



# ECON915

## Topics in Applied Econometrics

S2 Evening 2019

*Dept of Economics*

### Contents

<u>General Information</u>	2
<u>Learning Outcomes</u>	3
<u>Assessment Tasks</u>	3
<u>Delivery and Resources</u>	6
<u>Policies and Procedures</u>	7
<u>Graduate Capabilities</u>	8

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## General Information

Unit convenor and teaching staff

Unit convener/lecturer

Chris Heaton

[chris.heaton@mq.edu.au](mailto:chris.heaton@mq.edu.au)

Contact via Email

04EaR 414

TBA on iLearn

Lecturer

Fazeel Mohamed Jaleel

[fazeel.jaleel@mq.edu.au](mailto:fazeel.jaleel@mq.edu.au)

Contact via Email

04EaR 444

TBA on iLearn

Lecturer

Roselyne Joyeux

[roselyne.joyeux@mq.edu.au](mailto:roselyne.joyeux@mq.edu.au)

Contact via Email

04EaR 440

TBA on iLearn

Credit points

4

Prerequisites

ECON840

Corequisites

Co-badged status

ECON715

### Unit description

This unit covers the application of econometric methods to applied problems in economics. The topics covered will vary from year to year, and will extend students' knowledge of econometric techniques beyond that gained in ECON840. The emphasis of the unit is on the application of econometric techniques as part of an evidence-based approach to knowledge-discovery and policy-formulation, and theoretical knowledge of econometrics will be developed only to the extent necessary to achieve this. Students who successfully complete this unit will be able to interpret and critically evaluate econometric results that appear in the applied economic research literature and industry reports. They will also be able to design and execute econometric studies that contribute to the analysis of applied problems in 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:

Estimate econometric models and test hypotheses using techniques that are appropriate for the problem at hand.

Generate and interpret the results of econometric analysis using the software employed in the unit.

Effectively communicate the findings from econometric analysis.

Interpret and critically evaluate applications of econometrics in the applied economic research literature.

## Assessment Tasks

Name	Weighting	Hurdle	Due
<a href="#">Assignment 1</a>	33%	No	Week 6, Monday 7am
<a href="#">Assignment 2</a>	33%	No	Week 10, Monday 7am
<a href="#">Assignment 3</a>	34%	No	Week 15, Monday 7am

### Assignment 1

Due: **Week 6, Monday 7am**

Weighting: **33%**

Assignment 1 assesses work covered in lectures up to the submission deadline. Students will be given an applied econometric problem to work on and will be required to submit a written report

on their investigation of the problem. Students will also be required to submit relevant computer files.

### Submission

The assignment will be made available on iLearn at least one week prior to the submission deadline. The only acceptable form of submission will be via the relevant links in iLearn. Note in particular that assignments that are emailed to staff will not be accepted. The assignment may be submitted once only.

What is required to complete the unit satisfactorily?

Students must demonstrate satisfaction of the learning objectives assessed by the assignment. Students will be awarded a numerical mark. Detailed information about the requirements of the assignment will be released with the assignment question.

It is intended that students will work on the assignments independently. Students who collude or otherwise violate the Academic Honesty Policy will face further action which may result in failure in the unit and more severe penalties.

### Extensions

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 to cases in which an application for [Special Consideration](#) is made and approved. Students who wish to submit the assignment after the deadline should notify the unit convener by email so that the necessary arrangements may be made.

On successful completion you will be able to:

- Estimate econometric models and test hypotheses using techniques that are appropriate for the problem at hand.
- Generate and interpret the results of econometric analysis using the software employed in the unit.
- Effectively communicate the findings from econometric analysis.
- Interpret and critically evaluate applications of econometrics in the applied economic research literature.

## Assignment 2

Due: **Week 10, Monday 7am**

Weighting: **33%**

Assignment 2 assesses work covered in lectures up to the submission deadline. Students will be given an applied econometric problem to work on and will be required to submit a written report on their investigation of the problem. Students will also be required to submit relevant computer files.

## Submission

The assignment will be made available on iLearn at least one week prior to the submission deadline. The only acceptable form of submission will be via the relevant links in iLearn. Note in particular that assignments that are emailed to staff will not be accepted. The assignment may be submitted once only.

What is required to complete the unit satisfactorily?

Students must demonstrate satisfaction of the learning objectives assessed by the assignment. Students will be awarded a numerical mark. Detailed information about the requirements of the assignment will be released with the assignment question.

It is intended that students will work on the assignments independently. Students who collude or otherwise violate the Academic Honesty Policy will face further action which may result in failure in the unit and more severe penalties.

