General Information

Unit convenor and teaching staff
Ben Wang
ben.wang@mq.edu.au

Credit points
10

Prerequisites
ECON1021 or ECON110

Corequisites

Co-badged status

Unit description
This intermediate-level unit studies the main macroeconomic models in use, keeping close contact with current macroeconomic events. The focus is on product, financial and labour markets in an open economy, examining their key features in short, medium and long run equilibrium. We study the link between macroeconomics and finance leading to a deep understanding of the drivers of bond, stock housing and exchange rate markets, as well as the sources of pathologies like financial crises and the emergence of cryptocurrencies. Monetary and fiscal policy design is analysed in depth, enabling students to evaluate current debates on macroeconomic policy in a real-world context.

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 and apply theoretical models of macroeconomic issues.
ULO2: Critically analyse models and theories to address contemporary macroeconomic problems.
ULO3: Critique macroeconomic phenomena both individually and as a member of a team.

General Assessment Information
Please note that the final exam will be conducted on campus during the university
examination period.

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.

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>Quiz</td>
<td>10%</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>Week 3-4, 6-7, 9-10, 12-13</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mid-session test</td>
<td>20%</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>Week 8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Group presentation</td>
<td>20%</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>Week 12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Final examination</td>
<td>50%</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>Final exam period</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
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Quiz

Assessment Type ¹: Quiz/Test
Indicative Time on Task ²: 10 hours
Due: Week 3-4, 6-7, 9-10, 12-13
Weighting: 10%

Several quizzes will be held during the session. Details will be available in iLearn.

On successful completion you will be able to:
- Analyse and apply theoretical models of macroeconomic issues.

Mid-session test

Assessment Type ¹: Quiz/Test
Indicative Time on Task ²: 10 hours
Due: Week 8
Weighting: 20%
Mid-session test

On successful completion you will be able to:

- Analyse and apply theoretical models of macroeconomic issues.
- Critique macroeconomic phenomena both individually and as a member of a team.

Group presentation

Assessment Type 1: Presentation
Indicative Time on Task 2: 20 hours
Due: Week 12
Weighting: 20%

Part 1: Tutorial solution presentations (10%) Part 2: Central Bank Simulation (10%)

On successful completion you will be able to:

- Analyse and apply theoretical models of macroeconomic issues.
- Critically analyse models and theories to address contemporary macroeconomic problems.
- Critique macroeconomic phenomena both individually and as a member of a team.

Final examination

Assessment Type 1: Examination
Indicative Time on Task 2: 35 hours
Due: Final exam period
Weighting: 50%

A two-hour examination, consisting of descriptive short and long answer questions, will be held during the University Examination Period.

On successful completion you will be able to:

- Analyse and apply theoretical models of macroeconomic issues.
- Critique macroeconomic phenomena both individually and as a member of a team.

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

Lectures Wednesdays 3-5 PM

Lecture slides will be available on the unit web page at http://ilearn.mq.edu.au, and (barring 
technical hitches, the possibility of which should be allowed for) videos of the lectures will be 
available on Echo. During the session, unforeseen circumstances may require the cancellation of 
a lecture and/or tutorial. Any changes will be announced as far as possible in advance both in 
lectures and on the unit website. Students are strongly advised that their learning is significantly 
enhanced by watching the lecture presentations online at the appointed time. It is assumed that 
students will attend all online lectures and tutorials at the prescribed times. Students who miss 
watching lectures put themselves at a significant disadvantage for several reasons, including:

(i) Not all the material in the text is covered 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 
tutorials will demonstrate the way questions in macroeconomics are approached.

(ii) The lectures and tutorials will include significant guidance about the style and content of the 
final exam and recommendations about study technique.

(iii) 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.

Required Text


This 4th edition is significantly different to the 3rd edition, and students are strongly advised to 
get access to the 4th edition. DO NOT get the 3rd (or earlier) edition. (Please do not email to ask 
if it's OK to get the earlier editions.)

Technology Used and Required Lecture and tutorial material as well as up to date information 
concerning any aspect of the unit, including any changes to the schedule, will be available to 
students by logging on to the unit web page at http://ilearn.mq.edu.au. Students are required to 
use word processing and presentation softwares such as Word and powerpoint in some of the 
assessment tasks.

Teaching and Learning Strategy This unit is taught as a mix of lectures and tutorials. The 
lectures are designed to provide the tools which can then be applied in tutorials. The tutorials 
comprise numerical problems and analytical questions and will be detailed in a separate 
document on iLearn at the end of Week 2. There should be the opportunity to explore issues
raised in lectures and to ask questions. The tutorials aim to improve understanding of macroeconomic theory and policy.

**Unit Schedule**

**Topic 1** Introduction; a brief look at global conditions with a focus on Australia’s recent performance; output and business cycles, inflation, unemployment.

B&S Chs 1, 2

Various statements and speeches on monetary policy by Reserve Bank of Australia, eg www.rba.gov.au/PublicationsAndResearch/ StatementsOnMonetaryPolicy/index.html


**Topic 2** The IS-LM model: Short-run goods market and money market equilibrium; monetary policy & fiscal policy; the policy mix – comparing a money supply rule with an interest rate rule.

B&S Chs 3, 4, 5


**Topic 3** The labour market; wage and price setting in the medium run; the natural rate of unemployment; tax distortions and full employment.

B&S Ch 6


**Topic 4** The AS-AD model: All markets together from the short run to the medium run; aggregate supply; aggregate demand with a fixed money supply and with an interest rate rule using a price level target; monetary, fiscal and oil price shocks in the AS-AD model.

B&S Ch 7


**Topic 5** Evolution of the Phillips curve; theories of expected inflation; the sacrifice ratio

B&S Ch 8


**Topic 6** The macroeconomics of financial market crises.

B&S Ch 9


**Topic 7** The Long run: Sources and theories of economic growth and productivity; convergence across countries - PPP comparisons; growth over 2000 years; savings and capital accumulation; the golden rule savings rate

B&S Chs 10, 11


**Topic 8** Technology, population growth and the Solow model; institutions, technological progress and growth

B&S Chs 12, 13


**Topic 9** Expectations - expected presented discounted value; nominal vs real interest rates; interest rates and monetary policy; the Fisher hypothesis; macroeconomic determinants of the yield curve or term structure; and of stock market prices; housing prices; expectations and consumption & investment; Tobin’s q; expectations and the IS-LM model.

B&S Chs 14, 15, 16, 17

**Topic 10** The exchange rate; nominal & real, bilateral & multilateral exchange rates; the balance of payments; interest parity condition; the goods market in an open economy; exchange rates and net exports; J-curve; saving, investment and the trade balance.

B&S Chs 18, 19


**Topic 11** The Mundell-Fleming model under floating exchange rates (with interest rate setting and inflation targeting); fixed exchange rates and exchange rate crises; exchange rate overshooting; choosing the exchange rate regime.

B&S Chs 20, 21


**Topical 12** Back to Policy: Uncertainty and macro policy; credibility of policy-makers; fiscal policy and government budget constraint; government debt; challenges from the crisis - the liquidity trap, macroprudential policy.

B&S Chs 22, 23, 24


**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](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](http://ask.mq.edu.au) or if you are a Global MBA student contact [globalmba/support@mq.edu.au](mailto: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 2024.03 of the Handbook.