



# ECFS888

## Economics of Financial Markets

AFC Term 2 City 2019

*Department of Applied Finance*

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#### **Disclaimer**

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## General Information

Unit convenor and teaching staff

Lecturer

Jeff Oughton

[jeff.oughton@mafc.mq.edu.au](mailto:jeff.oughton@mafc.mq.edu.au)

Contact via Email

Credit points

2

Prerequisites

(Admission to MAppFin or MAppFin(Adv) or GradDipAppFin) and (AFCP801 or ECFS865)

Corequisites

Co-badged status

Unit description

The aim of this unit is to provide a greater understanding of the role and interaction of economic factors with the financial sector. We utilise topical developments and issues as subject matter. This unit explores the structure and growth of the economy, the determination of interest rates, exchange rates and equity prices, the role of finance, the changing importance of banks, institutional investors and security markets, and the economics of regulation with focus on the Global Financial Crisis and to a lesser extent the Asian Crisis. We also look at topical issues in economics and financial markets, for example the implications of the surge in Government debt, the implications for markets of an ageing population.

## 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:

Identify and explain economic and financial concepts and theories.

Analyse current and potential economic and financial market developments, with reference to economic and financial concepts, theories, evidence, and practice.

Explain the structure of an economy and its financial system, why this structure has economic and financial impacts and how this structure can be used to achieve desired outcomes/goals.

Analyse and explain the role and interaction of economic factors (including instruments of economic policy and financial regulation) with the financial sector (including financial market prices and the behaviour of the financial system more generally).

Critically evaluate major economic and financial challenges and their implications for financial markets and institutions.

## General Assessment Information

To pass this unit the student needs to (1) Achieve an aggregate mark of 50 or more, and; (2) Pass the Final Exam.

## Assessment Tasks

| Name                                | Weighting | Hurdle | Due                |
|-------------------------------------|-----------|--------|--------------------|
| <a href="#">Pre-unit Assignment</a> | 10%       | No     | At First Class     |
| <a href="#">Assignment</a>          | 30%       | No     | Refer to iLearn    |
| <a href="#">Final Exam</a>          | 60%       | Yes    | Refer to Timetable |

### Pre-unit Assignment

Due: **At First Class**

Weighting: **10%**

#### Summary of Assessment Task

**Individual / Group:** Individual.

**Due Date:** At first class.

**Submission Method:** In Class.

**Duration:** Refer to Assignment Coversheet.

#### Extension Requests:

- No extensions will be granted.
- There will be a deduction of 10% of the total available marks for each 24 hour period or part thereof. This penalty does not apply for cases in which an application for Special Consideration has been made and approved.
- No submission will be accepted after solutions have been discussed or posted by the lecturer. As this normally occurs on day 2 of classes, students need to be aware that submissions are rarely accepted beyond the first 24 hour late period.

- Note: Applications for Special Consideration must be made within 5 (five) business days of the due date and time.
- Refer to MAFC Program Rules at [www.mafc.mq.edu.au](http://www.mafc.mq.edu.au) for information on the University's [Special Consideration Policy](#).

**Other Information:**

- Pre-unit assignment is handed out with unit notes as well as placed on iLearn.

On successful completion you will be able to:

- Identify and explain economic and financial concepts and theories.
- Analyse current and potential economic and financial market developments, with reference to economic and financial concepts, theories, evidence, and practice.

## Assignment

Due: **Refer to iLearn**

Weighting: **30%**

### Summary of Assessment Task

**Individual / Group:** Individual.

**Due Date:** Refer to the unit's iLearn site.

**Submission Method:** Online via Turnitin on iLearn.

**Duration:** Refer to Assignment Coversheet.

### Extension Requests:

- 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 incurs a 20% penalty). This penalty does not apply for cases in which an application for Special Consideration is made and approved.
- Late submissions will be accepted up to 96 hours after the due date and time.
- Note: Applications for Special Consideration must be made within 5 (five) business days of the due date and time.
- Refer to MAFC Program Rules at [www.mafc.mq.edu.au](http://www.mafc.mq.edu.au) for information on the University's [Special Consideration Policy](#).

