



AFIN329

Derivative Instruments

S1 Evening 2019

Department of Applied Finance

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General Information

Unit convenor and teaching staff

Unit Convenor

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E4A 229

Refer to iLearn

Administration

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Credit points

3

Prerequisites

6cp at 200 level including (AFIN252 or AFIN270 or STAT272)

Corequisites

Co-badged status

Unit description

This unit explores the characteristics and pricing of derivatives. The importance of the principles of hedging and arbitrage in derivative pricing, is considered. Derivatives investigated include forwards, futures, options and various structured products. In particular, the unit covers non-standard securities and numerical methods.

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:

Understand the concepts of option pricing theory and the role of derivatives

Apply financial derivatives such as forward/futures and options to solve quantitative

problems

Develop skills to price options and other derivatives.

Examine the principles of hedging, arbitrage theory and structured products

General Assessment Information

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 tasks (not including the final exam mark) will not be addressed.

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

Assessment Tasks

Name	Weighting	Hurdle	Due
Early Diagnostic Assessment	5%	No	Week 4
Class Test	35%	No	Week 7
Final Examination	60%	No	University Examination Period

Early Diagnostic Assessment

Due: **Week 4**

Weighting: **5%**

Task Description:

The Early Diagnostic Assessment is an online multiple choice quiz that will be held in Week 4.

Type of Collaboration: Individual **Submission:** Online quiz to be taken at home during Week 4.

Format: Multiple-choice. **Length:** 1 hour. **Inherent Task Requirements:**

Understanding of lecture/tutorial material covered from weeks 1-2 (inclusive).

Please use the quiz as an indicator of whether you are progressing satisfactorily in the unit. If you are having difficulties, please see the Unit Convenor and consider withdrawing before the submission date in Week 4.

Late Submission:

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

On successful completion you will be able to:

- Understand the concepts of option pricing theory and the role of derivatives

- Develop skills to price options and other derivatives.
- Examine the principles of hedging, arbitrage theory and structured products

Class Test

Due: **Week 7**

Weighting: **35%**

Task Description:

The Class Test is scheduled to be held during regular lecture day and time in Week 7. Refer to iLearn for further details (test venues and assessment criteria will be posted closer to the class test date).

No dictionaries of any kind are allowed in the class test. Non-programmable calculators are allowed, provided that they are not capable of storing text. During the exam you will be provided with a formula sheet (attached to the back of your exam paper). It will contain useful formulas that have been encountered during the course, however it is the student's responsibility to identify the correct formula to be used for any particular question within the paper.

Type of Collaboration: Individual **Submission:** Completed in class during normal lecture hours in Week 7. **Format:** Short-answer/short-response questions including calculations. **Length:** Total time available for the class test is 90 minutes. **Inherent Task Requirements:** Understanding of lecture/tutorial topics covered in Weeks 1-6 (inclusive). **Late Submission:**

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

On successful completion you will be able to:

- Understand the concepts of option pricing theory and the role of derivatives
- Apply financial derivatives such as forward/futures and options to solve quantitative problems
- Develop skills to price options and other derivatives.
- Examine the principles of hedging, arbitrage theory and structured products

Final Examination

Due: **University Examination Period**

Weighting: **60%**

Task Description:

Examination conditions

The final exam is based on topics covered during lecture weeks 1 to 13, inclusive. No dictionaries of any kind are allowed in the final examination. Non-programmable calculators are allowed, provided that they are not capable of storing text.

You may NOT be permitted to bring in a cheat sheet, however, during the exam you will be

provided with a formula sheet (attached to the back of your exam paper). It will contain useful formulas that have been encountered, during the course, however it the student's responsibility to identify the correct formula to be used for any particular question within the paper.

