AFIN3029
Derivative Instruments
Session 1, Special circumstances 2021

Department of Applied Finance

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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 activities on campus, and most will keep an online version available to those students unable to return or those who choose to continue their studies online.

To check the availability of face-to-face 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
Ryle Perera
ryle.perera@mq.edu.au
E4A 553

Teaching Assistant
Kenneth Wong
kenneth.wong@mq.edu.au

Credit points
10

Prerequisites
20cp at 2000 level including (AFIN252 or AFIN270 or AFIN2070 or STAT272 or STAT2372)

Corequisites

Co-badge status

Unit description
This unit explores the characteristics and pricing of derivatives. The importance of the principles of hedging and arbitrage in derivative pricing, is considered. Derivatives investigated include forwards, futures, options and various structured products. In particular, the unit covers non-standard securities and numerical methods.

Important Academic Dates
Information about important academic dates including deadlines for withdrawing from units are available at https://students.mq.edu.au/important-dates

Learning Outcomes
On successful completion of this unit, you will be able to:

ULO1: Examine the concepts of option pricing theory and the role of derivatives.
ULO2: Apply financial derivatives such as forward/futures and options to solve quantitative problems.
ULO3: Develop skills to price options and other derivatives.
ULO4: Examine the principles of hedging, arbitrage theory and structured products.
General Assessment Information

Assessment criteria for all assessment tasks will be provided on the unit iLearn site. It is the responsibility of students to view their marks for each within-session-assessment on iLearn within 20 days of posting. If there are any discrepancies, students must contact the unit convenor immediately. Failure to do so will mean that queries received after the release of final results regarding assessment tasks (not including the final exam mark) will not be addressed.

Late submissions and extensions

Tasks 10% or less – No extensions will be granted. Students who have not submitted the task prior to the deadline will be awarded a mark of 0 for the task, except for cases in which an application for special consideration is made and approved.

Tasks above 10% - 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. No submission will be accepted after solutions have been posted.

Assessment Tasks

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Weighting</th>
<th>Hurdle</th>
<th>Due</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Online Quiz</td>
<td>5%</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>Week 3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Assignment</td>
<td>35%</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>Week 8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Final Examination</td>
<td>60%</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>University Examination Period</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

Online Quiz

Assessment Type 1: Quiz/Test
Indicative Time on Task 2: 1 hours
Due: Week 3
Weighting: 5%

The online quiz will consist of 10-15 questions and will be available on iLearn. Please use the quiz result as an indicator of whether you are progressing satisfactorily in the unit.

On successful completion you will be able to:

- Examine the concepts of option pricing theory and the role of derivatives.
Assignment

Assessment Type: Quantitative analysis task
Indicative Time on Task: 20 hours
Due: Week 8
Weighting: 35%

The assignment will consist of 4-5 questions with short answer and quantitative questions.

On successful completion you will be able to:

• Examine the concepts of option pricing theory and the role of derivatives.
• Develop skills to price options and other derivatives.
• Examine the principles of hedging, arbitrage theory and structured products.

Final Examination

Assessment Type: Examination
Indicative Time on Task: 30 hours
Due: University Examination Period
Weighting: 60%

An online two hour open book final exam will be held during the University Examination Period.

On successful completion you will be able to:

• Examine the concepts of option pricing theory and the role of derivatives.
• Apply financial derivatives such as forward/futures and options to solve quantitative problems.
• Develop skills to price options and other derivatives.
• Examine the principles of hedging, arbitrage theory and structured products.

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 Learning Skills Unit for academic skills support.

2 Indicative time-on-task is an estimate of the time required for completion of the assessment.
The content for each week will comprise of a lecture recording and a set of tutorial questions (Problem Sets).

**Lectures**
A lecture recording will be uploaded each week. Lecture notes will be available on iLearn.

**Tutorials**
Students will need to register to either an on-campus tutorial or an online (Zoom) tutorial. Tutorials are considered compulsory but no marks are allocated. Tutorials will be available for most, but not all weeks of the semester. In weeks where there aren't any live (on-campus or online) tutorials, a recording will be provided to cover the relevant material.

The tutorial schedule will be made available on iLearn.

Tutorial enrolment or change of tutorial can be made through eStudent in the first two weeks of the semester. No tutorial changes are allowed after Week 2. Students should attend their allocated tutorial, but exceptions may occur on a one-off basis. That is, where circumstances prevent you from attending your own tutorial in a given week, you may attend an alternative tutorial if room available.

Students are expected to complete the ‘Tutorial Questions’ as a self-directed study activity before attending a tutorial. Additional learning support will be available in tutor consultation times.

The required textbook is ‘Fundamentals of Futures and Options Markets’, John C. Hull, Sirimon Treepongkaruna, Richard Heaney, David Pitt and David Colwell, Pearson, 2014. This is available for purchase online from [www.booktopia.com.au/coop](http://www.booktopia.com.au/coop) and a copy will be available in the closed reserve section of the Macquarie Library.

The web page for this unit can be found at [https://iLearn.mq.edu.au/](https://iLearn.mq.edu.au/).

It is the responsibility of students to visit the unit regularly. Course material is available on the learning management system (iLearn).

Lecture notes, tutorial solutions, unit announcements, and other reference materials will be posted to this site throughout the session.

### Unit Schedule

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Lecture Week</th>
<th>Lecture Topic</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Introduction to Derivatives and Mechanics of Futures Market</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Hedging Strategies using Futures</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Interest rates</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Determination of Forward and Futures Prices</td>
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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). 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
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 Enquiry Service

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
Equity 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.

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.