



# GMBA8103

## Improve Yourself, Always

Coursera term 1, Fully online/virtual 2020

*Department of Management*

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#### **Disclaimer**

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## General Information

Unit convenor and teaching staff

Unit Convenor

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Academic Program Director

Lan Snell

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Teaching Assistant

Linden Misselbrook

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Credit points

5

Prerequisites

Admission to GMBA

Corequisites

Co-badged status

Unit description

The world of work is characterised by rapid ongoing change. In this dynamic environment, one of the most critical skills for leaders is their capacity to learn and to adapt; to engage in the continuous development of their skills in managing and leading others. This unit is designed to assist you in your efforts for the ongoing development of your skills and abilities by focusing on the nature of the self-development process. The unit will assist students to reflect on and develop self-awareness of their current leadership style, to understand their current and needed strengths and challenges as a leader. The unit also examines the change process and explores the processes of self-regulation that underpin personal skill development.

## 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:** Critically evaluate the nature of the self-development process.

**ULO2:** Apply skills of self-reflection to enhance self-awareness of development insights about their leadership styles.

**ULO3:** Apply skills of self-reflection to enhance self-awareness of development insights about their abilities and challenges as leaders

**ULO4:** Apply the self-development process to an area of a personal leadership skill challenge.

## 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

### Submission

You will submit your assessment tasks via your online unit on Coursera.

For individual submissions, please use the following naming convention for your file:

**lastname-firstname-GMBAxxx-A1.\***

**lastname-firstname-GMBAxxx-A2.\***

For group submissions, please use the following naming convention for your file:

**team-number-GMBAxxx-A1.\***

**team-number-GMBAxxx-A2.\***

### Extensions

Please note that 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 [special consideration](#) is made and approved.

**For any questions regarding your assignment submission or to apply for special consideration, please send an email to [globalmba.support@mq.edu.au](mailto:globalmba.support@mq.edu.au).**

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## Formatting instructions

These instructions pertain only to written assignments. In the case of other formats (e.g., slide decks) specific formatting instructions may apply. Written assignments should be in 11 point Arial font with 1.5 line spacing. Each page of the report should be numbered and have at minimum 2.5 cm margins from the left and right edges and top and bottom of the page. The word count is strictly enforced. The actual word length of the document, not including references or appendices, should be clearly stated on the title page of the report. Written assignments should have the following structure:

1. A title page with the question, your student name and student number, word count of the text
2. The body of the report structured with paragraphs and with appropriate headings and citations, with page numbers.
3. Complete reference list of material cited in the text.

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## Referencing

Please use the American Psychological Association (APA) 6th edition reference style. This means that when referring to an article or book etc, you indicate the author's name followed by the year of publication (Jones, 1989). For multiple authors include all names (Jones, Smith, & Wilson, 1990). If you use a direct quote put the quoted words in "quotation marks" and include the page number with the reference (Jones, 1989, p. 76). A reference list should be presented in alphabetical order at the end of the paper. Further information on APA style is available at <http://libguides.mq.edu.au/content.php?pid=85232&sid=634282>

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## Commercial in Confidence

Please note that you must not disclose any information marked 'Commercial in Confidence' without permission from the party who supplied it (e.g., your current or previous employer, customers, etc.).

## 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](https://ask.mq.edu.au/account/pub/display/unit_status)

## Required text

There is no required textbook for this unit. Please refer to the weekly required readings in your online unit. All readings are available via the Macquarie University library and do not need to be purchased separately.

## Delivery method

This unit will be delivered entirely online via the Coursera Learning Management System. Access to a personal computer is required to access the resources and learning materials on Coursera.

## Workload

This unit will involve approximately 75 hours of student workload:

- 6 x 1 hour weekly Zoom meetings (see unit schedule)
- Approximately 25 hours of online asynchronous learning activities delivered via videos, discussion prompts, quizzes and peer-reviews
- Approximately 20 hours of class preparation
- Approximately 24 hours to complete unit assessments (see assessment task information)

## 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](#) for latest details, and check here for updated delivery information: [https://ask.mq.edu.au/account/pub/display/unit\\_status](https://ask.mq.edu.au/account/pub/display/unit_status)

For this unit, Live Events (via the web conferencing software Zoom) will take place once a week starting in Week 1 and ending in Week 6. The links to the events are available via **Live Events** in the online unit. Students are strongly advised to attend the Live Events. Recordings of the live events will be made available within 24 hours of the event and can be accessed via **Resources** in the online unit.

