ACCG2067
Foundations of Forensic and Data Analytics

Session 1, Special circumstances 2021

Department of Accounting & Corporate Governance

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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

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Unit convenor and teaching staff</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Rahat Munir</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><a href="mailto:rahat.munir@mq.edu.au">rahat.munir@mq.edu.au</a></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Credit points</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Prerequisites</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>50cp at 1000 level or above</td>
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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Corequisites</th>
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<table>
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<tr>
<th>Co-badged status</th>
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<table>
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<tr>
<th>Unit description</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>This unit introduces students to the practice and procedures of forensic accounting and the important role played by the forensic accountant in the legal and business environment. Students will be exposed to the theory and principles of application, of data analytics skills and techniques in relation to fraud detection, fraud and risk exposures, dispute resolution, cyber and financial crimes and legal obligations and processes. The unit aims to develop in students an appreciation of how the application of forensic and data analytics skills and strategies are essential to the role of the forensic accountant as an expert witness and professional advisor.</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

Important Academic Dates

Information about important academic dates including deadlines for withdrawing from units are available at [https://students.mq.edu.au/important-dates](https://students.mq.edu.au/important-dates)

Learning Outcomes

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

ULO1: Understand the role of forensic accounting and its relationship to the legal system, including the legal, ethical and professional obligations of forensic accountants.

ULO2: Identify indicators of fraudulent activity and develop awareness of investigative procedures, including an appreciation of the role of evidence in the litigation process.

ULO3: Develop awareness of issues and key principles of professional digital forensic practice, including chain of custody and best practice procedures.

ULO4: Understand the theory, and principles of application, of data analytics skills and techniques to forensic accounting.
ULO5: Recognise mechanisms to uncover or recover evidence from digital devices to support litigation and investigations.

General Assessment Information

Late Submission(s) of Assessment: Where assessment is to be submitted through Turnitin, late assessment must also, where applicable, be submitted through Turnitin. 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 incurs a 20% penalty). Late submissions will not be accepted after solutions have been discussed and/or made available. This penalty does not apply for cases in which an application for Special Consideration is made and approved. Note: applications for Special Consideration Policy must be made within 5 (five) business days of the due date and time.

Assessment Tasks

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Weighting</th>
<th>Hurdle</th>
<th>Due</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Group Assignment</td>
<td>45%</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>Wednesday, 26th May 2021 (2PM)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Class Test</td>
<td>25%</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>Saturday, 24 April 2021 (10AM)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Assessed Coursework</td>
<td>30%</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>Week 2, Week 4, Week 6, Week 8, Week 9, Week 10, Week 12</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Group Assignment

Assessment Type 1: Report
Indicative Time on Task 2: 25 hours
Due: Wednesday, 26th May 2021 (2PM)
Weighting: 45%

Students are required to complete a group report assignment consisting of individual and group components. Details regarding the nature of the assignment and its requirements will be made available on iLearn early in the session. The properties on which the assessment task is will be assessed are as follows:

Application of knowledge and skills Quality of reasoning and appropriate application of data analytic techniques Quality of communication and presentation of assignment

The Unit Assessment Guide provides standards and a grading rubric for this assessment task.

On successful completion you will be able to:

- Understand the role of forensic accounting and its relationship to the legal system, including the legal, ethical and professional obligations of forensic accountants.
Identify indicators of fraudulent activity and develop awareness of investigative procedures, including an appreciation of the role of evidence in the litigation process.

Develop awareness of issues and key principles of professional digital forensic practice, including chain of custody and best practice procedures.

Understand the theory, and principles of application, of data analytics skills and techniques to forensic accounting.

Recognise mechanisms to uncover or recover evidence from digital devices to support litigation and investigations.

Class Test
Assessment Type 1: Quiz/Test
Indicative Time on Task 2: 10 hours
Due: Saturday, 24 April 2021 (10AM)
Weighting: 25%

The purpose of the diagnostic test is to provide students with feedback on their knowledge and application of the material using a formative assessment task early in the session. The test will be marked based on the appropriate application of knowledge and skills to short answer and case based questions.

On successful completion you will be able to:

- Understand the role of forensic accounting and its relationship to the legal system, including the legal, ethical and professional obligations of forensic accountants.
- Identify indicators of fraudulent activity and develop awareness of investigative procedures, including an appreciation of the role of evidence in the litigation process.
- Understand the theory, and principles of application, of data analytics skills and techniques to forensic accounting.

Assessed Coursework
Assessment Type 1: Participatory task
Indicative Time on Task 2: 14 hours
Due: Week 2, Week 4, Week 6, Week 8, Week 9, Week 10, Week 12
Weighting: 30%

Students are required to complete regular assessed coursework activities consisting of seven homework submissions. Details on homework questions coverage will be provided in the Unit Weekly Guide available on iLearn. Homework submissions activities are designed to encourage students to actively engage with the Unit material and to provide students with timely feedback on their performance throughout the session. Homework submissions will be marked on the basis of original effort. The marking criteria to be applied to homework submissions is provided in the Unit Assessment Guide available on iLearn. Each homework submission is equally weighted.
and the best 5 of 7 homework submissions will count towards your homework submission marks.

