



MQBS8930

Business Research Theories & Frameworks

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

Macquarie Business School Faculty level units

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>	6
<u>Policies and Procedures</u>	6

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

Unit Convenor

Rico Piehler

rico.piehler@mq.edu.au

Contact via via email

4 Eastern Road, Room 230

Please make an appointment for an individual slot

ACCG Stream Convenor

Haiyan Jiang

haiyan.jiang@mq.edu.au

Contact via via email

AFIN/ASBA Stream Convenor

Kai Li

kai.li@mq.edu.au

Contact via via email

ECON Stream Convenor

Lyla Zhang

lyla.zhang@mq.edu.au

Contact via via email

MGMT/MKTG Stream Convenor

Cynthia Webster

cynthia.webster@mq.edu.au

Contact via via email

Credit points

10

Prerequisites

Admission to GradDipResMQBS

Corequisites

Co-badged status

Unit description

This unit develops students' knowledge about seminal and contemporary business research from theoretical and empirical perspectives. Students will gain knowledge about theories, models and concepts relevant to their discipline. They will critically evaluate, synthesise and explain relevant theories, models and concepts and learn how they can be applied to solve research problems.

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 seminal theories, models and concepts used in business research by synthesising existing knowledge.

ULO2: Critically evaluate and apply theories, models and concepts used in business research.

ULO3: Communicate theories, models and concepts using academic standards and conventions to an audience.

General Assessment Information

Late Assessment Submission Penalty (written assessments)

If you submit your assessment late, 5% of the total possible marks will be deducted for each day (including weekends), up to 7 days. Submissions more than 7 days late will receive a mark of 0.

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 20 hours late, you will lose 1.5 marks and receive 25.5/30.

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](#) for further details.

Assessment Tasks

Name	Weighting	Hurdle	Due	Groupwork/Individual	Short Extension	AI Approach
Professional Practice: Foundational Literature Insights	40%	No	Consult iLearn for stream due date	Individual	No	Observed
Skills Development: Critically Evaluating Research Concepts	40%	No	Consult iLearn for stream due date	Individual	No	Open AI
Skills Development: Reflecting on Research Learning	20%	No	Consult iLearn for stream due date	Individual	No	Open AI

Professional Practice: Foundational Literature Insights

Assessment Type ¹: Presentation task

Indicative Time on Task ²: 35 hours

Due: **Consult iLearn for stream due date**

Weighting: **40%**

Groupwork/Individual: Individual

Short extension ³: No

AI Approach: Observed

The purpose of this assessment is for you to demonstrate understanding of foundational studies in your discipline by evaluating a seminal theory, model, or concept and explaining its relevance to your research field.

You will evaluate seminal theory, model or concept relevant to their discipline and present your analysis to your peers, showcasing your ability to communicate complex ideas clearly and critically.

Skills in focus:

- Communication
- Critical thinking
- Discipline knowledge

Deliverable: Oral presentation (details provided on iLearn)

Individual assessment

On successful completion you will be able to:

- Explain seminal theories, models and concepts used in business research by synthesising existing knowledge.
- Communicate theories, models and concepts using academic standards and conventions to an audience.

Skills Development: Critically Evaluating Research Concepts

Assessment Type ¹: Professional task

Indicative Time on Task ²: 35 hours

Due: **Consult iLearn for stream due date**

Weighting: **40%**

Groupwork/Individual: Individual

Short extension ³: No

AI Approach: Open AI

The purpose of this assessment is for you to critically analyse a research topic by evaluating relevant theories, models, and methodologies within your discipline.

You will present a written report that demonstrates your ability to assess the strengths and limitations of different approaches and apply critical thinking to research design.

Skills in focus:

- Critical thinking
- Discipline knowledge

Deliverable: Written report (details provided on iLearn)

Individual assessment

On successful completion you will be able to:

- Critically evaluate and apply theories, models and concepts used in business research.
- Communicate theories, models and concepts using academic standards and conventions to an audience.

Skills Development: Reflecting on Research Learning

Assessment Type ¹: Reflection task

Indicative Time on Task ²: 15 hours

Due: **Consult iLearn for stream due date**

Weighting: **20%**

Groupwork/Individual: Individual

Short extension ³: No

AI Approach: Open AI

The purpose of this assessment is for you to reflect on your learning throughout the unit by engaging in both oral and written self-assessments.

You will explore how your understanding of research theories and frameworks has evolved through class discussions and activities, demonstrating your ability to think critically, communicate reflectively, and connect theory to personal learning.

Skills in focus:

- Communication and collaboration
- Discipline knowledge
- Critical thinking

Deliverable: Oral and Written reflection (details provided on ilearn)

Individual assessment

On successful completion you will be able to:

- Explain seminal theories, models and concepts used in business research by synthesising existing knowledge.
- Communicate theories, models and concepts using academic standards and conventions to an audience.

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

This unit is delivered in weekly 3-hour in-person seminars over 13 weeks.

For resources, please consult [iLearn](#).

Unit Schedule

For the discipline stream schedule, please consult [iLearn](#).

Policies and Procedures

Macquarie University policies and procedures are accessible from [Policy Central](#) (<https://policies.mq.edu.au>)

[s.mq.edu.au](https://students.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 <https://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 2026.03 of the [Handbook](#)