**Other Information:** Unit assignment is handed out in lectures. Students choose a topical issue of interest to research and analyse the economic and financial implications of the topic using the concepts covered in class and the related unit material.

On successful completion you will be able to:

- Identify and explain economic and financial concepts and theories.
- Analyse current and potential economic and financial market developments, with reference to economic and financial concepts, theories, evidence, and practice.
- Explain the structure of an economy and its financial system, why this structure has economic and financial impacts and how this structure can be used to achieve desired outcomes/goals.
- Analyse and explain the role and interaction of economic factors (including instruments of economic policy and financial regulation) with the financial sector (including financial market prices and the behaviour of the financial system more generally).

## Final Exam

Due: **Refer to Timetable**

Weighting: **60%**

**This is a hurdle assessment task (see [assessment policy](#) for more information on hurdle assessment tasks)**

### Summary of Assessment Task

**Individual / Group:** Individual.

**Due Date:** Refer to Timetable.

**Submission Method:** As per MAFC Program Rules at [www.mafc.mq.edu.au](http://www.mafc.mq.edu.au)

**Duration:** 2 hours plus 10 minutes reading time.

### Examination Conditions:

- The purpose of the exam is to test your ability to analyse and apply the concepts studied in the unit in a practical way under exam conditions without material i.e. closed book.
- Students are required to think critically and reflect on material and not merely recall unit content.
- Exam times and locations are noted in the unit timetable at [www.mafc.mq.edu.au](http://www.mafc.mq.edu.au).
- Refer to MAFC Program Rules at [www.mafc.mq.edu.au](http://www.mafc.mq.edu.au).

### Extension Requests:

- You are expected to present yourself for examination at the time and place designated in the relevant MAFC Timetable at [www.mafc.mq.edu.au](http://www.mafc.mq.edu.au).
- Deferral of an examination is not permitted unless an application for Special Consideration is made and approved.
- Students who do not attend receive a mark of zero. This penalty does not apply

in cases where an application for Special Consideration has been made and approved.

- Note: Applications for Special Consideration must be made within 5 (five) business days of the due date and time.
- Refer to MAFC Program Rules at [www.mafc.mq.edu.au](http://www.mafc.mq.edu.au) for information on the University's [Special Consideration Policy](#) or non-attendance at an examination.

On successful completion you will be able to:

- Identify and explain economic and financial concepts and theories.
- Analyse current and potential economic and financial market developments, with reference to economic and financial concepts, theories, evidence, and practice.
- Explain the structure of an economy and its financial system, why this structure has economic and financial impacts and how this structure can be used to achieve desired outcomes/goals.
- Analyse and explain the role and interaction of economic factors (including instruments of economic policy and financial regulation) with the financial sector (including financial market prices and the behaviour of the financial system more generally).
- Critically evaluate major economic and financial challenges and their implications for financial markets and institutions.

## **Delivery and Resources**

### **CLASSES**

**Face-to-Face Teaching:** Generally 20 hours over 4 days.

**Timetable:** Detailed timetable for classes are on the Centre's website at [www.mafc.mq.edu.au](http://www.mafc.mq.edu.au)

#### **Consultation Times:**

Students who wish to contact any of the teaching staff may do so through:

- The unit's iLearn site, in relation to general queries (so that all students may benefit); or
- Individual consultation with the lecturer by email in the first instance, if necessary.

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

**Text:** Nil.

#### **Additional Readings:**

- The unit material is contained within the unit notes, additional handouts and readings and the lecture slides.
- Most additional readings are provided in the unit folder.

- Students should assume these readings are examinable unless otherwise advised.

**Lecture Notes:** Available in printed form and electronically via iLearn.

**Pre-unit Materials:** Information papers on statistics, regression, accounting and other material may be found at <http://mafcstudents.mq.edu.au/new-to-mafc/pre-course-materials/>. All students should work through this material prior to commencing the degree. The material will remain a useful reference as students progress through the program.

