AFIN805

Research in Banking and Finance

S2 Day 2017

Dept of Applied Finance and Actuarial Studies

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Disclaimer

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General Information

Unit convenor and teaching staff Convenor Professor Gary Tian gary.tian@mq.edu.au Contact via Email E4A 513 Refer to iLearn Annoucement
Credit points 4
Prerequisites (Admission to MCom in Finance or MBkgFin) and (AFIN808 and AFIN818)
Corequisites
Co-badged status
Unit description This unit describes and analyses the methodology of contemporary research in banking and finance. It investigates research methods employed across a wide variety of current topics in banking and finance.

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 advanced and integrated understanding of a complex body of knowledge in finance theory and practice

Acquire specialised cognitive and technical skills to independently solve complex problems in finance

Apply knowledge and skills to demonstrate autonomy, expert judgement, adaptability and responsibility as a practitioner of finance

General Assessment Information

GradeBook

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.

Feedback Prior to the Census Date

Self-assessment exercise question(s) will be released in Week 3 for feedback prior to the census date. Its answer will be also provided before the census date in Week 4.

Assessment criteria

Assessment criteria for all assessment tasks will be provided on the unit iLearn site.

Assessment Tasks

Name	Weighting	Hurdle	Due
Presentation	25%	No	Weeks 5-12
Written Assignment	25%	No	Refer to iLearn Announcement
Final Exam	50%	No	University examination period

Presentation

Due: **Weeks 5-12**
Weighting: **25%**

Written Assignment with Oral Presentation: Students are allocated to present critiques and propose extensions to existing research papers during class. Refer to iLearn for further details.

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.

Assignment must be submitted via iLearn .

On successful completion you will be able to:

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finance theory and practice
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Written Assignment

Due: **Refer to iLearn Announcement**
Weighting: **25%**

Students will write a research proposal on an issue in corporate finance and banking and come up with new research questions in the area. Refer to iLearn for further details.

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.

Assignment must be submitted via both iLearn and email to Professor Gary Tian.

On successful completion you will be able to:
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Final Exam

Due: **University examination period**
Weighting: **50%**

The exam covers the entire unit. Refer to iLearn for further details.

On successful completion you will be able to:
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and responsibility as a practitioner of finance

Delivery and Resources

Classes

The weekly three hour class time for this unit consists of a two hour seminar and a one hour workshop. Students must thoroughly read all assigned articles before coming to the class so that they are fully prepared to discuss the key issues.

Timetables

All students are required to attend their timetabled classes. The timetable for classes can be found on the University web site http://www.timetables.mq.edu.au/

Required Text

There is no prescribed textbook. Readings are taken from relevant academic books and journals. Refer to iLearn for further details.

Technology Used and Required

- Internet access
- Access to iLearn
- Software for producing presentations
- Open-source software for reproducible research.

Unit Schedule

Week	Topic
1	Source of research questions
2	Developing a research question, hypothesis and model
3	Corporate governance
4	Ownership and control
5	CEO compensation
6	Capital structure
7	Initial public offerings
	Mid session break
8	Bank lending
9	Informal finance
10	Cash holding policy
11	Mergers and acquisitions

12	Investment efficiency
13	Financial markets and asset pricing/Review

Note: this topic list is subject to revision. Any changes will be posted to iLearn.

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_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

Disruption to Studies Policy (in effect until Dec 4th, 2017): 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/

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.

Supplementary Examination

Further information regarding supplementary exams, including dates, is available here

http://www.businessandeconomics.mq.edu.au/current_students/undergraduate/how_do_i/disruption_to_studies

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://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 outcomes

- Develop advanced and integrated understanding of a complex body of knowledge in finance theory and practice
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Assessment tasks

- Presentation
- Written Assignment
- Final Exam

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

- Develop advanced and integrated understanding of a complex body of knowledge in finance theory and practice
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Assessment tasks

- Presentation
- Written Assignment
- Final Exam

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

- Develop advanced and integrated understanding of a complex body of knowledge in finance theory and practice
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Assessment tasks

- Presentation
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- Final Exam

Changes from Previous Offering

Some changes in the unit topics.

Research and Practice

- This unit uses research from external sources.
- This unit gives you practice in applying research findings in your assignments.
- This unit gives you opportunities to conduct your own research