Contents

General Information ........................................... 2
Learning Outcomes ........................................... 2
Assessment Tasks ............................................ 3
Delivery and Resources ..................................... 5
Unit Schedule .................................................. 6
Policies and Procedures ..................................... 7

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General Information

Unit convenor and teaching staff
Ha Vu
ha.vu@mq.edu.au

Credit points
10

Prerequisites
20cp at 2000 level or above including ECON203 or ECON2003 or ECON204 or ECON2004 or AFIN250 or AFIN2050

Corequisites

Co-badged status

Unit description
The aim of this unit is to analyse the structure, functions and operations of the international financial system and to evaluate its impact on the Australian economy. Topics may include: international capital flows and balance of payments; analysis of foreign exchange markets, arbitrage and speculation; discussion of purchasing power parity and real exchange rates; currency and commodity swaps; corporate management of exchange rate risk exposure in spot and forward markets; currency futures and options; Eurodollar markets; models of exchange rate determination; exchange rate forecasting techniques; international trade finance; international taxation; and foreign and direct portfolio investments; and international capital budgeting.

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: Analyse the structure, functions and operations of the international financial system.
ULO2: Research and engage with confidence in international business decisions using the appropriate analytical tools.
ULO3: Describe and analyse the risks that businesses and investors may face in the international markets.
**Assessment Tasks**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Weighting</th>
<th>Hurdle</th>
<th>Due</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Weekly online discussion</td>
<td>20%</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>Weekly, starting Week 2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mid-session Test</td>
<td>20%</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>Week 7, Thursday 07/09/2023</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Essay</td>
<td>20%</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>Week 9, 11:59pm Sunday 08/10/2023</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Final examination</td>
<td>40%</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>University Examination Period</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Weekly online discussion**

Assessment Type ¹: Participatory task  
Indicative Time on Task ²: 13 hours  
Due: **Weekly, starting Week 2**  
Weighting: **20%**

Every week, students are required to post their response to the discussion questions into iLearn.

On successful completion you will be able to:

- Analyse the structure, functions and operations of the international financial system.
- Research and engage with confidence in international business decisions using the appropriate analytical tools.
- Describe and analyse the risks that businesses and investors may face in the international markets.

**Mid-session Test**

Assessment Type ¹: Quiz/Test  
Indicative Time on Task ²: 5 hours  
Due: **Week 7, Thursday 07/09/2023**  
Weighting: **20%**

A one-hour test will be held in week 7, consisting true/false with explanation, problem solving and short-answer questions.

On successful completion you will be able to:
• Analyse the structure, functions and operations of the international financial system.
• Research and engage with confidence in international business decisions using the appropriate analytical tools.
• Describe and analyse the risks that businesses and investors may face in the international markets.

**Essay**

Assessment Type: Essay  
Indicative Time on Task: 15 hours  
Due: Week 9, 11:59pm Sunday 08/10/2023  
Weighting: 20%

This assessment involves students undertaking individual research on a topic given and writing a 1400-1600-word essay (excluding tables, diagrams and reference list).

On successful completion you will be able to:
• Analyse the structure, functions and operations of the international financial system.
• Research and engage with confidence in international business decisions using the appropriate analytical tools.
• Describe and analyse the risks that businesses and investors may face in the international markets.

**Final examination**

Assessment Type: Examination  
Indicative Time on Task: 27 hours  
Due: University Examination Period  
Weighting: 40%

A two-hour exam will be held during the University Examination period

On successful completion you will be able to:
• Analyse the structure, functions and operations of the international financial system.
• Research and engage with confidence in international business decisions using the appropriate analytical tools.
• Describe and analyse the risks that businesses and investors may face in the
international markets.

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**

Each week, there will be a pre-recorded lecture posted on the unit iLearn page, along with the lecture slides.

Starting in Week 2, there will be **one-hour tutorial class (via zoom), Thursday 1-2pm, or Thursday 6-7pm** to discuss questions regarding the lecture topics.

All materials for the unit, such as pre-recording lectures, lecture notes, readings, and discussion questions will be available to students on the unit iLearn site at [http://ilearn.mq.edu.au](http://ilearn.mq.edu.au). Students are strongly encouraged to check the unit iLearn page weekly for announcements as well as the unit schedule, additional readings, assessment information, and discussion questions.

**Required and Recommended Texts, and other resources**


Here is the link to the latest US edition:


*Recommended texts:*


*Useful resources for this course:*

Banking Weekly Podcasts - Financial Times: [podcast.ft.com/banking-weekly](http://podcast.ft.com/banking-weekly)

www.bloomberg.com

www.theeconomist.com

www.bis.org
Technology Used and Required

It is my expectation that the lectures of Econ360 will be recorded on the University’s i-Lecture facility. This can be found at: http://ilearn.mq.edu.au

The iLearn facility at this same site will also be the main vehicle through which unit communications will be made, and via which students can communicate with each other.

Unit Schedule

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Week</th>
<th>Lecture</th>
<th>Assessment tasks</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Topic 1: Multinational firms, and international flows of funds</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Topic 2: Foreign exchange markets and government intervention</td>
<td>Online Discussion 1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Topic 3: International financial markets</td>
<td>Online Discussion 2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Topic 4: Currency derivative markets</td>
<td>Online Discussion 3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>Topic 5: International arbitrage and interest rate parity</td>
<td>Online Discussion 4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>Topic 6: Relationship between inflation, interest rate, and exchange rate</td>
<td>Online Discussion 5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>Online Test 1 (20%)</td>
<td>Test (20%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>Topic 7: Measurement and management of exchange rate risk</td>
<td>Online Discussion 6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9</td>
<td>Topic 7 (cont)</td>
<td>Online Discussion 7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10</td>
<td>Topic 8: Management of long-term assets and liabilities</td>
<td>Assignment (20%): Due 11:59pm Sunday 08 October 2023</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Online Discussion 8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11</td>
<td>Topic 8 (cont)</td>
<td>Online Discussion 9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12</td>
<td>Topic 8 (cont)</td>
<td>Online Discussion 10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13</td>
<td>Topic 9: Management of short-term assets and liabilities</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Note: Each Online Discussion is worth 2%, together they are worth 20%.
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
- 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). 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

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/.

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.