**Calculators:**

- A calculator is not required for this unit.
- Numerical calculations are basic in nature and approximations will suffice.
- No calculators, mobile phones or computers are permitted in examinations.

**Assumed Knowledge:**

- No previous formal study of economics is required.
- It is highly recommended that students read the unit notes before the first class to familiarise themselves with the material. Reading the notes *before* classes begin *does* improve outcomes.

**Assumed Access:**

- Access to a computer with internet access, word processing and spreadsheet capability may assist students with the unit to a limited degree.

## **TECHNOLOGY USED AND REQUIRED**

**Unit iLearn Site:**

- Found by logging on to iLearn [ilearn.mq.edu.au](http://ilearn.mq.edu.au), then clicking on ***ECFS888 Economics of Financial Markets***.
- This is where you will find a link to forums, downloadable resources and other important pages.
- iLearn allows you to communicate with other students and lecturer(s) and may provide supplementary material.
- You are requested to post your questions to iLearn forums at least 24 hours prior to the assignment submission date or the examination date. Questions posted after that time may not be answered. **Please try to not leave your questions to the last few days, before the final assessment.**

**Important Notice:**

- It is important that you familiarise yourself with the unit's iLearn site.
- All students should check the unit's iLearn site regularly (minimum twice a week and

prior to all lectures) and look for updates and distribution of materials (including case studies) related to the unit or assessments and participate in the unit's forum discussions.

## Unit Schedule

### TOPIC 1: INTRODUCTION AND OVERVIEW OF THE ECONOMY

The objective of this lecture is to introduce economic concepts important to the understanding of developments in financial markets and more broadly the financial system. The focus is on current relevance and the ability to analyse current economic and financial market issues.

Outline:

- Introduction and overview of the course
- Why does economics and finance matter?
- Measuring economic activity and financial systems
- Potential and actual growth of the economy
- Consumer and asset inflation/deflation
- Balance of payments and the international economy
- Business cycles – ups and downs in economic activity
- Gauging and forecasting the economy
- Risk and uncertainty

Application of Concepts:

- Objectives for managing the economy and the financial system
- Assessment of aggregate output, incomes, assets and liabilities, and sustainability and stability
- Wealth, debt and income effects
- Promotion of inflation targeting, external and internal balance and financial stability
- Understanding key drivers of economic activity and its financial linkages

Readings:

- RBA Governor, Dr Philip Lowe, Trust & Prosperity, Speech to CEDA, November 2018 - <https://www.rba.gov.au/speeches/2018/sp-gov-2018-11-20.html>
- Ostry, J.D. "Growth or Inclusion?" Finance & Development, June 2018 - <https://www.imf.org/external/pubs/ft/fandd/2018/06/economics-of-promoting-inclusive-growth/ostry.htm>
- Simon, John, Ten years of Research – What Have We Learnt Since the Financial Crisis?", Speech to Economic Society of Australia, March 2019 - <https://www.rba.gov.au/speeches/2019/sp-so-2019-03-07.html>



- Borio, Claudio, On Money Debt, Trust & Central Banking, BIS WP No. 763 - <https://www.bis.org/publ/work763.pdf>

## TOPIC 2: MACROECONOMIC AND FINANCIAL POLICIES

The objective of this lecture is to examine the use of some of the instruments of economic policy and how they affect closely related financial market prices and more generally, the stability of the financial system.

