



# AFIN3010

## PACE: Issues in Applied Finance

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

*Department of Applied Finance*

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#### **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

Keith Woodward

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Before or after lecture

Lei Shi

[l.shi@mq.edu.au](mailto:l.shi@mq.edu.au)

Credit points

10

Prerequisites

10cp in ACST or AFIN units at 3000 level

Corequisites

Co-badged status

Unit description

This unit gives students the opportunity to test how their finance skills can be applied in practice by exposure to leading industry professionals. The topics selected go beyond traditional corporate and investment finance, and include coverage of the latest issues and real world scenarios. Students will learn first hand from practitioners on current and future trends and skills required in finance to prepare them as they embark on their careers in the industry. The projects completed in the unit are carefully set in conjunction with the industry professionals, giving students the opportunity to show evidence of demonstrated learning and the application of finance knowledge from a broader perspective. Visit [Employability Connect](#) for important information on this unit.

## 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:** Synthesise financial theory with real-world practice.

**ULO2:** Apply critical thinking to complex financial problems.

**ULO3:** Demonstrate effective teamwork and communication skills.

**ULO4:** Reflect on the impact of financial decisions on various stakeholders and the wider community.

**ULO5:** Integrate technology and sustainability considerations into financial decision-making.

## 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
<a href="#">Industry Partner Project</a>	40%	No	Week 7
<a href="#">Group Presentation</a>	30%	No	Week 10
<a href="#">Final Report</a>	30%	No	Week 13

### Industry Partner Project

Assessment Type <sup>1</sup>: Case study/analysis

Indicative Time on Task <sup>2</sup>: 40 hours

Due: **Week 7**

Weighting: **40%**

In collaboration with our industry partners, students will be engaged in a significant project that reflects the real-world challenges and practices of the finance industry. The project will encourage students to apply their theoretical knowledge to real-world situations, develop innovative solutions, and engage in analytical thinking. The nature and focus of the project will vary depending on the specific industry partner and current trends in the industry.

On successful completion you will be able to:

- Synthesise financial theory with real-world practice.
- Apply critical thinking to complex financial problems.

## Group Presentation

Assessment Type <sup>1</sup>: Presentation

Indicative Time on Task <sup>2</sup>: 20 hours

Due: **Week 10**

Weighting: **30%**

Each group will present their project to the class, including a critical analysis of the process, strategies used, results achieved, and their reflections. The presentation should showcase the group's problem-solving skills, teamwork, and their ability to communicate complex financial concepts and strategies effectively.

On successful completion you will be able to:

- Demonstrate effective teamwork and communication skills.
- Integrate technology and sustainability considerations into financial decision-making.

## Final Report

Assessment Type <sup>1</sup>: Report

Indicative Time on Task <sup>2</sup>: 20 hours

Due: **Week 13**

Weighting: **30%**

At the end of the semester, students are expected to submit a final report that critically evaluates the strategies employed and the outcomes of the project. This report should display the students' understanding of the relevant financial concepts, critical evaluation of their application, and reflection on the learnings from the project.

On successful completion you will be able to:

- Synthesise financial theory with real-world practice.
- Reflect on the impact of financial decisions on various stakeholders and the wider community.

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<sup>1</sup> 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.

<sup>2</sup> 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

No textbooks required. Spreadsheet models and research articles will be sourced from industry.

## Unit Schedule

Week	Week date (Tuesday)	Topic
1	25-Feb	Lecture 1.
2	4-Mar	Lecture 2.
3	11-Mar	Lecture 3.
4	18-Mar	Lecture 4.
5	25-Mar	Lecture 5.
6	1-Apr	Lecture 6.
7	8-Apr	Lecture 7, <b>Industry project due.</b>
Mid-session break from Monday 14 April to Sunday 27 April.		
8	29-Apr	Lecture 8.
9	6-May	Lecture 9.
10	13-May	Lecture 10, <b>Group presentations due.</b>
11	20-May	Lecture 11.
12	27-May	Lecture 12.
13	3-Jun	Lecture 13, <b>Final report due.</b>

## 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](https://connect.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/>

## 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/](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.

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