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- Generate and interpret the results of econometric analysis using the software employed in the unit.
- Effectively communicate the findings from econometric analysis.
- Interpret and critically evaluate applications of econometrics in the applied economic research literature.

## Assignment 3

Due: **Week 15, Monday 7am**

Weighting: **34%**

Assignment 3 assesses work covered in lectures up to the submission deadline. Students will be given an applied econometric problem to work on and will be required to submit a written report on their investigation of the problem. Students will also be required to submit relevant computer files.

## Submission

The assignment will be made available on iLearn at least one week prior to the submission

deadline. The only acceptable form of submission will be via the relevant links in iLearn. Note in particular that assignments that are emailed to staff will not be accepted. The assignment may be submitted once only.

What is required to complete the unit satisfactorily?

Students must demonstrate satisfaction of the learning objectives assessed by the assignment. Students will be awarded a numerical mark. Detailed information about the requirements of the assignment will be released with the assignment question.

It is intended that students will work on the assignments independently. Students who collude or otherwise violate the Academic Honesty Policy will face further action which may result in failure in the unit and more severe penalties.

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- Generate and interpret the results of econometric analysis using the software employed in the unit.
- Effectively communicate the findings from econometric analysis.
- Interpret and critically evaluate applications of econometrics in the applied economic research literature.

## Delivery and Resources

### Classes

There is a single 3 hour class each week that combines a lecture and tutorial work. Students are expected to attend all classes.

### Required and Recommended Texts and/or Materials

There is no single set text. Each lecturer will recommend reading materials available from the library or online as the unit progresses.

### Technologies used and required

A range of software is likely to be used in the unit, including R, RStudio, Gretl and Eviews. Precise requirements will be advised by the lecturers as the unit progresses.

## Learning and Teaching Activities

The unit is taught by class sessions that combine lectures, tutorial work and class discussion.

## Policies and Procedures

Macquarie University policies and procedures are accessible from [Policy Central](https://staff.mq.edu.au/work/strategy-planning-and-governance/university-policies-and-procedures/policy-central) (<https://staff.mq.edu.au/work/strategy-planning-and-governance/university-policies-and-procedures/policy-central>). Students should be aware of the following policies in particular with regard to Learning and Teaching:

- [Academic Appeals Policy](#)
- [Academic Integrity Policy](#)
- [Academic Progression Policy](#)
- [Assessment Policy](#)
- [Fitness to Practice Procedure](#)
- [Grade Appeal Policy](#)
- [Complaint Management Procedure for Students and Members of the Public](#)
- [Special Consideration Policy](#) (**Note:** *The Special Consideration Policy is effective from 4 December 2017 and replaces the Disruption to Studies Policy.*)

Undergraduate students seeking more policy resources can visit the [Student Policy Gateway](https://students.mq.edu.au/support/study/student-policy-gateway) (<https://students.mq.edu.au/support/study/student-policy-gateway>). It is your one-stop-shop for the key policies you need to know about throughout your undergraduate student journey.

If you would like to see all the policies relevant to Learning and Teaching visit [Policy Central](https://staff.mq.edu.au/work/strategy-planning-and-governance/university-policies-and-procedures/policy-central) (<https://staff.mq.edu.au/work/strategy-planning-and-governance/university-policies-and-procedures/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/study/getting-started/student-conduct>

## Results

Results published on platform other than [eStudent](#), (eg. iLearn, Coursera etc.) 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](https://ask.mq.edu.au) or if you are a Global MBA student contact [globalmba.support@mq.edu.au](mailto:globalmba.support@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)

If you are a Global MBA student contact [globalmba.support@mq.edu.au](mailto:globalmba.support@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

- Estimate econometric models and test hypotheses using techniques that are appropriate for the problem at hand.
- Generate and interpret the results of econometric analysis using the software employed in the unit.
- Interpret and critically evaluate applications of econometrics in the applied economic research literature.

## **Assessment tasks**

- Assignment 1
- Assignment 2
- Assignment 3

## **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**

- Estimate econometric models and test hypotheses using techniques that are appropriate for the problem at hand.
- Generate and interpret the results of econometric analysis using the software employed in the unit.
- Interpret and critically evaluate applications of econometrics in the applied economic research literature.

## **Assessment tasks**

- Assignment 1
- Assignment 2
- Assignment 3

## **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**

- Generate and interpret the results of econometric analysis using the software employed in the unit.
- Interpret and critically evaluate applications of econometrics in the applied economic research literature.

## **Assessment tasks**

- Assignment 1
- Assignment 2
- Assignment 3

## **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**

- Effectively communicate the findings from econometric analysis.

## **Assessment tasks**

- Assignment 1
- Assignment 2