### Outline:

- The goals of economic policy
- Interest rates
- Exchange rates
- Fiscal policy
- Monetary policy
- Macro prudential policy
- Structural policy and reform
- International economic policy and the global monetary system

### Application of Concepts:

- The role of policy makers in macroeconomic and financial stabilisation
- Fiscal policy – effectiveness and sustainability?
- Monetary policy decisions: what next?
- What are the impacts of QE on financial assets?
- Inflation targeting: goods and services prices only or asset prices too?
- How does macroprudential policy help to safeguard the whole financial system?
- Currency unions and exchange rate regimes - fixed, floating or common?
- China's exchange rate: appreciation or stability?
- The Reserve currency debate and rebalancing global growth
- Bitcoin and e-currencies

### Readings:

- RBA, “The Transmission of Monetary Policy” - <https://www.rba.gov.au/education/resources/explainers/pdf/the-transmission-of-monetary-policy.pdf>
- Claudio Borio, Head of the Monetary and Economic Department of the BIS, Sep 2017 - Through the Looking Glass. <https://www.bis.org/speeches/sp170922.pdf>
- John C. Williams, “Monetary Policy in a Low R-star World”, Aug 2016. <https://www.frbsf.org/economic-research/publications/economic-letter/2016/august/monetary-policy-and-low-r-star-natural-rate-of-interest/> - a short summary

- Summers, L.H, et al “On Falling Neutral Real Rates, Fiscal Policies and the Risk of Secular Stagnation, Brookings Papers, March 2019 - <https://www.brookings.edu/wp-content/uploads/2019/03/On-Falling-Neutral-Real-Rates-Fiscal-Policy-and-the-Risk-of-Secular-Stagnation.pdf> - skim and focus on key drivers
- Stijn Claessens, An Overview of Macroprudential Policy Tools, IMF WP – 14/214, December 2014, <http://www.imf.org/external/pubs/ft/wp/2014/wp14214.pdf>

Articles in iLearn and handouts for in class Shadow Central Bank Meeting - Latest RBA and other central bank policy statements and announcements.

Readings for pre-course assignment:

- Dr Donald T. Brash, then Governor, Reserve Bank of New Zealand, “The Pros and Cons of Currency Union: A Reserve Bank Perspective”. 22 May 2000 - <https://www.rbnz.govt.nz/research-and-publications/speeches/2000/speech2000-05-22>
- Benoit Coeure, ECB Board Member, “The Future of Europe”, December 2013 - <https://www.bis.org/review/r131206c.pdf>
- Mojmir Hampi: To be or not to be in the Eurozone? An answer from Prague, May 2018 - <http://www.bis.org/review/r180531a.pdf>

### TOPIC 3: FINANCE IN THE ECONOMY

The objective of this lecture is to examine the role of finance in the economy, why countries differ in the financial structure that has developed and why this structure has economic impacts.

Copies of the PowerPoint slides used in the lecture will be available in iLearn.

Outline:

- Role of finance in the economy: asymmetric information and the costs of information and transactions as drivers of financial development
- Savings and investment – further insights in economic and financial activity
- Intermediation and disintermediation
- Financial Accounts – an accounting framework for the financial system
- Financial sector structure and economic development
- Indicators/drivers of viable capital markets

Application of Concepts:

- Are financial intermediaries and capital markets alternatives or complementary? Good or bad?
- What companies are likely to use intermediated bank finance rather than disintermediated financial instruments in capital markets? And why?
- What are the major influences on financial structure?

- What causes procyclicality and instability in the banking and financial system?
- How to develop robust and viable capital markets?
- How to avoid and manage financial crises?

Readings:

- Christopher Kent. Assistant Governor RBA, “The Availability of Business Finance ”<http://www.rba.gov.au/speeches/2017/sp-ag-2017-12-13.html>
- H2 Ventures KPMG, et al Fintech 100 – Presenting the world’s leading fintech innovators for 2018 - [https://h2.vc/wp-content/uploads/2018/11/Fintech100-2018-Report\\_Final\\_22-11-18sm.pdf](https://h2.vc/wp-content/uploads/2018/11/Fintech100-2018-Report_Final_22-11-18sm.pdf) - skim for examples of emerging innovative financial product and services providers
- Jean-Claude Trichet, President of the European Central Bank, “What role for finance?” at the Universidade Nova de Lisboa, Lisbon, 6 May 2010 - <http://www.bis.org/review/r100510a.pdf>
- Mark Carney, Governor of the Bank of England, A Transition in Thinking and Action, April 2018 - <https://www.bankofengland.co.uk/-/media/boe/files/speech/2018/a-transition-in-thinking-and-action-speech-by-mark-carney.pdf> - climate finance and risk management is moving into the mainstream – greening finance

