



COMP6350

Database Systems

Session 2, In person-scheduled-weekday, North Ryde 2026

School of Computing

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General Information

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Credit points

10

Prerequisites

Corequisites

Co-badged status

with COMP2350

Unit description

This unit provides an in-depth study of modern database technology and its dominant role in developing and maintaining enterprise information systems. The aim is to teach students how to program database applications. The emphasis is placed on business applications, using Structured Query Language (SQL) as an interactive and a programmatic language, on principles of the relational-database model, and on fundamental components of a client-server database-management system. Practical work involves the use of a commercial database-management system together with programming tools.

Learning in this unit enhances student understanding of global challenges identified by the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals ([UNSDGs](#)) Industry, Innovation and Infrastructure

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: Demonstrate understanding of the basic concepts that underlie modern database management systems.

ULO2: Design and develop small, functional database applications using modern database design methods.

ULO3: Develop skills in using a industrial-strength database tools and interactive development environments for building databases.

ULO4: Complete different database programming tasks to specification using SQL

General Assessment Information

Release Dates:

- Database Modeling, Design and Implementation - to be released no later than week 4 Monday
- Database Enhancement Project - to be released no later than week 8

Requirements to Pass this Unit:

To pass the unit you need to obtain a grade of 50% or above overall. There are no hurdle assessments.

Late Submission Policy

- **5% penalty per day:** If you submit your assessment late, **5% of the total possible marks** will be deducted for each day (including weekends), up to 7 days.
 - *Example 1 (out of 100):* If you score 85/100 but submit 20 hours late, you will lose 5 marks and receive **80/100**.
 - *Example 2 (out of 30):* If you score 27/30 but submit 1 day late, you will lose 1.5 marks and receive **25.5/30**.
- **After 7 days:** Submissions more than 7 days late will receive a **mark of 0**.
- **Extensions:**
 - **Automatic short extension:** Some assessments are eligible for automatic short extension. You can only apply for an automatic short extension before the due date.
 - **Special Consideration:** If you need more time due to serious issues and for any

assessments that are not eligible for Short Extension, you must apply for Special Consideration.

Need help? Review the Special Consideration page [HERE](#)

Assessments where Late Submissions will be accepted:

- Database Modeling, Design and Implementation - YES, Standard Late Penalty applies
- Database Enhancement Project - NO, unless Special Consideration is granted

We strongly encourage all students to actively participate in all learning activities. Regular engagement is crucial for your success in this unit, as these activities provide opportunities to deepen your understanding of the material, collaborate with peers, and receive valuable feedback from instructors, to assist in completing the unit assessments. Your active participation not only enhances your own learning experience but also contributes to a vibrant and dynamic learning environment for everyone.

AI Approach

Any use of AI for assessment must in be compliance with [Macquarie's Approach to AI and Assessment](#)

Assessment Tasks

Name	Weighting	Hurdle	Due	Groupwork/Individual	Short Extension	AI Approach
Database Modeling, Design and Implementation	30%	No	11/09/2026	Individual	Yes	Open
Database Enhancement Project	40%	No	23/10/2026	Individual and Group	No	Open
Final Exam	30%	No	Exam Period	Individual	No	Observed

Database Modeling, Design and Implementation

Assessment Type ¹: Experiential task

Indicative Time on Task ²: 30 hours

Due: **11/09/2026**

Weighting: **30%**

Groupwork/Individual: Individual

Short extension ³: Yes

AI Approach: Open

In this individual assignment students will design and implement a database for data manipulation in a specified domain.

On successful completion you will be able to:

- Demonstrate understanding of the basic concepts that underlie modern database management systems.
- Design and develop small, functional database applications using modern database design methods.
- Develop skills in using a industrial-strength database tools and interactive development environments for building databases.
- Complete different database programming tasks to specification using SQL

Database Enhancement Project

Assessment Type ¹: Portfolio

Indicative Time on Task ²: 30 hours

Due: **23/10/2026**

Weighting: **40%**

Groupwork/Individual: Individual and Group

Short extension ³: No

AI Approach: Open

This group project will enhance a database design and implementation.

On successful completion you will be able to:

- Demonstrate understanding of the basic concepts that underlie modern database management systems.
- Design and develop small, functional database applications using modern database design methods.
- Develop skills in using a industrial-strength database tools and interactive development environments for building databases.
- Complete different database programming tasks to specification using SQL

Final Exam

Assessment Type ¹: Examination

Indicative Time on Task ²: 20 hours

Due: **Exam Period**

Weighting: **30%**

Groupwork/Individual: Individual

Short extension ³: No

AI Approach: Observed

You will undertake a final examination during the formal examination period.

On successful completion you will be able to:

- Demonstrate understanding of the basic concepts that underlie modern database management systems.
- Design and develop small, functional database applications using modern database design methods.
- Complete different database programming tasks to specification using SQL

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
- [Academic Success](#) 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.

³ An automatic short extension is available for some assessments. Apply through the [Service Connect Portal](#).

Delivery and Resources

Classes

Each week during the semester you should set aside two hours for lectures and two hours for a workshop session (these may appear in the timetable as practicals). More specific information will be announced via the unit webpage on iLearn. Students are urged to actively participate in the workshops as this will help to engage students in problems, concepts, and help with clarification.

Note that workshop classes and lectures for this unit commence in week 1. You should attend the sessions you are enrolled in.

Computing Drop-in Centre

The computing drop-in centre is also available for extra sessions on concepts and catchups as part of a Faculty of Science and Engineering initiative. The timetable and unit coverage across sessions can be found here: <https://students.mq.edu.au/study/faculties/science-and-engineering/drop-in-centre>.

Textbook

The textbook listed below cover much of the required material that will be used in preparation of lectures and/or assignments and/or practicals.

- Thomas Connolly and Carolyn Begg. [*Database Systems. A Practical Approach to Design*](#)

n, Implementation, and Management, Sixth Edition, Pearson, 2015. Mq Library link: http://multisearch.mq.edu.au/permalink/61MACQUARIE_INST/46713g/cdi_askewsholts_vlebooks_9781292061849

For some parts of learning, other necessary material will be made available on the unit iLearn site.

Leganto Resources

Unit reading details and breakdowns are available through the Leganto Block in the unit iLearn page.

Unit Webpage and Technology Used and Required

Digital recordings of lectures will be available on iLearn via tools such as Echo360.

Websites

The web page for this unit can be found at <http://ilearn.mq.edu.au>

Technology

In this unit you will be exposed to the following technology and tools

- MySQL - Database Management System (Community Server)
- MySQL Workbench - Data Modeling Software Tool

Methods of Communication and Discussion Boards

We will communicate with you via your university email or through announcements on iLearn. Queries to teaching staff can either be placed on the iLearn discussion board or sent to the unit email address from your university email address.

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.

- [Ask a Study Coach](#)
- [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 <https://students.mq.edu.au/support/technology/service-desk>.

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

We value student feedback to be able to continually improve the way we offer our units. As such we encourage students to provide constructive feedback via student surveys, to the teaching staff directly, or via the FSE Student Experience & Feedback link in the iLearn page.

Student feedback from the previous offering of this unit was positive overall, with students pleased with the clarity around assessment requirements and the level of support from teaching staff. As such, no change to the delivery of the unit is planned, however we will continue to strive to improve the level of support and the level of student engagement.

Unit information based on version 2026.03 of the [Handbook](#)