AFCX6018
Quantitative and Economic Analysis
Term 1, Fully online/virtual 2022
Department of Applied Finance

Contents

General Information .......................................................... 2
Learning Outcomes .......................................................... 2
General Assessment Information ............................................ 3
Assessment Tasks ............................................................. 3
Delivery and Resources ..................................................... 6
Unit Schedule .................................................................. 7
Policies and Procedures ..................................................... 8
Changes since First Published ............................................... 11

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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
Yin Liao
yin.liao@mq.edu.au

Geoff Brianton
geoff.brianton@mq.edu.au

Credit points
10

Prerequisites
Admission to GradCertFin (OUA)

Corequisites

Co-badged status

Unit description
This unit provides the important building blocks in microeconomic and quantitative analysis required for advanced study in applied finance. Microeconomic analysis develops tools in demand and supply and critically applies these to the consumer and the firm. It concludes with an analysis of market structure. The second part of the unit develops quantitative skills that are used in finance, including descriptive statistics, probability, statistical inference, correlation and regression analysis. Spreadsheets are extensively used in statistical modelling.

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: Apply mathematical skills to finance based problems.

ULO2: Explain and analyse the key concepts, models and theories used in microeconomics as required for applied finance.

ULO3: Apply the key concepts, models and theories used in microeconomics to solve a range of finance based problems.

ULO4: Demonstrate proficiency in using spreadsheet based statistical modelling to solve a range of finance based problems.
ULO5: Analyse data using the key concepts, models and theories used in probability and statistics.

General Assessment Information

Late submissions of assessments

Unless a Special Consideration request has been submitted and approved, no extensions will be granted. There will be a deduction of 10% of the total available assessment-task marks made from the total awarded mark for each 24-hour period or part thereof that the submission is late. Late submissions will only be accepted up to 96 hours after the due date and time.

No late submissions will be accepted for timed assessments – e.g., quizzes, online tests.

Table 1: Penalty calculation based on submission time

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Submission time after the due date (including weekends)</th>
<th>Penalty (% of available assessment task mark)</th>
<th>Example: for a non-timed assessment task marked out of 30</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>&lt; 24 hours</td>
<td>10%</td>
<td>10% x 30 marks = 3-mark deduction</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>24-48 hours</td>
<td>20%</td>
<td>20% x 30 marks = 6-mark deduction</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>48-72 hours</td>
<td>30%</td>
<td>30% x 30 marks = 9-mark deduction</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>72-96 hours</td>
<td>40%</td>
<td>40% x 30 marks = 12-mark deduction</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>&gt; 96 hours</td>
<td>100%</td>
<td>Assignment won’t be accepted</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Special Consideration

To request an extension on the due date/time for a timed or non-timed assessment task, you must submit a Special Consideration application. An application for Special Consideration does not guarantee approval.

The approved extension date for a student becomes the new due date for that student. The late submission penalties above then apply as of the new due date.

Assessment Tasks

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Weighting</th>
<th>Hurdle</th>
<th>Due</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Online Participation</td>
<td>15%</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>Refer to iLearn</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Assessed Coursework</td>
<td>55%</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>Refer to iLearn</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

https://unitguides.mq.edu.au/unit_offerings/144133/unit_guide/print
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Weighting</th>
<th>Hurdle</th>
<th>Due</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Final Exam</td>
<td>30%</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>Exam Week</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Online Participation**

Assessment Type 1: Participatory task  
Indicative Time on Task 2: 30 hours  
Due: Refer to iLearn  
Weighting: 15%

Active participation in online discussion forums.

On successful completion you will be able to:

- Apply mathematical skills to finance based problems.
- Explain and analyse the key concepts, models and theories used in microeconomics as required for applied finance.
- Apply the key concepts, models and theories used in microeconomics to solve a range of finance based problems.
- Demonstrate proficiency in using spreadsheet based statistical modelling to solve a range of finance based problems.
- Analyse data using the key concepts, models and theories used in probability and statistics.