In Class Discussion:

- Bank of Japan, Research and Statistics Department “Flow of Funds – Japan, US and Euro area Overview” Bank of Japan - <http://www.boj.or.jp/en/statistics/sj/sjihq.pdf>

#### TOPIC 4. ECONOMICS OF SECURITIES MARKETS

The objective of this lecture is to build some of the drivers of primary and secondary markets for securities and their derivatives, including exploring some valuation issues from an economics perspective.

Copies of the PowerPoint slides used in the lecture will be available on iLearn.

Outline:

- Effective demand and supply
- Supply-side and demand-side factors for securities
- Judging effectiveness – efficiency and inefficiency in the foreign exchange, bond and equity markets
- Alternative valuation approaches and their uses

Application of Concepts:

- What are the key drivers of long-term government bond yields?

- What are the signs investors to judge the limit of excessive Government borrowing?
- The calculation and relevance of Tobin's q and Shiller's p/e ratios
- Short term vs. long-term volatility and returns?
- Are bubbles inevitable and impossible to deflate without a crisis?

Readings:

- Cash & Government Bonds - Read generally around the topic of fiscal deficit and debt sustainability. There is lots of good material on the IMF website – esp., the bi-annual IMF reports – especially the latest “Fiscal Monitor” - <http://www.imf.org/en/publications/fm>
- Stijn Claessens and M. Ayhan Kose, “Asset prices and macroeconomic outcomes: a survey” BIS Working Paper No. 676, November 2017 - <https://www.bis.org/publ/work676.pdf>
- Advisor Perspectives –Market commentary as well as maintains the Q ratio as well as other top down equity market valuations - <http://www.advisorperspectives.com/dshort/updates/Q-Ratio-and-Market-Valuation.php>

## TOPIC 5. ECONOMICS OF FINANCIAL REGULATION

The objective of this lecture is to explore the rationale for regulation and supervision of the financial sector – notably both markets and banking and financial services providers - and how regulatory power can be best used to achieve desired outcomes.

Apart from the lecture notes, in class discussion will focus on the causes of the US subprime crisis, European sovereign crisis and subsequent Global Financial Crisis and the lessons learned for financial regulators, supervisors, bankers, portfolio managers and other stakeholders.

Copies of the PowerPoint slides used in the lecture will be available on iLearn.

Outline:

- Economic rationale for regulation and supervision
- Costs of regulation
- Regulation and financial innovation
- Lessons from the US sub-prime mortgage market
- Lessons from the Asian crisis
- Lessons from the European Sovereign crisis

Application of Concepts:

- What regulatory factors helped or fuelled the Global Financial Crisis?
- What regulatory factors helped or fuelled the Asian Crisis?
- What are recent examples of conflicts of interest and moral hazard?
- What should regulators do about Systemically Important Financial Institutions &

Infrastructure?

- How do you protect consumers of financial products and services?
- What financial reforms will deliver the better economic results?

Readings:

- Financial Stability Board, Chairman's (Latest) Letter, March 2018 - <http://www.fsb.org/2018/03/fsb-chairs-letter-to-g20-finance-ministers-and-central-bank-governors/>
- CGFS, Establishing Viable Capital Markets, Press Release, January 2019 - <https://www.bis.org/press/p190123.htm>
- IMF Global Financial Stability Report, A Decade after the GFC: Are We Safer?", October 2018 - <https://www.imf.org/en/Publications/GFSR/Issues/2018/09/25/Global-Financial-Stability-Report-October-2018>

Post course readings:

