ACST1001
Finance 1A
Session 2, In person-scheduled-weekday, North Ryde 2023

Department of Actuarial Studies and Business Analytics

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General Information

Unit convenor and teaching staff
Unit convenor
Keith Woodward
keith.woodward@mq.edu.au
Contact via After the lecture, during the online consultation or via the ilearn discussion forum
See ilearn

Teaching boss
Shahzada Imran
acst1001@mq.edu.au
Contact via ilearn discussion forum or email
See ilearn

Credit points
10

Prerequisites

Corequisites

Co-badged status

Unit description
This is an introductory unit in finance and is a core part of the first year knowledge base in most programs. Students will examine the roles and interaction of participants in Australia’s financial system and apply financial decision making tools to value and evaluate investment and financing opportunities. Students will learn about risk, the importance of cash flows and the various financial instruments traded in global financial markets, risk and regulation. Further, students will develop excel spreadsheet skills used by industry professionals.

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: Explain the role of finance in the economy and apply its tools to make financial decisions.
ULO2: Explain the concepts of time value of money, risk and return.
ULO3: Apply discounted cash flow techniques to the valuation of financial instruments, including bonds, shares and loans.
ULO4: Evaluate investment and financing opportunities.
ULO5: Apply Excel spreadsheets to evaluate financial decisions.

**General Assessment Information**

**Late Assessment Submission Penalty (written assessments)**

Unless a Special Consideration request has been submitted and approved, a 5% penalty (of the total possible mark) will be applied each day a written assessment is not submitted, up until the 7th day (including weekends). After the 7th day, a grade of '0' will be awarded even if the assessment is submitted. Submission time for all written assessments is set at 11.55pm. A 1-hour grace period is provided to students who experience a technical concern.

For any late submissions of time-sensitive tasks, such as scheduled tests/exams, performance assessments/presentations, and/or scheduled practical assessments/labs, students need to submit an application for **Special Consideration**.

**Assessment Tasks**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Weighting</th>
<th>Hurdle</th>
<th>Due</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Quizzes</strong></td>
<td>25%</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>Friday 18 August (5%) and Tuesday 5 September (20%).</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Participation</strong></td>
<td>10%</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>Participation in best 8 of 11 tutorial classes.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Assignment</strong></td>
<td>25%</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>11:59am Midday Monday 16 October</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Final Examination</strong></td>
<td>40%</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>See central exam timetable when available.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Quizzes**

Assessment Type ¹: Quiz/Test
Indicative Time on Task ²: 10 hours
Due: **Friday 18 August (5%) and Tuesday 5 September (20%).**
Weighting: 25%

There are two online quizzes during the session. The first quiz is worth 5% and the second quiz is worth 20%. 

https://unitguides.mq.edu.au/unit_offerings/155448/unit_guide/print
On successful completion you will be able to:

- Explain the role of finance in the economy and apply its tools to make financial decisions.
- Explain the concepts of time value of money, risk and return.
- Apply discounted cash flow techniques to the valuation of financial instruments, including bonds, shares and loans.
- Evaluate investment and financing opportunities.

### Participation

**Assessment Type** 1: Participatory task  
**Indicative Time on Task** 2: 10 hours  
**Due:** Participation in best 8 of 11 tutorial classes.  
**Weighting:** 10%

Individual participation throughout the unit will be graded and is worth 10%.

On successful completion you will be able to:

- Explain the role of finance in the economy and apply its tools to make financial decisions.
- Explain the concepts of time value of money, risk and return.
- Apply discounted cash flow techniques to the valuation of financial instruments, including bonds, shares and loans.
- Evaluate investment and financing opportunities.

### Assignment

**Assessment Type** 1: Case study/analysis  
**Indicative Time on Task** 2: 20 hours  
**Due:** 11:59am Midday Monday 16 October  
**Weighting:** 25%

The assignment will cover quantitative and qualitative analysis of a financial scenario or problem.

On successful completion you will be able to:

- Explain the role of finance in the economy and apply its tools to make financial decisions.
- Explain the concepts of time value of money, risk and return.
- Apply discounted cash flow techniques to the valuation of financial instruments, including bonds, shares and loans.
• Evaluate investment and financing opportunities.
• Apply Excel spreadsheets to evaluate financial decisions.