Type of Collaboration: Individual **Submission:**

The University Examination period commences on 11 June 2019. You are expected to present yourself for examination at the time and place designated in the University Examination Timetable and on iLearn. The timetable will be available in draft form approximately eight weeks before the commencement of the examinations and in Final form approximately four weeks before the commencement of the examinations. <http://www.timetables.mq.edu.au/exam>

Format: Short-answer/short-response questions including calculations. Paper-based. **Length:** 2 hours plus 10 minutes reading time **Inherent Task Requirements:** Understanding of lecture/tutorial material discussed from weeks 1-13 (inclusive), **Late Submission:**

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

On successful completion you will be able to:

- Understand the concepts of option pricing theory and the role of derivatives
- Apply financial derivatives such as forward/futures and options to solve quantitative problems
- Examine the principles of hedging, arbitrage theory and structured products

Delivery and Resources

Required Text:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The required textbook is 'Fundamentals of Futures and Options Markets', John C. Hull, Sirimon Treepongkaruna, Richard Heaney, David Pitt and David Colwell, Pearson, 2014 • This is available for purchase from the Macquarie University Co-op Bookshop, and a copy will be available in the closed reserve section of the Macquarie Library.
Unit Web Page:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The web page for this unit can be found at http://ilearn.mq.edu.au • It is the responsibility of students to visit the unit regularly. Course material is available on the learning management system (iLearn). • Lecture notes, tutorial solutions, unit announcements, and other reference materials will be posed to this site throughout the semester
Technology Used and Required:	
Delivery Format and Other Details:	<p>Classes</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The weekly three hour class for this unit consists of a two hour lecture and a one hour tutorial. • The timetable for classes can be found on the University web site at: https://timetables.mq.edu.au/
Recommended Readings:	

<p>Other Course Materials:</p>	<p>Prizes</p> <p>Prizes for this unit (see).</p> <p>http://www.buisnessandeconomics.mq.edu.au/undergraduate_degrees/prizes_scholarships</p>
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Unit Schedule

Lecture Week	Lecture Topic
1	Introduction to Derivatives and Mechanics of Futures Market
2	Hedging Strategies using Futures
3	Interest rates
4	Determination of Forward and Futures Prices
5	Swaps and Ethics
6	Mechanics of Option Markets and Properties of Stock Options
7	CLASS TEST
	BREAK
8	Trading Strategies Involving Options
9	Introduction to Binomial Trees
10	Valuing Stock Options: The Black Scholes Model

11	Options on Stock Indices and Currencies and Futures Options
12	Greek Letters
13	Revision

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 or if you are a Global MBA student contact globalmba.support@mq.edu.au

Supplementary Exam

Information regarding supplementary exams, including dates, is available at

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

If you are a Global MBA student contact 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/.

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

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 skills to price options and other derivatives.
- Examine the principles of hedging, arbitrage theory and structured products

Assessment task

- Class Test

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

- Understand the concepts of option pricing theory and the role of derivatives
- Apply financial derivatives such as forward/futures and options to solve quantitative problems
- Develop skills to price options and other derivatives.
- Examine the principles of hedging, arbitrage theory and structured products

Assessment tasks

- Early Diagnostic Assessment
- Class Test
- Final Examination

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

- Understand the concepts of option pricing theory and the role of derivatives
- Apply financial derivatives such as forward/futures and options to solve quantitative

problems

- Develop skills to price options and other derivatives.

Assessment tasks

- Early Diagnostic Assessment
- Class Test
- Final Examination

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

- Understand the concepts of option pricing theory and the role of derivatives
- Apply financial derivatives such as forward/futures and options to solve quantitative problems
- Examine the principles of hedging, arbitrage theory and structured products

Assessment tasks

- Early Diagnostic Assessment
- Class Test
- Final Examination

Research and Practice

- This unit gives you practice in applying research findings in your assignments
- This unit gives you opportunities to conduct your own research

Changes since First Published

Date	Description
08/03/2019	Change to diagnostic assessment content information (no longer covering weeks 1-3 instead weeks 1-2).