



ACCG3040

Auditing and Assurance Services

Session 1, In person-scheduled-weekday, North Ryde 2025

Department of Accounting and Corporate Governance

Contents

<u>General Information</u>	2
<u>Learning Outcomes</u>	3
<u>General Assessment Information</u>	3
<u>Assessment Tasks</u>	4
<u>Delivery and Resources</u>	6
<u>Unit Schedule</u>	7
<u>Policies and Procedures</u>	8
<u>Changes from Previous Offering</u>	10

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General Information

Unit convenor and teaching staff

Unit Convenor and Lecturer

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4ER 326

Refer iLearn

Moderator

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4ER 352

N/A

Credit points

10

Prerequisites

130cp at 1000 level or above

Corequisites

Co-badged status

Unit description

This unit examines the theory and practice of auditing and assurance services. The unit focuses on the external audit of corporate financial reports while also considering a broader range of financial and non-financial assurance services. Students will develop a comprehensive understanding of the audit process and the professional auditing environment. Students will also be exposed to ethical requirements, corporate governance and other current issues in auditing and assurance, including data analytics. The unit is applied in nature and will require students to work through learning resources and assessment tasks based on contemporary Auditing Standards and real-world auditing case studies.

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 purpose of external and internal audit and assurance services and the various types of audit and assurance services within the Australian and international regulatory, professional and ethical frameworks and environment
- ULO2:** Analyse case-based scenarios by identifying and evaluating risk factors and their implications for audit planning and evidence gathering activities
- ULO3:** Design audit strategies, including applying quantitative methods, within the context of appropriate, sufficient, and relevant evidence, and design appropriate audit procedures (including tests of controls and substantive tests) in response to specific risks
- ULO4:** Apply professional judgement and decision making in evaluating audit evidence, the treatment of subsequent events, and in formulating audit opinions
- ULO5:** Develop knowledge and skills in data analytics and big data
- ULO6:** Demonstrate the capacity for effective collaboration with others and in communicating findings

General Assessment Information

Submission of assessment tasks

All applicable text based assessments must be submitted through Turnitin. It is the student's responsibility to ensure that work is submitted correctly prior to the due date. No hard copies of assessments will be accepted and only Turnitin records will be taken as records of submission.

Multiple submissions may be possible in some units via Turnitin prior to the final due date and time of an assessment task and originality reports may be made available to students to view and check their work. All identified matching text will be reconsidered carefully. Students should note that the system will not immediately produce the similarity score on a second or subsequent submission - it takes approximately 24 hours for the report to be generated. This may be after the due date so students should plan any resubmissions carefully. Please refer to instructions on how to submit your assignment through Turnitin and access similarity reports and feedback provided by teaching staff. Should you have questions about Turnitin or experience issues submitting through the system, you must inform unit staff by emailing us at accg3040@mq.edu.au. If the issue is technical in nature may also lodge OneHelp Ticket, refer to the [IT help page](#).

It is the responsibility of the student to retain a copy of any work submitted. Students must produce these documents upon request. Copies should be retained until the end of the grade appeal period each term. In the event that a student is asked to produce another copy of work submitted and is unable to do so, they may be awarded zero (0) for that particular assessment task.

Late Assessment Submission Penalty

Unless an application for [Special Consideration](#) 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, and/or scheduled practical assessments/labs, students need to submit an application for Special Consideration

Assessment Tasks

Name	Weighting	Hurdle	Due
Formal and observed learning: Test	20%	No	Week 8
Professional practice: Auditing	40%	No	Week 10
Formal and observed learning: Exam	40%	No	Final examination period

Formal and observed learning: Test

Assessment Type ¹: Quiz/Test

Indicative Time on Task ²: 20 hours

Due: **Week 8**

Weighting: **20%**

The purpose of this assessment is for you to demonstrate your understanding and knowledge of key topics from the unit.

You will participate in a formal test. Feedback on this test will help you assess your progress through the unit content..

Deliverable: Test Individual assessment

On successful completion you will be able to:

- Explain the purpose of external and internal audit and assurance services and the various types of audit and assurance services within the Australian and international regulatory, professional and ethical frameworks and environment
- Design audit strategies, including applying quantitative methods, within the context of

appropriate, sufficient, and relevant evidence, and design appropriate audit procedures (including tests of controls and substantive tests) in response to specific risks

Professional practice: Auditing

Assessment Type ¹: Case study/analysis

Indicative Time on Task ²: 35 hours

Due: **Week 10**

Weighting: **40%**

The purpose of this assessment is for you to develop your expertise in auditing.

You will apply your knowledge of audit processes and procedures developed in the unit to a case study.

