in their group. These submissions will contribute to overall mark for each group member. A ten minute presentation by each group will be required in class time on 25 October 2017. The presentation will be worth 3 marks.

Extension:

No extension will be granted. Please refer to the University's Disruption to Studies Policy.

Penalties:

Students who have not submitted the task prior to the deadline will be awarded a mark of zero for the task.

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## Final examination

Due: **Examinations period**

Weighting: **50%**

## Submission:

A one hour written exam will be held that is designed to assess a student's knowledge. The time and location of the exam will be determined by the Examinations Branch.

**Extension:**

No extension will be granted. No supplementary test will be offered except in cases in which an application is made and approved under the University's Disruption to Studies Policy.

**Penalties:**

A mark of ZERO will be assigned for not sitting the examination.

On successful completion you will be able to:

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Appreciate the social / legal context of fraud. 4. Conduct preliminary examination of documents, assemble evidence and write reports. 5. Develop and implement an organisational policy to minimise fraud.

## **Delivery and Resources**

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/>

### **REQUIRED AND RECOMMENDED TEXTS AND/OR MATERIALS**

The following text is available from the Co-op Bookshop:

Albrecht, S. W., Albrecht C.C., Albrecht C.O. and Zimbelman M.F., 2011, Fraud Examination, South Western, 5th Edition,

ISBN: 978-1-305-07914-4

This text will be supplemented with readings available on the unit web site. Also see the seminar discussion and assignments.

The following text is recommended as useful resource:

Hopwood, W.S., Leiner, J. J. and Young G.R., 2012, Forensic Accounting and Fraud Examination, 2nd Edition.

ISBN 9780078136665

The following Journals are useful as additional references:

Journal of Forensic Accounting, Auditing and Fraud

Journal of Forensic and Investigative Accounting

Managerial Auditing Journal

Auditing: A Journal of Practice and Theory

Computer Fraud and Security

Forensic Science

Forensic Science International

Environmental Forensics

### **TECHNOLOGY USED AND REQUIRED**

Students are expected to have:

Proficiency in Word, Excel and Powerpoint

Knowledge of Macquarie University ilearn - for downloading lecture materials, etc

Knowledge of the library research databases - for accessing additional research material.

Access to a personal computer to be able to access iLearn and submit completed assessment material online.

## 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>

## Unit Schedule

Week commencing	Title	Resource
31 July	Overview and introduction to nature of fraud	Albrecht 1
7 August	Why People Commit Fraud	Albrecht 2
14 August	Fraud Prevention	Albrecht 3 & 4
21 August	Fraud Detection	Albrecht 5
28 August	Financial Investigation	Albrecht 7 & 8
4 September	Inquiry Methods and Fraud Reports	Albrecht 10
11 September	Financial statement fraud – overview Internal class test	Albrecht 11
18 September	Recess	
25 September	Recess	
2 October	Financial statement fraud - revenue and inventory related	Albrecht 12
9 October	Financial statement fraud - liability, asset and inadequate disclosure	Albrecht 13
16 October	Fraud Against Organisations Group Case Study due online	Albrecht 14

23 October	Consumer Fraud and Fraud in E-Commerce Group Case Study Presentations	Albrecht 15 & 17
30 October	Bankruptcy & Divorce	Albrecht 16
6 November	Unit revision	
13 - 24 November	Final Examination period	

## 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\\_2016.html](http://mq.edu.au/policy/docs/assessment/policy_2016.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 (in effect until Dec 4th, 2017): [http://www.mq.edu.au/policy/docs/disruption\\_studies/policy.html](http://www.mq.edu.au/policy/docs/disruption_studies/policy.html)

Special Consideration Policy (in effect from Dec 4th, 2017): <https://staff.mq.edu.au/work/strategy-planning-and-governance/university-policies-and-procedures/policies/special-consideration>

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).

## 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://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 - 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 outcome

- 1. Demonstrate an ability to respond to issues associated with an allegation of fraud. 2. Identify and analyse risk management weaknesses from a fraud perspective. 3. Appreciate the social / legal context of fraud. 4. Conduct preliminary examination of documents, assemble evidence and write reports. 5. Develop and implement an organisational policy to minimise fraud.

### 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 outcome**

- 1. Demonstrate an ability to respond to issues associated with an allegation of fraud. 2. Identify and analyse risk management weaknesses from a fraud perspective. 3. Appreciate the social / legal context of fraud. 4. Conduct preliminary examination of documents, assemble evidence and write reports. 5. Develop and implement an organisational policy to minimise fraud.

## **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 outcome**

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## **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 outcome**

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## 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 outcome

- 1. Demonstrate an ability to respond to issues associated with an allegation of fraud. 2. Identify and analyse risk management weaknesses from a fraud perspective. 3. Appreciate the social / legal context of fraud. 4. Conduct preliminary examination of documents, assemble evidence and write reports. 5. Develop and implement an organisational policy to minimise fraud.

## PG - Engaged and Responsible, Active and Ethical Citizens

Our postgraduates will be ethically aware and capable of confident transformative action in relation to their professional responsibilities and the wider community. They will have a sense of connectedness with others and country and have a sense of mutual obligation. They will be able to appreciate the impact of their professional roles for social justice and inclusion related to national and global issues

This graduate capability is supported by:

### Learning outcome

- 1. Demonstrate an ability to respond to issues associated with an allegation of fraud. 2. Identify and analyse risk management weaknesses from a fraud perspective. 3. Appreciate the social / legal context of fraud. 4. Conduct preliminary examination of documents, assemble evidence and write reports. 5. Develop and implement an organisational policy to minimise fraud.