On successful completion you will be able to:

- Understand the role of forensic accounting and its relationship to the legal system, including the legal, ethical and professional obligations of forensic accountants.
- Identify indicators of fraudulent activity and develop awareness of investigative procedures, including an appreciation of the role of evidence in the litigation process.
- Develop awareness of issues and key principles of professional digital forensic practice, including chain of custody and best practice procedures.
- Recognise mechanisms to uncover or recover evidence from digital devices to support litigation and investigations.

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 task and is subject to individual variation

**Delivery and Resources**

This is an online unit. Details of assessments and online forums will be available on iLearn.

**Unit Schedule**

**Unit Schedule**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>WEEK</th>
<th>LEARNING OBJECTIVE</th>
<th>CONTENT</th>
<th>READINGS</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

**Unit guide** ACCG2067 Foundations of Forensic and Data Analytics
|   | LO1: Understand the role of forensic accounting and its relationship to the legal system, including the legal, ethical and professional obligations of forensic accountants |
|---|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------
| 1 | Overview of the Australian Legal System  
How Law is Made  
What the Law Deals With  
Government in Australia  
The Legislature  
The Executive  
The Judiciary  
The Legal Profession  
Hearsay  
Opinion  
Standard of Proof |
|   | Evidence Act 1995 (Cth) extracts:  
- Part 3.2 Hearsay: s. 59, s. 60, s. 63, s. 64, s. 69, s. 71  
- Part 3.3 Opinion: s. 76, s. 78, s. 79  
- Part 4.1 Standard of Proof: s. 140, s. 141 |
| 2 | LO1: Understand the role of forensic accounting and its relationship to the legal system, including the legal, ethical and professional obligations of forensic accountants |
|   | The Role of The Expert  
Existence of Formal Qualifications  
Australia’s Uniform Evidence Legislation  
The Opinion Rule  
The Admissibility Regime  
Specialised Knowledge  
Fields of Expertise  
Expert Evidence and Hearsay  
Certificates of Expert Evidence |
<p>|   | Expert evidence. (n.d.), Chapter 2 - Common Law Evidentiary Rules (selected sections only) |
|   | Expert evidence. (n.d.), Chapter 3 - Statutory Evidentiary Rules (selected sections only) |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| 4 | LO2: Identify indicators of fraudulent activity and develop awareness of investigative procedures, including an appreciation of the role of evidence in the litigation process | Introduction to Fraud, Types of Fraud, The Need for Analysis Tools | <em>Forensic Accounting and Fraud Investigation for Non-Experts</em>, H. Silverstone and M. Sheetz, Chapter 2, Fraud in Society |
| 5 | LO2: Identify indicators of fraudulent activity and develop awareness of investigative procedures, including an appreciation of the role of evidence in the litigation process | APES 215, Investigations: planning the scope and structure | <em>Forensic Accounting</em>, R. Rufus and others, Chapter 7, Conducting a Fraud Investigation |
| 6 | LO2: Identify indicators of fraudulent activity and develop awareness of investigative procedures, including an appreciation of the role of evidence in the litigation process | Case management, Reporting the findings, Closing the investigation | <em>Corruption in Focus</em>, Crime and Corruption Commission, Chapter 6 Planning an investigation (2016) |
| <strong>MID-SEMESTER BREAK</strong> | | | |
| 7 | LO3: Develop awareness of issues and key principles of professional digital forensic practice, including chain of custody and best practice procedures | Computers, Forensic IT, Digital forensics lab, Software used by Forensic IT, Conducting computer forensics investigations | <em>PricewaterhouseCoopers, Electronic evidence - What if there’s no paper trail?</em> (2008) |</p>
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>LO Number</th>
<th>Learning Outcome</th>
<th>Critical Steps in Gathering Evidence</th>
<th>Source(s)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Essentials of Forensic Accounting, M. A. Crain and others, Chapter 11, Digital Forensics</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9</td>
<td>LO4: Understand the theory, and principles of application, of data analytics skills and techniques to forensic accounting</td>
<td>Introduction to Financial Analysis, Key Ratios, Data Mining as an Analysis Tool</td>
<td>Forensic Accounting and Fraud Investigation for Non-Experts, H. Silverstone and M. Sheetz, Chapter 5, Fundamental Principles of Financial Analysis</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10</td>
<td>LO4: Understand the theory, and principles of application, of data analytics skills and techniques to forensic accounting</td>
<td>Disbursement Fraud, Payroll Fraud, Fraud Risk Structure, Data Analysis, Data Mining Planning</td>
<td>The Fraud Audit: Responding to the Risk of Fraud in Core Business Systems, L. W. Vona, Chapter 10, Disbursement Fraud</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>The Fraud Audit: Responding to the Risk of Fraud in Core Business Systems, L. W. Vona, Chapter 12, Payroll Fraud</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11</td>
<td>LO5: Recognise mechanisms to uncover or recover evidence from digital devices to support litigation and investigations.</td>
<td>Scientific Method and Digital Forensics, Digital Forensic Analysis, Data Gathering and Observation, Conclusions and Reporting</td>
<td>Handbook of Digital Forensics and Investigation, E. Casey, Chapter 2, Forensic Analysis</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
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). 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). 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).

Student Code of Conduct

Macquarie University students have a responsibility to be familiar with the Student Code of
Unit guide ACCG2067 Foundations of Forensic and Data Analytics

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 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.