



AFCP6018

Quantitative and Economic Analysis

AFC term 1, Fully online/virtual 2020

Department of Applied Finance

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General Information

Unit convenor and teaching staff

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Credit points

10

Prerequisites

Admission to GradCertFin or GradDipAppFin or MAppFin or MAppFin(Adv)

Corequisites

Co-badged status

Unit description

This unit provides the important building blocks in microeconomic and quantitative analysis required for advanced study in applied finance. Microeconomic analysis develops tools in demand and supply and critically applies these to the consumer and the firm. It concludes with an analysis of market structure. The second part of the unit develops quantitative skills that are used in finance, including descriptive statistics, probability, statistical inference, correlation and regression analysis. Spreadsheets are extensively used in statistical modelling.

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:

ULO1: Apply mathematical skills to finance based problems.

ULO2: Explain and analyse the key concepts, models and theories used in microeconomics as required for applied finance.

ULO3: Apply the key concepts, models and theories used in microeconomics to solve a range of finance based problems.

ULO4: Analyse data using the key concepts, models and theories used in probability and statistics.

ULO5: Demonstrate proficiency in using spreadsheet based statistical modelling to solve a range of finance based problems.

Assessment Tasks

Coronavirus (COVID-19) Update

Assessment details are no longer provided here as a result of changes due to the Coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic.

Students should consult [iLearn](#) for revised unit information.

[Find out more about the Coronavirus \(COVID-19\) and potential impacts on staff and students](#)

General Assessment Information

Information regarding Extension Requests

Online Participation (15%)

No extensions will be granted. Students who have not submitted the task prior to the due date will be awarded a mark of zero for the task, except for cases in which an application for Special Consideration is made and approved.

If you have serious and unavoidable circumstances that prevent you from submitting an assessment task by the due date, you must apply for Special Consideration no later than five (5) working days after the assessment due date.

Refer to MAFC Program Rules at <https://mafcstudents.mq.edu.au/> for information on the University's [Special Consideration Policy](#).

Assessed Coursework (55%)

No extensions will be granted. Students who have not submitted the task prior to the due date will be awarded a mark of zero for the task, except for cases in which an application for Special Consideration is made and approved.

If you have serious and unavoidable circumstances that prevent you from submitting an assessment task by the due date, you must apply for Special Consideration no later than five (5) working days after the assessment due date.

Refer to MAFC Program Rules at <https://mafcstudents.mq.edu.au/> for information on the University's [Special Consideration Policy](#).

Final Exam (30%)

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 <https://mafcstudents.mq.edu.au/> for information on the University's [Special Consideration Policy](#).

Delivery and Resources

Coronavirus (COVID-19) Update

Any references to on-campus delivery below may no longer be relevant due to COVID-19.

Please check here for updated delivery information: https://ask.mq.edu.au/account/pub/display/unit_status

REQUIRED AND RECOMMENDED TEXTS AND/OR MATERIALS

Required Text:

The required textbooks for this unit are:

- *Microeconomics: Principles and Practice*, 2nd edition (2017) by Frost, Taylor, Weerapana, Schuwalow, Cengage Learning. This textbook is available as either a print book - (ISBN-10: 0170380096 ISBN-13: 9780170380096) or eBook. See links below:

<https://www.coop.com.au/search?keyW=9780170380096>

Details on the eBook (a VitalSource eText) can be found at: <https://www.vitalsource.com/en-au/products/microeconomics-principles-and-practice-lionel-frost-john-taylor-v9780170278973>

It is recommended that students purchase the text with the Coursemate option.

- Basic Business Statistics, 5th edition (2018) by Berenson, Levine, Szabat, O'Brien, Watson and Jayne, Pearson Australia (ISBN 9781488617249). Details on the textbook can be found at <https://pearson.com.au/9781488617249>. The textbook is available from the publisher's website as a paperback or as a VitalSource eText. The textbook is also available as a paperback from the Co-op Bookshop.

Additional Readings:

- Additional readings are included in iLearn.
- Students should assume these readings are examinable unless otherwise advised.

Assumed Knowledge: Mathematical content

- This unit has a high level of numerical content. Consequently, this unit is mathematical

and arithmetical. The applied nature of this unit means that the focus is on application of knowledge rather than complex mathematical derivations. To help prepare students for the numerical content in this unit, students will find a Fundamental Maths Quiz in iLearn. This will allow students to test their existing mathematics knowledge. Details on the quiz can be found in iLearn.

Assumed Access: Access to a computer with word processing and spreadsheet capability is assumed, as is general student computer literacy. In particular, students need access to a version of Microsoft Excel which includes regression analysis.

TECHNOLOGY USED AND REQUIRED

This is an online unit which will make use of the University's iLearn system.

Unit's iLearn Site:

- Found by logging on to iLearn ilearn.mq.edu.au, then clicking on **AFCEP6018 Quantitative and Economic Analysis**.
- This is where you will find forums, downloadable resources and links to important pages.
- The forum allows you to communicate with other students and lecturer(s) and may provide supplementary material.
- You are requested to post your questions on the forums at least 24 hours prior to the assessment submission date or the examination date. Questions posted after that time may not be answered. **Please ensure that you do not leave your questions to the last few days.**

Important Notice:

- It is important that you familiarise yourself with the unit's iLearn site.
- All students should check iLearn regularly and look for updates and distribution of materials related to the unit or assessments and participate in forum discussions.

Unit Schedule

Coronavirus (COVID-19) Update

The unit schedule/topics and any references to on-campus delivery below may no longer be relevant due to COVID-19. Please consult [iLearn](http://ilearn.mq.edu.au) for latest details, and check here for updated delivery information: https://ask.mq.edu.au/account/pub/display/unit_status

The following schedule is a guide to the timing of each topic. Details of the required readings are provided in iLearn.

Week	Topic	Date when you should have started working on this topic
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1	Topic 0: Essential pre-work	30 December 2019
2	Topic 1: Key concepts, supply & demand model	6 January 2020
3	Topic 2: Market analysis & elasticity	13 January 2020
4	Topic 3: Cost curves & the competitive market	21 January 2020
5	Topic 4: Market structures	27 January 2020
6	Topic 5: Descriptive statistics	7 February 2020
7	Topic 6: Probability & random variables	17 February 2020
8	Topic 7: Statistical estimation & inference	24 February 2020
9	Topic 8: Correlation, regression & indices	2 March 2020
10	Complete assessment tasks	9 March 2020
11	Exam preparation start	9 March 2020
12	Online exam period	Saturday 14 March - Sunday 15 March 2020

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.*)

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](http://staff.mq.edu.au/work/strategy-planning-and-governance/university-policies-and-procedures/policy-central) (<http://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

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 help you improve your marks and take control of your study.

- [Getting help with your assignment](#)
- [Workshops](#)
- [StudyWise](#)
- [Academic Integrity Module](#)

The Library provides online and face to face support to help you find and use relevant information resources.

- [Subject and Research Guides](#)
- [Ask a Librarian](#)

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.

Changes since First Published

Date	Description
23/12/ 2019	Information on Extension requests / penalties added to General Assessment Information section.