



GMBA8121

Advise

Coursera term 5, Online-scheduled-weekday 2026

Department of Management

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General Information

Unit convenor and teaching staff

Alena Soboleva

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Credit points

5

Prerequisites

Admission to GMBA and 90cp at 8000 level

Corequisites

GMBA8122

Co-badged status

Unit description

Imagine working on a complex problem with your team that you have been unable to solve. In situations such as these, organisations often turn to external support, in the form of management consultants, to help address highly complex problems. Effective management consultants are specialists who are well-versed in complex problem solving with the ability to devise viable strategies to improve an organisation's performance. This unit provides you with an introduction to a range of established and emerging management consultancy practices such as design thinking, customer journey mapping, and agile methodology. Although you may not want to pursue a career as a management consultant yourself, this unit will teach you what tools and frameworks they draw upon in solving complex problems for their clients. You will be provided with a 'problem solving toolbox' containing best practice and next practice frameworks, techniques and methodologies. Our industry partners share their insights and experience with problem solving so that you get the 'best-of' overview that can be applied immediately to your own workplace.

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: Examine the many (evolving) roles that management consultants take inside and outside of enterprises

ULO2: Synthesise complex ideas and data to identify problems.

ULO3: Apply cognitive and creative skills to determine appropriate approaches to solving problems.

ULO4: Design approaches to ascertain the root causes of problems, rise to managerial challenges, act analytically and tenaciously both personally and cooperatively in a systematic and measured manner

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 **11:59pm (Sydney time)**. 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 apply for [Special Consideration](#).

Assessment Tasks

Name	Weighting	Hurdle	Due	Groupwork/Individual	Short Extension	AI Approach
Business Proposal	40%	No	Monday 14 Sept 11:59pm (Sydney time)	Individual and Group	No	Open AI
Project Presentation	60%	No	Monday 5 Oct 11:59pm (Sydney time)	Individual and Group	No	Open AI

Business Proposal

Assessment Type ¹: Professional task

Indicative Time on Task ²: 8 hours

Due: **Monday 14 Sept 11:59pm (Sydney time)**

Weighting: **40%**

Groupwork/Individual: Individual and Group

Short extension ³: No

AI Approach: Open AI

Length: Team report 1,500 words, Individual reflection 500 words

Weight: Team report 30% (15% group, 15% individual contribution); Individual reflection 10%

Format: Team written report

Task: In this assignment, your team will deliver the project proposal for the nominated

organisation and each team member will complete a 500-word reflection on their individual contribution and learning.

On successful completion you will be able to:

- Examine the many (evolving) roles that management consultants take inside and outside of enterprises
- Synthesise complex ideas and data to identify problems.
- Apply cognitive and creative skills to determine appropriate approaches to solving problems.
- Design approaches to ascertain the root causes of problems, rise to managerial challenges, act analytically and tenaciously both personally and cooperatively in a systematic and measured manner

Project Presentation

Assessment Type ¹: Presentation task

Indicative Time on Task ²: 16 hours

Due: **Monday 5 Oct 11:59pm (Sydney time)**

Weighting: **60%**

Groupwork/Individual: Individual and Group

Short extension ³: No

AI Approach: Open AI

Length: Team presentation 15 minutes, Individual reflection 500 words

Weight: Team presentation 50% (15% group, 35% individual contribution); Individual reflection 10%

Format: Team presentation

Task: In this assignment, your team will deliver a presentation outlining the business proposal for the nominated organisation. Each team member will complete a 500-word reflection on their individual contribution and learning.

On successful completion you will be able to:

- Examine the many (evolving) roles that management consultants take inside and outside of enterprises
- Synthesise complex ideas and data to identify problems.
- Apply cognitive and creative skills to determine appropriate approaches to solving problems.
- Design approaches to ascertain the root causes of problems, rise to managerial challenges, act analytically and tenaciously both personally and cooperatively in a systematic and measured manner

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

Please refer to the resources and learning materials on Coursera.

Unit Schedule

Refer to the timetable information on the GMBA website or MQ Timetable Portal for Live Event session timings. Please note the timetable can be subject to change. See your Coursera unit for a detailed Live Event schedule.

Live Events will take place via Zoom each week starting in Week 1 and ending in Week 6. The links to the events will be active from 10 minutes prior to the scheduled time and are available via *Live Events* in the left-hand navigation menu in your Coursera unit.

You will need to use your Macquarie University student Zoom account to access the Live Events.

Attending the Live Event each week is an opportunity to engage with the unit content, your Unit Convenor, and classmates. Students are strongly advised to attend the Live Events. Recordings will be made available in the unit contents on Coursera shortly after the event.

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.

Unit information based on version 2026.01R of the [Handbook](#)