ECON3034
Financial Econometrics
Session 1, Online-scheduled-weekday 2023
Department of Economics

Contents

General Information 2
Learning Outcomes 2
General Assessment Information 2
Assessment Tasks 3
Delivery and Resources 4
Unit Schedule 5
Policies and Procedures 7

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General Information

Unit convenor and teaching staff
Lance Fisher
lance.fisher@mq.edu.au

Credit points
10

Prerequisites
90cp at 1000 level or above including ECON241 or ECON2041 or STAT272 or STAT2372

Corequisites

Co-badged status

Unit description
This unit is highly recommended for students majoring in economics and finance. Finance professionals use econometric techniques in portfolio management, risk management and securities analysis. This unit is intended to provide students with the tools necessary for financial applications. Statistical techniques are developed within the context of particular financial applications. Recent empirical evidence is also discussed. Although ECON2032 is not a prerequisite, it is highly recommended.

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 econometric methods to modelling, analysing and forecasting financial data.
ULO2: Demonstrate and explain different estimation methodologies.
ULO3: Critically evaluate empirical econometric work.
ULO4: Present results based on financial econometric analysis, to a non-technical audience, in a clear and understandable manner.

General Assessment Information
Late Assessment Submission Penalty (written assessments)
Assessment Tasks

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Weighting</th>
<th>Hurdle</th>
<th>Due</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Class test</td>
<td>30%</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>Week 7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Assignment</td>
<td>30%</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>Week 10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Final examination</td>
<td>40%</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>University Exam Period</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

Class test
Assessment Type: Quiz/Test
Indicative Time on Task: 15 hours
Due: Week 7
Weighting: 30%

The class test will be held during the week 7 lecture. The test will consist of multiple-choice questions, and will cover all material up to and including Week 5.

On successful completion you will be able to:

- Apply econometric methods to modelling, analysing and forecasting financial data.
- Demonstrate and explain different estimation methodologies.

Assignment
Assessment Type: Quantitative analysis task
Indicative Time on Task: 25 hours
Due: Week 10
Weighting: 30%

A series of short answer questions exploring various aspects of Financial Econometrics.

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.
On successful completion you will be able to:
  • Critically evaluate empirical econometric work.
  • Present results based on financial econometric analysis, to a non-technical audience, in a clear and understandable manner.

Final examination
Assessment Type: Examination
Indicative Time on Task: 30 hours
Due: University Exam Period
Weighting: 40%

A two-hour examination will be held during the University Examination Period, and will consist of multiple-choice and short-answer questions. Computer outputs and statistical tables will be provided.

On successful completion you will be able to:
  • Demonstrate and explain different estimation methodologies.
  • Critically evaluate empirical econometric work.

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

Delivery
The intended delivery mode is as per the timetable: Macquarie University Timetables - 2.0.39 (mq.edu.au).

Resources
The prescribed textbook for the unit is:
Press. The 4th Edition of the textbook has been recently published. You can use the 3rd Edition of the textbook (2014) instead if you prefer.

In addition to the textbook, the following references are useful but are not required.


Material such as lecture slides, examples, and tutorial questions will be available on the unit home page. The text and lecture notes, together with the lectures and additional references will provide students with a clear indication of the basic content of the unit.

It is recommended that students attend all lectures and tutorials for several reasons including:

• Not all the material in the text is included in the unit, and not all the material in the unit is covered in the text. In some places the text deals with issues in greater depth than is necessary for the unit, and in other places it doesn’t go far enough. The lectures contain all the unit material taught at the level required for the assessment tasks, and are your guide to the unit content.

• The approaches to some problems that are recommended by the lecturer are different to those in the text.

• The lectures will include guidance about the style and content of the final exam and recommendation about study technique.

• It is difficult (and often impossible) for staff to provide meaningful assistance to students outside class times on topics for which they did not attend the relevant lectures and tutorials.

Technology Used and Required

Students are required to use a computer to carry out certain tasks of the course, such as tutorials and assignments. The software programs used in this course include EViews 12 and Microsoft Excel.

Unit Web Page

• Course material is available on the learning management system (iLearn), which can be found at: http://ilearn.mq.edu.au.

Unit Schedule

Unit Schedule
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Week No.</th>
<th>Lecture Topic</th>
<th>Tutorials</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Characteristics of Financial Data; Revision of Basic Mathematical and Statistical Concepts</td>
<td>No tutorial this week.</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Textbook: Chapter 1 and Chapter 2, all sections; 4th or 3rd Edition. Lecture Notes.</td>
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<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Correlation and Basic Regression Methods</td>
<td>Tutorial Week 2</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Textbook: Chapter 3, all sections, excluding the appendix. 4th or 3rd Edition. Lecture Notes.</td>
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<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Multiple Linear Regression Model</td>
<td>Tutorial Week 3</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Textbook: 4th Edition Chapter 4, Sections 4.1 to 4.7 inclusive, Section 4.9. Lecture Notes; or Textbook: 3rd Edition Chapter 4, Sections 4.1 to 4.8 inclusive, Section 4.10. Lecture Notes.</td>
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<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Regression Model Diagnostics</td>
<td>Tutorial Week 4</td>
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<td>5</td>
<td>Time Series Models</td>
<td>Tutorial Week 5</td>
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<td>Textbook: 4th Edition, Chapter 6, Sections 6.1 to 6.5. Lecture Notes; or</td>
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<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>Identification of Time Series Models</td>
<td>Tutorial Week 6</td>
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<td>Textbook: 4th Edition, Chapter 6, Sections 6.6 to 6.8. Lecture Notes; or</td>
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<td>7</td>
<td>Class Test</td>
<td>Tutorial Week 7</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Mid-semester Break</td>
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<td>8</td>
<td>Forecasting with Time Series Models</td>
<td>Tutorial Week 8</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Textbook: 4th Edition, Chapter 6, Sections 6.10. Lecture Notes; or</td>
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<tr>
<td>9</td>
<td>Modeling Volatility: Specification and Estimation of ARCH and GARCH Models</td>
<td>Tutorial Week 9</td>
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<td>Policies and Procedures</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Macquarie University policies and procedures are accessible from Policy Central (<a href="https://policies.mq.edu.au">https://policies.mq.edu.au</a>). Students should be aware of the following policies in particular with regard to Learning and Teaching:</td>
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<td>• Academic Appeals Policy</td>
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<td>• Academic Integrity Policy</td>
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<td>• Academic Progression Policy</td>
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<td>• Assessment Policy</td>
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<td>• Fitness to Practice Procedure</td>
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<td>• Assessment Procedure</td>
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<td>• Complaints Resolution Procedure for Students and Members of the Public</td>
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<td>• Special Consideration Policy</td>
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<td>Students seeking more policy resources can visit Student Policies (<a href="https://students.mq.edu.au/support/study/policies">https://students.mq.edu.au/support/study/policies</a>). It is your one-stop-shop for the key policies you need to know about throughout your undergraduate student journey.</td>
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<td></td>
<td>To find other policies relating to Teaching and Learning, visit Policy Central (<a href="https://policies.mq.edu.au">https://policies.mq.edu.au</a>) and use the search tool.</td>
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<td><strong>Student Code of Conduct</strong></td>
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<td>Macquarie University students have a responsibility to be familiar with the Student Code of Conduct: <a href="https://students.mq.edu.au/admin/other-resources/student-conduct">https://students.mq.edu.au/admin/other-resources/student-conduct</a></td>
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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.