



AFIN8099

Current Issues in Banking and Finance

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

Department of Applied Finance

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General Information

Unit convenor and teaching staff

Unit Convenor

Lurion De Mello

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Clara Zhou

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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:

ULO2: Critically analyse the latest banking and finance regulations and ethical guidelines relevant to the future of the industry.

ULO1: Apply and evaluate the current trends in the area of financial management, fintech and environmental finance.

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

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
<u>Short Answer Questions</u>	15%	No	5th March & 12th March
<u>Individual Assignment</u>	15%	No	26th April
<u>Group Assignment</u>	25%	No	9th May
<u>Final Examination</u>	45%	No	University Examination timetable

Short Answer Questions

Assessment Type ¹: Practice-based task

Indicative Time on Task ²: 10 hours

Due: **5th March & 12th March**

Weighting: **15%**

Students are required to complete two homework tasks. The first task will be an online quiz worth 5% and the second task will be worth 10%.

On successful completion you will be able to:

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

Individual Assignment

Assessment Type ¹: Report

Indicative Time on Task ²: 10 hours

Due: **26th April**

Weighting: **15%**

Students will do some research and produce a 1,000 words individual report on a topic that is current and relevant to the finance and banking industry. The nature of the question would cover important areas under financial management or fintech or environmental finance.

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: 15 hours

Due: **9th May**

Weighting: **25%**

Students will work in groups to complete a task that will require gathering and analysing data from one or more of the subscribed financial databases. They will produce a 1,000 to 1,500 word report worth 20%. The individual contribution will be captured through an additional 1-page summary of the project with a paragraph reflecting the student's responsibilities in completing the group task. This component will be 5% of the allocated 25%.

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: 25 hours

Due: **University Examination timetable**

Weighting: **45%**

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

On successful completion you will be able to:

- Critically analyse the latest banking and finance regulations and ethical guidelines relevant to the future of the industry.
- Apply and evaluate the current trends in the area of financial management, fintech and environmental finance.
- 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

For Class Delivery Information Please Refer to iLearn

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](#)
- [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.