**Assessed Coursework**

Assessment Type 1: Case study/analysis  
Indicative Time on Task 2: 40 hours  
Due: Refer to iLearn  
Weighting: 55%

A variety of assessment tasks will be assessed, and will include written activities, online quizzes and project based learning.

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• Analyse data using the key concepts, models and theories used in probability and statistics.

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

REQUIRED AND RECOMMENDED TEXTS AND/OR MATERIALS

Required Text:

The required textbooks for this unit are:


Additional Readings:

- Additional readings are included in iLearn.
- Students should assume these readings are examinable unless otherwise advised.

Assumed Knowledge: Mathematical content

- This unit has a high level of numerical content. Consequently, this unit is mathematical and arithmetical. The applied nature of this unit means that the focus is on application of knowledge rather than complex mathematical derivations. To help prepare students for the numerical content in this unit, students will find a Fundamental Maths Quiz in iLearn. This will allow students to test their existing mathematics knowledge. Details on the quiz can be found in iLearn.

Assumed Access: Access to a computer with word processing and spreadsheet capability is assumed, as is general student computer literacy. In particular, students need access to a version of Microsoft Excel which includes regression analysis.

TECHNOLOGY USED AND REQUIRED

This is an online unit which will make use of the University’s iLearn system.

Unit’s iLearn Site:

- Found by logging on to iLearn [ilearn.mq.edu.au](https://ilearn.mq.edu.au), then clicking on [AFCP6018 Quantitative and Economic Analysis](https://unitguides.mq.edu.au/unit_offerings/144133/unit_guide/print). This is where you will find forums, downloadable resources and links to important pages.
• The forum allows you to communicate with other students and lecturer(s) and may provide supplementary material.
• You are requested to post your questions on the forums at least 24 hours prior to the assessment submission date or the examination date. Questions posted after that time may not be answered. **Please ensure that you do not leave your questions to the last few days.**

**Important Notice:**

• It is important that you familiarise yourself with the unit’s iLearnsite.
• All students should check iLearn regularly and look for updates and distribution of materials related to the unit or assessments and participate in forum discussions.

**Unit Schedule**

The following schedule is a guide to the timing of each topic. Details of the required readings are provided in iLearn.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Week</th>
<th>Topic</th>
<th>Date when you should have started working on this topic</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>0</td>
<td>Topic 0: Essential pre-work</td>
<td>7, Jan 2022</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Key concepts, supply &amp; demand model</td>
<td>10, Jan 2022</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td><strong>Topic 2:</strong> Market analysis &amp; elasticity</td>
<td>17, Jan 2022</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td><strong>Topic 3:</strong> Cost curves &amp; the competitive market</td>
<td>24, Jan 2022</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td><strong>Topic 4:</strong> Market structures</td>
<td>31 Jan, 2022</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>Complete Economic assessment tasks</td>
<td>7 Feb, 2022</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td><strong>Topic 5:</strong> Descriptive statistics</td>
<td>14 Feb, 2022</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td><strong>Topic 6:</strong> Probability &amp; random variables</td>
<td>21 Feb, 2022</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td><strong>Topic 7:</strong> Statistical estimation &amp; inference</td>
<td>28, Feb 2022</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9</td>
<td><strong>Topic 8:</strong> Correlation, regression &amp; indices</td>
<td>7, Mar 2022</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11</td>
<td>Complete quantitative assessment tasks</td>
<td>14, Mar 2022</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td><em>Exam preparation start</em></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12</td>
<td>Online exam period</td>
<td>21, Mar - 27, Mar 2022</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Policies and Procedures

Macquarie University policies and procedures are accessible from Policy Central (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). 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) 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

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**Student Support**

Macquarie University provides a range of support services for students. For details, visit http://students.mq.edu.au/support/

**The Writing Centre**

The Writing Centre provides resources to develop your English language proficiency, academic writing, and communication skills.

• Getting help with your assignment
• Workshops
• Chat with a WriteWISE peer writing leader
• Access StudyWISE
• Upload an assignment to Studiosity
• Complete the 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

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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

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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.

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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.

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# Changes since First Published

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>07/12/2021</td>
<td>The new &quot;Late Assessment Submission statement&quot; added.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>