



AFIN8005

Research Methods in Banking and Finance

Session 1, In person-scheduled-weekday, North Ryde 2022

Department of Applied Finance

Contents

<u>General Information</u>	2
<u>Learning Outcomes</u>	2
<u>General Assessment Information</u>	3
<u>Assessment Tasks</u>	3
<u>Delivery and Resources</u>	5
<u>Unit Schedule</u>	5
<u>Policies and Procedures</u>	5

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General Information

Unit convenor and teaching staff

Unit Convenor and Lecturer

Terry Pan

terry.pan@mq.edu.au

Room 524, Building 4ER

Friday 3pm-5pm

Kai Li

kai.li@mq.edu.au

Credit points

10

Prerequisites

Admission to MFin or ((Admission to MCom in Finance or MBkgFin) and 30cp at 6000 level or above)

Corequisites

Co-badged status

Unit description

This unit describes and analyses the methodology of contemporary research in banking and finance. It covers quantitative and qualitative methods to assist students to conduct further research in the future.

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:** Recognise research methods used in the banking and finance areas.
- ULO2:** Articulate research questions in response to a business problem or opportunity.
- ULO3:** Apply relevant methods to address finance issues or problems.
- ULO4:** Work productively in a group to design a research study.

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

Submission time after the due date (including weekends)	Penalty (% of available assessment task mark)	Example: for a non-timed assessment task marked out of 30
< 24 hours	10%	10% x 30 marks = 3-mark deduction
24-48 hours	20%	20% x 30 marks = 6-mark deduction
48-72 hours	30%	30% x 30 marks = 9-mark deduction
72-96 hours	40%	40% x 30 marks = 12-mark deduction
> 96 hours	100%	Assignment won't be accepted

Other assessment criteria for assessment tasks will be provided on the unit iLearn site.

Assessment Tasks

Name	Weighting	Hurdle	Due
Data Analysis Project	15%	No	Week 7
Research Proposal	40%	No	Week 12
Assignment	45%	No	Week 13

Data Analysis Project

Assessment Type ¹: Quantitative analysis task

Indicative Time on Task ²: 10 hours

Due: **Week 7**

Weighting: **15%**

A project will be designed to test the knowledge of data analysis using statistical software packages.

On successful completion you will be able to:

- Recognise research methods used in the banking and finance areas.
- Apply relevant methods to address finance issues or problems.

Research Proposal

Assessment Type ¹: Project

Indicative Time on Task ²: 30 hours

Due: **Week 12**

Weighting: **40%**

The task involves development of a research proposal, a presentation and an individual literature review. The group work (including research proposal and presentation) is worth 30% and the individual task (that is, the literature review) is worth 10%.

On successful completion you will be able to:

- Recognise research methods used in the banking and finance areas.
- Articulate research questions in response to a business problem or opportunity.
- Apply relevant methods to address finance issues or problems.
- Work productively in a group to design a research study.

Assignment

Assessment Type ¹: Project

Indicative Time on Task ²: 15 hours

Due: **Week 13**

Weighting: **45%**

The assignment will consist of two components. The first component will require students to use relevant software to conduct quantitative analysis. The second component will require students to use the research skills learned to evaluate and connect papers related to finance issues or problems.

On successful completion you will be able to:

- Recognise research methods used in the banking and finance areas.
- Articulate research questions in response to a business problem or opportunity.

- Apply relevant methods to address finance issues or problems.

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

Required Text:	There is no prescribed textbook. Readings (where applicable) are taken from relevant academic books and journals. Refer to iLearn for further details.
Unit Web Page:	Access to iLearn
Technology Used and Required:	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Internet access• Software for producing presentations• Open-source software (R) for reproducible research.• Zoom for online lectures
Delivery Format and Other Details:	<p>General Information?</p> <p>This course introduces you to the fundamentals of doing research. The course is designed to introduce you to an understanding of a variety of different methods, basic programming skills using R, study designs and the fundamentals of qualitative and quantitative analysis. You will apply the skills by developing your own research questions, study design and project relevant to your studies or professional lives. The course will also provide a foundation to those of you who plan to conduct further research as part of your postgraduate studies. No prior knowledge or experience in research is required to take this course, apart from the prerequisites listed. The course is aimed at the postgraduate level</p> <p>Timetable:</p> <p>See timetable for classes on the University web site at: https://timetables.mq.edu.au/2022/</p>

Unit Schedule

Pls 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](#)
- [Assessment Procedure](#)
- [Complaints Resolution 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

Academic Integrity

At Macquarie, we believe [academic integrity](#) – honesty, respect, trust, responsibility, fairness and courage – is at the core of learning, teaching and research. We recognise that meeting the expectations required to complete your assessments can be challenging. So, we offer you a range of resources and services to help you reach your potential, including free [online writing and maths support](#), [academic skills development](#) and [wellbeing consultations](#).

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.

- [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](#)

Student Services and Support

Macquarie University offers a range of [Student Support Services](#) including:

- [IT Support](#)
- [Accessibility and disability support](#) with study
- Mental health [support](#)
- [Safety support](#) to respond to bullying, harassment, sexual harassment and sexual assault
- [Social support including information about finances, tenancy and legal issues](#)

Student Enquiries

Got a question? Ask us via [AskMQ](#), or contact [Service Connect](#).

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.