



AFIN8099

Current Issues in Banking and Finance

Session 2, Special circumstances 2021

Department of Applied Finance

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Session 2 Learning and Teaching Update

The decision has been made to conduct study online for the remainder of Session 2 for all units WITHOUT mandatory on-campus learning activities. Exams for Session 2 will also be online where possible to do so.

This is due to the extension of the lockdown orders and to provide certainty around arrangements for the remainder of Session 2. We hope to return to campus beyond Session 2 as soon as it is safe and appropriate to do so.

Some classes/teaching activities cannot be moved online and must be taught on campus. You should already know if you are in one of these classes/teaching activities and your unit convenor will provide you with more information via iLearn. If you want to confirm, see the list of [units with mandatory on-campus classes/teaching activities](#).

Visit the [MQ COVID-19 information page](#) for more detail.

General Information

Unit convenor and teaching staff

Unit Convenor

Lurion De Mello

lurion.demello@mq.edu.au

Credit points

10

Prerequisites

(Admission to MFin and 40cp at 8000 level) or (admission to (MBkgFin or MCom) and 60cp at 8000 level)

Corequisites

Co-badged status

Unit description

This unit provides students with the opportunity to integrate and advance their knowledge of banking and finance, with an international and future-focused emphasis. Contemporary topics in banking and finance will be covered, such as bank regulations, Fintech, hedge fund management, risk management, etc.; and students will examine the major challenges and impact brought about by these changes/topics. The unit's research and case-based topics approach will equip students to apply their analytical, critical and interpersonal skills to complex and contemporary real world problems, which in turn will help develop and finesse their communication skills and professional judgment. The unit will showcase several lectures presented by senior industry specialists, giving students the opportunity to connect with their topics in a meaningful way.

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 analyse the latest banking regulations and tools necessary for managing bank liquidity.

ULO2: Demonstrate knowledge of the new era of Fintech and assess its impact on various financial and banking services.

ULO3: Apply and evaluate current tools and techniques used in the finance industry.

ULO4: Work as a team in applying financial modelling and spreadsheet techniques in the finance industry.

General Assessment Information

Assessment criteria (including information about late submissions and extensions) for all assessment tasks will be provided on the unit iLearn site.

Assessment Tasks

Name	Weighting	Hurdle	Due
Short Answer Questions	15%	No	9th Aug, 16th Aug, 23rd Aug at 11.55pm
Group Assignment	30%	No	Week 8
Final Examination	55%	No	University Examination Period

Short Answer Questions

Assessment Type ¹: Practice-based task

Indicative Time on Task ²: 10 hours

Due: **9th Aug, 16th Aug, 23rd Aug at 11.55pm**

Weighting: **15%**

Students are required to complete 3 sets of short answer and excel-based questions. Each set worth 5%.

On successful completion you will be able to:

- Apply and evaluate current tools and techniques used in the finance industry.

Group Assignment

Assessment Type ¹: Project

Indicative Time on Task ²: 20 hours

Due: **Week 8**

Weighting: **30%**

Students will work in groups to analyse real market data and produce a report of 1,000 - 1,500 words. 50% of this group work assessment will be allocated to individual performance.

On successful completion you will be able to:

- Apply and evaluate current tools and techniques used in the finance industry.
- Work as a team in applying financial modelling and spreadsheet techniques in the finance industry.

Final Examination

Assessment Type ¹: Examination

Indicative Time on Task ²: 30 hours

Due: **University Examination Period**

Weighting: **55%**

A two hour exam will be held during University Examination Period.

On successful completion you will be able to:

- Critically analyse the latest banking regulations and tools necessary for managing bank liquidity.
- Demonstrate knowledge of the new era of Fintech and assess its impact on various financial and banking services.
- Apply and evaluate current tools and techniques used in the finance industry.

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

All Classes will be delivered via Zoom with recordings made available in Echo the following day after the lecture or whenever they are processed. Individual Zoom links will be posted prior to the lecture time for relevant topics. There is a possibility for the first three weeks of classes to be held in the Finance Decision Lab (this is subject to Australian Government and University Regulations on lockdowns and social distancing rules). Students are encouraged to attend classes on campus whenever there are opportunities for Face to Face interactions.

Please visit <https://macquarie.zoom.us/>

Technology Used and Required

The unit will use an online learning and teaching facility accessed through the following link <https://ilearn.mq.edu.au/login/>

Students should monitor iLearn content frequently to ensure timely access to announcements, unit material, and assessment information.

To complete the group and individual assignment, students will be required to use Refinitiv Eikon, Microsoft Excel, and Microsoft Word software.

Calculators will be allowed in the class tests and the final examination but a clear indication of the steps involved in every calculation must be shown. Non-programmable calculators with no text-retrieval capacity are allowed. Financial calculators are allowed. Calculators that have a full alphabet on the keyboard are not allowed. Graphics calculators are not allowed.

Unit Schedule

Please refer to iLearn

Policies and Procedures

Macquarie University policies and procedures are accessible from [Policy Central \(https://policies.mq.edu.au\)](https://policies.mq.edu.au). 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](#)

Students seeking more policy resources can visit [Student Policies \(https://students.mq.edu.au/support/study/policies\)](https://students.mq.edu.au/support/study/policies). It is your one-stop-shop for the key policies you need to know about throughout your undergraduate student journey.

To find other policies relating to Teaching and Learning, visit [Policy Central \(https://policies.mq.edu.au\)](https://policies.mq.edu.au) and use the [search tool](#).

Student Code of Conduct

Macquarie University students have a responsibility to be familiar with the Student Code of Conduct: <https://students.mq.edu.au/admin/other-resources/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.