



ECON8015

Topics in Applied Econometrics

Session 2, Special circumstance 2020

Department of Economics

Contents

General Information	2
Learning Outcomes	3
Assessment Tasks	3
Delivery and Resources	5
Policies and Procedures	6

Disclaimer

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Notice

As part of [Phase 3 of our return to campus plan](#), most units will now run tutorials, seminars and other small group learning activities on campus for the second half-year, while keeping an online version available for those students unable to return or those who choose to continue their studies online.

To check the availability of face-to-face and online activities for your unit, please go to [timetable viewer](#). To check detailed information on unit assessments visit your unit's iLearn space or consult your unit convenor.

General Information

Unit convenor and teaching staff

Unit Convenor

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Credit points

10

Prerequisites

Admission to MActPrac or ECON840 or ECON8040

Corequisites

Co-badged status

ECON7015

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 ECON8040. 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:

ULO1: Estimate econometric models and test hypotheses using techniques that are appropriate for the problem at hand.

ULO2: Effectively communicate the findings from econometric analysis.

ULO3: Generate and interpret the results of econometric analysis using the software employed in the unit.

ULO4: Interpret and critically evaluate applications of econometrics in the applied economic research literature.

Assessment Tasks

Name	Weighting	Hurdle	Due
Assignment 1	33%	No	Week 6 Monday 7am
Assignment 2	33%	No	Week 10 Monday 7am
Assignment 3	34%	No	Week 15 Monday 7am

Assignment 1

Assessment Type ¹: Report

Indicative Time on Task ²: 20 hours

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.

On successful completion you will be able to:

- Estimate econometric models and test hypotheses using techniques that are appropriate for the problem at hand.
- Effectively communicate the findings from econometric analysis.
- 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.

Assignment 2

Assessment Type **1**: Report

Indicative Time on Task **2**: 20 hours

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.

On successful completion you will be able to:

- Estimate econometric models and test hypotheses using techniques that are appropriate for the problem at hand.
- Effectively communicate the findings from econometric analysis.
- 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.

Assignment 3

Assessment Type **1**: Report

Indicative Time on Task **2**: 21 hours

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.

On successful completion you will be able to:

- Estimate econometric models and test hypotheses using techniques that are appropriate for the problem at hand.
- Effectively communicate the findings from econometric analysis.
- 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.

¹ If you need help with your assignment, please contact:

- the academic teaching staff in your unit for guidance in understanding or completing this type of assessment
- the [Writing Centre](#) for academic skills support.

² Indicative time-on-task is an estimate of the time required for completion of the assessment task and is subject to individual variation

Delivery and Resources

Classes

The unit is taught online using a combination of streaming video, Zoom meetings, online discussion fora and email. Students are required to study the posted videos, attempt tutorial work, and participate in Zoom meetings and other online activities each week.

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. All students must have access to an internet-connected computer with a webcam, microphone and speakers sufficient to stream video, participate in Zoom meetings, and run modern software. A writing tablet would be useful, but is not essential. Students are encouraged to test their equipment before use and to consider factors such as lighting and ambient noise when participating in Zoom meetings.

Learning and Teaching Activities

Students will be provided with video lectures that cover the main content of the unit and tutorial work. Regular Zoom meetings will be held in which the unit material will be discussed.

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 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.