Final Examination

Assessment Type 1: Examination
Indicative Time on Task 2: 15 hours
Due: See central exam timetable when available.
Weighting: 40%

The final examination will be two-hours plus ten-minutes reading time, to be held during the University Examination period.

On successful completion you will be able to:
• Explain the role of finance in the economy and apply its tools to make financial decisions.
• Explain the concepts of time value of money, risk and return.
• Apply discounted cash flow techniques to the valuation of financial instruments, including bonds, shares and loans.
• Evaluate investment and financing opportunities.

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

Learning and Teaching Activities

We look forward to seeing you in the weekly lecture (2 hours) and tutorials (1 hour)!

Tutorials start from week 2, lectures start from week 1

Lectures

We'll discuss some fascinating finance topics including stock investment, valuation and business projects! Each lecture we'll cover some theory and mathematical formulas, with practical examples of how both are applied in the real world and in the exams and assignments that you'll complete.
Tutorials

Tutorials are widely regarded as the best learning experience, with small classes led by expert and enthusiastic teachers. Students should register for a tutorial. Tutorial participation will be marked and assessed. Details will be available on ilearn.

Tutorial enrolment or change of tutorial can be made through eStudent in the first two weeks of the session. Students should attend their allocated tutorial, but exceptions may occur on a one-off basis. That is, where circumstances prevent you attending your own tutorial in a given week, you may attend an alternative tutorial if room is available. Please do NOT email the unit convenor or any member of the teaching team regarding changing of registered tutorials. We are unable to do this for you.

Additional learning support will be available during tutor consultation times!

Prescribed Text


https://multisearch.mq.edu.au/permalink/61MACQUARIE_INST/7h5qs5/alma99244739307802171

Similar books:


https://multisearch.mq.edu.au/permalink/61MACQUARIE_INST/467l3g/cdi_proquest_ebookcentral_EBC5637846


https://multisearch.mq.edu.au/permalink/61MACQUARIE_INST/1c87tk9/alma99244660728502171

Technology Used and Required

**Calculator**

A calculator will be required for the various calculations throughout the session, and for the Final Examination.

Scientific calculators need the following minimum functionality: $x^y$ or $^\text{^}$ functions. Non-programmable financial calculators are permitted too, but unnecessary.

**Software**

Students should have access to Excel software (version 2013 or more recent),
See https://students.mq.edu.au/support/technology/service-desk/office-365 for instructions on how to get your free copy of Microsoft Office!

**Knowledge of Maths**

A background of HSC General Mathematics or equivalent numerical competency is assumed.

Students requiring assistance with the unit’s mathematical elements throughout the term may consult with the Numeracy Centre team during appointed hours (no appointment needed). https://students.mq.edu.au/support/study/numeracy

**Unit Schedule**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Week</th>
<th>Week date (Tuesday)</th>
<th>Lecture topic</th>
<th>Lectures scheduled</th>
<th>Tutorials scheduled</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>25-Jul</td>
<td>The financial system and markets.</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>No</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>1-Aug</td>
<td>Returns and interest rates.</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Yes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>8-Aug</td>
<td>Time value of money.</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Yes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>15-Aug</td>
<td>Perpetuities and annuities. 5% online quiz Friday 18 August.</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Yes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>22-Aug</td>
<td>Capital budgeting principles: net present value (NPV), internal rate of return (IRR) and payback period.</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Yes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>29-Aug</td>
<td>Capital budgeting special cases: projects of different lives, profitability index.</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Yes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>5-Sep</td>
<td>Mid-session test. 20% online quiz at 2pm Tuesday 5 September.</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>Yes</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Mid-session break from Monday 11 September to Sunday 24 September.

| 8    | 26-Sep              | Bonds.                                                                         | Yes                 | No                 |
| 9    | 3-Oct               | Shares.                                                                        | Yes                 | Yes                |
| 10   | 10-Oct              | Market efficiency and the capital asset pricing model (CAPM). 25% Individual assignment due Monday 16 October at 11:59am midday Sydney time | Yes                 | Yes                |
| 11   | 17-Oct              | Raising capital.                                                              | Yes                 | Yes                |
| 12   | 24-Oct              | Special topics.                                                               | Yes                 | Yes                |
| 13   | 31-Oct              | Final exam revision.                                                          | Yes                 | Yes                |

**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
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, (e.g. 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 Advocacy** provides independent advice on MQ policies, procedures, and processes

### 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/](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.

### Changes from Previous Offering

New textbook.