Skills in focus: - Discipline Knowledge - Critical Thinking

Deliverable: Written Submission Individual and group assessment

On successful completion you will be able to:

- Analyse case-based scenarios by identifying and evaluating risk factors and their implications for audit planning and evidence gathering activities
- Design audit strategies, including applying quantitative methods, within the context of appropriate, sufficient, and relevant evidence, and design appropriate audit procedures (including tests of controls and substantive tests) in response to specific risks
- Apply professional judgement and decision making in evaluating audit evidence, the treatment of subsequent events, and in formulating audit opinions
- Develop knowledge and skills in data analytics and big data
- Demonstrate the capacity for effective collaboration with others and in communicating findings

Formal and observed learning: Exam

Assessment Type ¹: Examination

Indicative Time on Task ²: 35 hours

Due: **Final examination period**

Weighting: **40%**

The purpose of this assessment is for you to formally demonstrate the expertise you have gained in this unit.

You will participate in a 2-hour exam held during the University Examination period. Important information about the exam will be made available on the unit iLearn page. You should also review the [MQ Exams website](#) for general tips.

Deliverable: Formal exam Individual assessment

On successful completion you will be able to:

- Explain the purpose of external and internal audit and assurance services and the various types of audit and assurance services within the Australian and international regulatory, professional and ethical frameworks and environment
- Analyse case-based scenarios by identifying and evaluating risk factors and their implications for audit planning and evidence gathering activities
- Design audit strategies, including applying quantitative methods, within the context of appropriate, sufficient, and relevant evidence, and design appropriate audit procedures (including tests of controls and substantive tests) in response to specific risks
- Apply professional judgement and decision making in evaluating audit evidence, the treatment of subsequent events, and in formulating audit opinions

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

Unit delivery and learning resources

Students are required to attend a weekly lecture and tutorial (lectures commence in Week 1, tutorials commence from Week 2). There are also online learning resources that students are required to engage with to complement the weekly lecture and tutorial.

Lectures and tutorials are interactive and are designed to facilitate further discussion of concepts covered in online learning resources and their application to practical cases.

The timetable for classes can be found on the University website at: <https://publish.mq.edu.au/>

Changes to student timetables may only be made through eStudent. Students wishing to change their allocated tutorial should log onto to eStudent and enrol in a tutorial where there is a vacancy. Any question of an administrative nature about tutorial allocations should be addressed

to accg3040@mq.edu.au. Student enrolments must be finalised by the end of Week 1. No further changes may be made after Week 1.

Required and Recommended Texts and/or Materials

The **required** text for the unit, which is available from McGraw-Hill online, is:

Gay, G. and Simnett, R. (2024) Auditing and Assurance Services in Australia, ebook 8th edition, McGraw-Hill, Sydney, Australia.

Additional required readings will also be made available on iLearn.

Students are also expected to read relevant standards and guidance which are available online at <http://www.auasb.gov.au> (ASAs, ASQC, ASRS, and AGS) and <http://www.apesb.org.au> (APES). These are also contained in the Chartered Accountants Australia and New Zealand Auditing Handbook.

The following text is **recommended** as a useful reference:

Moroney, R., Campbell, F. and Hamilton, J. (2020) Auditing: A practical approach, 4th Edition, John Wiley & Sons Australia Ltd, Brisbane, Australia.

Technology Used and Required

Students will need access to a personal computer and the internet to review and complete online learning activities, including videos, slide decks, podcasts, additional readings, assessment details and notices from the ACCG3040 iLearn site, as well as to complete and make submissions for the assessment tasks in this Unit.

Further information on any specific technology requirements will be made available on the unit iLearn site.

The unit iLearn can be found at: <http://iLearn.mq.edu.au>.

You are strongly encouraged to regularly visit the website to check for important announcements and use it as a resource to enhance your learning experience.

What is required to complete this unit satisfactorily

In addition to the requirements outlined in the Unit Assessment Guide available on iLearn, students are required to achieve an overall pass for the unit to achieve a passing grade in this unit, students are expected to be independent learners who assume personal responsibility for their learning and take a pro-active approach to addressing any deficiencies in their understanding of the course material through independent research and inquiry and consultations with peers and instructors as appropriate. A detailed learning approach is provided in the Unit Weekly Guide available on iLearn.

Unit Schedule

Week	Topics	Week commencing
1	Overview	24-Feb
2	Client acceptance	3-Mar
3	Audit risk model	10-Mar
4	Assertions	17-Mar
5	Tests of controls	24-Mar
6	Substantive testing	31-Mar
7	Sustainability	7-Apr
	MID-SESSION BREAK	14-Apr
8	In-class test	28-Apr
9	IT and big data	5-May
10	Completion Assignment due	12-May
11	Legal liability and ethics	19-May
12	Other services and audit quality	26-May
13	Revision	2-Jun

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 connect.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/>

Academic Success

[Academic Success](#) 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 the [Service Connect Portal](#), 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.

Changes from Previous Offering

Refinements to unit content have been made to reflect updated materials and current events, most notably in an expanded section on sustainability assurance.

Unit information based on version 2025.02 of the [Handbook](#)