- IMF, Global Financial Stability Report – released bi-annually – April & October – <https://www.rba.gov.au/fin-stability/resources/publications.html> Executive Summary - <http://www.imf.org/external/pubs/ft/gfsr/index.htm>
- RBA's – Financial Stability Reviews – April & October - <https://www.rba.gov.au/fin-stability/resources/publications.html>

## Learning and Teaching Activities

### Strategy

The Master of Applied Finance degree adopts a deep teaching and learning strategy, in which students acquire and retain knowledge and also are able to make sense of the issues and concepts and apply them in the “real world”. The degree relies heavily on student engagement and participation by: (a) Continuous learning throughout the term. This is encouraged through a combination of students undertaking prescribed reading throughout the units and/or completion of practice problems, case studies, assignments, class presentations etc and interaction via forums in the unit's iLearn site; and (b) Assessments, which enable the student to demonstrate his/her understanding of the learning objectives achieved through the continuous learning.

### Student Participation

Students participate in this unit by: (a) Attending lectures and participating in class discussion; (b) Before each class, completing the recommended readings of notes and text, and working systematically through suggested problem sets; (c) Interacting on the unit's iLearn site; and (d) Completing all assessment tasks and exams. On average, the unit will require students to complete, for every hour of class time, approximately 3 hours private study.

## 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)

Students should also consult the MAFC Program Rules found at <http://www.mafc.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](https://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 enquiry service (MAFC-specific)

For all student enquiries, please contact [studentsupport@mafc.mq.edu.au](mailto:studentsupport@mafc.mq.edu.au)

## 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.

## Learning Skills

Learning Skills ([http://www.students.mq.edu.au/support/learning\\_skills/](http://www.students.mq.edu.au/support/learning_skills/)) 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 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 - 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**

- Identify and explain economic and financial concepts and theories.
- Analyse current and potential economic and financial market developments, with reference to economic and financial concepts, theories, evidence, and practice.
- Explain the structure of an economy and its financial system, why this structure has economic and financial impacts and how this structure can be used to achieve desired outcomes/goals.
- Analyse and explain the role and interaction of economic factors (including instruments of economic policy and financial regulation) with the financial sector (including financial market prices and the behaviour of the financial system more generally).
- Critically evaluate major economic and financial challenges and their implications for financial markets and institutions.

## **Assessment tasks**

- Pre-unit Assignment
- Assignment
- Final Exam

## **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**

- Identify and explain economic and financial concepts and theories.
- Analyse current and potential economic and financial market developments, with reference to economic and financial concepts, theories, evidence, and practice.
- Explain the structure of an economy and its financial system, why this structure has economic and financial impacts and how this structure can be used to achieve desired outcomes/goals.
- Analyse and explain the role and interaction of economic factors (including instruments of economic policy and financial regulation) with the financial sector (including financial market prices and the behaviour of the financial system more generally).



- Critically evaluate major economic and financial challenges and their implications for financial markets and institutions.

## **Assessment tasks**

- Pre-unit Assignment
- 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**

- Identify and explain economic and financial concepts and theories.
- Analyse current and potential economic and financial market developments, with reference to economic and financial concepts, theories, evidence, and practice.
- Explain the structure of an economy and its financial system, why this structure has economic and financial impacts and how this structure can be used to achieve desired outcomes/goals.
- Analyse and explain the role and interaction of economic factors (including instruments of economic policy and financial regulation) with the financial sector (including financial market prices and the behaviour of the financial system more generally).
- Critically evaluate major economic and financial challenges and their implications for financial markets and institutions.

## **Assessment tasks**

- Pre-unit Assignment
- Assignment
- Final Exam

## **Important Notice**

This Unit Guide may be subject to change. Students will be advised, via an "Announcement" on iLearn, if the Unit Guide is changed.

The latest version is available at <https://unitguides.mq.edu.au/>.

Students should read the Unit Guide carefully at the start of term. It contains important

information about the unit. If anything is unclear, please consult one of the unit lecturers.