Attending the Live Event each week is an opportunity to engage with the unit content, your Unit Convenor and classmates. Students are encouraged to complete specified Live Event preparation learning activities prior to each scheduled Live Event in order to get the most value out of these sessions.

Please note: The teaching schedule is subject to change. Please refer to your online unit for the latest schedule.

Week	Live Events	Assessments
1	Wednesday 8 January 2020, 8am - 9am (AEDT)	
2	Wednesday 15 January 2020, 8am - 9am (AEDT)	
3	Wednesday 22 January 2020, 8am - 9am (AEDT)	A1 due: Tuesday 21 January 2020, 11.59pm (AEDT)
4	Wednesday 29 January 2020, 8am - 9am (AEDT)	
5	Wednesday 5 February 2020, 8am - 9am (AEDT)	
6	Wednesday 12 February 2020, 8am - 9am (AEDT)	A2 due: Thursday 13 February 2020, 11.59pm (AEDT) A3 due: Friday 14 February 2020, 11.59pm (AEDT)

## 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](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](http://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 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](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.

## Guide to navigating your unit

Each term is six weeks long which means we are up and running in week 1. Make sure you stay on top of the required work each week so that you do not fall behind. Here is a guide on how to navigate this unit.

### 0. Assessment

For all the details on the assessment in this unit, please go to Resources in the main navigation of your unit and click on Assessment Information.

Each week contains several elements

### 1. Lesson

(a) Video lectures

These brief lectures cover core concepts and fundamentals.

(b) Core readings and further resources

There are required readings for most lessons that provide more depth to each of the topics. The majority of these readings are available only through the Macquarie University Library, and we have linked most of them for easy access. You will require your MQID in order to login to the Library. There is usually at least required reading per topic. You can also choose to dive deeper into a topic of interest by exploring the optional further resources that are available.

Tip: Make sure to work through the Library resources in Onboarding to familiarise yourself with the techniques to use the Library most efficiently and productively.

### 2. Live Events

A live event will be run every week. While attendance is not mandatory, we strongly encourage students to attend as part of the enriching learning experience. All live events will be recorded for those unable to attend. Make sure you work through the week's materials before you attend. There may also be specific instructions for preparation. You can access the Live Events tab via the main unit navigation. The more you prepare for these events, the more you will get out of them.

Recordings will be available via the Resources tab in the main unit navigation. You will also have the opportunity to discuss content questions with your unit convenor via the Weekly Discussion Forum.

### 3. Weekly Discussion Forum

Use the Weekly Discussion Forum to engage with your peers and with the weekly topics. Share and grow with your peers in the unit. The unit convenor and the teaching assistant will monitor the forum(s) and engage where appropriate.

### 4. Practice

The Practice section provides plenty of opportunities to check your understanding of the topic. Practice makes permanent! The section is optional, and it is really up to you how much you want



to engage with the exercises in the Practice section.

(a) Recall and practice quizzes

Recall and practice quizzes can be attempted multiple times. The questions are based on the video lectures and readings. Feedback is embedded to direct you back to specific resources to help you improve. Short recall activities have been shown to improve long-term retention of core concepts and fundamentals. The results of these practice quizzes are not assessed and therefore not part of the final grade for the unit.

(b) Practice tasks and challenges

Some weeks contain practice tasks and challenges. These are a great opportunity for you to apply what you have learned that week in different contexts, reflect on key questions about the topic and familiarise yourself even further with the week's topic. Similar to the recall and practice quizzes, the practice tasks and challenges are not assessed and therefore not part of the final grade for the unit.

## **5. Habit Corners**

We are what we repeatedly do. What daily practices should you work towards to improve yourself personally and professionally? The habit corner brings research and practice together and is designed to help develop applied best practices.