



ECON8053

Economics of Public Issues

Session 2, In person-scheduled-infrequent, North Ryde 2024

Department of Economics

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>Policies and Procedures</u>	5

Disclaimer

Macquarie University has taken all reasonable measures to ensure the information in this publication is accurate and up-to-date. However, the information may change or become out-dated as a result of change in University policies, procedures or rules. The University reserves the right to make changes to any information in this publication without notice. Users of this publication are advised to check the website version of this publication [or the relevant faculty or department] before acting on any information in this publication.

General Information

Unit convenor and teaching staff Andrea Chareunsy andrea.chareunsy@mq.edu.au
Credit points 10
Prerequisites ECON632 or ECON6032 or ECON633 or ECON6033 or ECON649 or ECON6049 or ECON991 or ECON8091
Corequisites
Co-badged status
Unit description This unit provides an opportunity for students to conduct primary and secondary research in policy analysis. It equips students with the capabilities of applied policy research, formal research writing, and analytical and critical thinking. Students design a research project around their refined research question that responds to an issue raised by the supervisor. The assessment design follows the progressive steps of the research project: a) literature survey of policy evaluation; b) identified data, framework and methodology; and c) findings and discussions. The final output is a research report consisting of all parts in the form of a mini thesis.

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: Research, integrate and synthesise specific knowledge and skills to critically reflect on complex policy issues

ULO2: Professionally organise and communicate complex economic ideas and evaluations for a specific audience and purpose

ULO3: Critically reflect on the link between economic theories and their practical application to policy, and evaluate the economic impact of public policies on

stakeholders

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

Name	Weighting	Hurdle	Due
Literature Survey	30%	No	Week 5
Policy Analysis	30%	No	Week 9
Final Report	40%	No	University Examination Period

Literature Survey

Assessment Type ¹: Literature review

Indicative Time on Task ²: 25 hours

Due: **Week 5**

Weighting: **30%**

The 2,500-word written report is worth 30% and will be based on a survey of methods used to evaluate a chosen public policy. The report will form Chapter 1 of the Final Report.

On successful completion you will be able to:

- Research, integrate and synthesise specific knowledge and skills to critically reflect on complex policy issues
- Professionally organise and communicate complex economic ideas and evaluations for a specific audience and purpose

Policy Analysis

Assessment Type ¹: Essay

Indicative Time on Task ²: 25 hours

Due: **Week 9**

Weighting: **30%**

The 2,500-word written essay is worth 30% and will be an evaluation of a chosen public policy, through the analysis of data, framework and methods. The essay will form Chapter 2 of the Final Report.

On successful completion you will be able to:

- Research, integrate and synthesise specific knowledge and skills to critically reflect on complex policy issues
- Professionally organise and communicate complex economic ideas and evaluations for a specific audience and purpose

Final Report

Assessment Type ¹: Report

Indicative Time on Task ²: 25 hours

Due: **University Examination Period**

Weighting: **40%**

The Final Report, in the format of a journal article, consists of submitted Chapters 1 and 2, with a newly written Chapter 3 (Policy Discussions) that provides the final discussion of the impact of the chosen policy on stakeholders.

On successful completion you will be able to:

- Research, integrate and synthesise specific knowledge and skills to critically reflect on complex policy issues
- Professionally organise and communicate complex economic ideas and evaluations for a specific audience and purpose
- Critically reflect on the link between economic theories and their practical application to policy, and evaluate the economic impact of public policies on stakeholders

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

This unit is organised as a research unit, where there are no regular lecture classes. After the Introductory Meeting in Week 1, there will be mandatory small group, participatory meetings every fortnight. The meetings will focus on preparing students for their research milestones (ie. scaffolded by assessments tasks and learning activities). The meeting time, location and frequency may change throughout the session depending on the stage of students' research progress. Please refer to the iLearn site for weekly updated schedules and tasks.

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 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.

Unit information based on version 2024.02 of the [Handbook](#)