



ACCG3015

PACE: Accounting and Governance in the Profession

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

Department of Accounting and Corporate Governance

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General Information

Unit convenor and teaching staff

Unit Convenor

Thanh Phan

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Unit Moderator

Rahat Munir

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Credit points

10

Prerequisites

130cp including ACCG2000 or ACCG2024 or ACCG2050

Corequisites

Co-badged status

Unit description

This is an accounting PACE and Capstone unit for students undertaking accounting and cyber security governance studies. The unit integrates the materials that are covered in first- and second-year accounting and business law units, applying these materials to an environment where accounting graduates become professional. Students learn to develop personal and professional skills in sustaining a professional profile in business and the profession. It provides opportunities for students to engage with the community through panels from professional accounting bodies / associations, community groups, NGO's, MQ alumni, public sector and commercial organisations, and others. The unit requires students to interact with the industry partners in order to complete a major research project under the supervision of a faculty member. Students are also exposed to case studies which present realistic, complex, and contextually rich situations and involve dilemmas, conflicts, and problems professionals face in the profession, which allows to understand emergent issues for the accounting and cyber security and governance professionals. Visit [Employability Connect](#) for 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: Analyse the environments in which professional works, manages time and resources to achieve personal and professional commitments.

ULO2: Integrate the interests of different stakeholders in an organisation or/and professional environment, including customers, competitors, collaborators, and other external forces.

ULO3: Develop personal, professional skills and group work capabilities through the identification of new opportunities, anticipate challenges and plan potential solutions with identification of personal and organisational bias.

ULO4: Formulate and communicate strategic responses to problem areas in the chosen profession.

ULO5: Critique the chosen profession's contribution to society by considering the implications of professional values, ethics and attitudes in decision making.

ULO6: Develop a high level of personal standards of performance which is reviewed through reflective activity and feedback from others.

Assessment Tasks

Name	Weighting	Hurdle	Due	Groupwork/Individual	Short Extension	AI Approach
<u>Professional practice: Becoming an accounting and corporate governance professional</u>	20%	No	08/09/2026	Individual	Yes	Open
<u>Professional practice: Global and ethical challenges</u>	40%	No	20/10/2026	Individual	Yes	Open
<u>Skills development: Investigating current issues</u>	40%	No	06/10/2026	Individual and Group	No	Open

Professional practice: Becoming an accounting and corporate governance professional

Assessment Type ¹: Reflection task

Indicative Time on Task ²: 10 hours

Due: **08/09/2026**

Weighting: **20%**

Groupwork/Individual: Individual

Short extension ³: Yes

AI Approach: Open

The purpose of this assessment is for you to critically reflect on your engagement and understanding of your chosen profession.

You will explore your learning process and draw connections to your future profession.

Skills in focus:

- Discipline knowledge
- Work readiness
- Critical thinking and problem solving
- Communication skills

Deliverable(s): Written reflection [max 2000 words]

Individual assessment

On successful completion you will be able to:

- Analyse the environments in which professional works, manages time and resources to achieve personal and professional commitments.
- Develop personal, professional skills and group work capabilities through the identification of new opportunities, anticipate challenges and plan potential solutions with identification of personal and organisational bias.

Professional practice: Global and ethical challenges

Assessment Type ¹: Professional task

Indicative Time on Task ²: 30 hours

Due: **20/10/2026**

Weighting: **40%**

Groupwork/Individual: Individual

Short extension ³: Yes

AI Approach: Open

The purpose of this assessment is for you to develop a critical understanding of the contemporary challenges faced by your chosen profession.

You will analyse an ethical dilemma and a sustainability challenge related to your profession.

Skills in focus:

- Discipline knowledge
- Global, ethical and environmental citizenship
- Communication skills

- Critical thinking and problem solving
- Work readiness

Deliverable(s): Critical analysis [max 3000 words]

Individual assessment

On successful completion you will be able to:

- Integrate the interests of different stakeholders in an organisation or/and professional environment, including customers, competitors, collaborators, and other external forces.
- Develop personal, professional skills and group work capabilities through the identification of new opportunities, anticipate challenges and plan potential solutions with identification of personal and organisational bias.
- Formulate and communicate strategic responses to problem areas in the chosen profession.
- Critique the chosen profession's contribution to society by considering the implications of professional values, ethics and attitudes in decision making.
- Develop a high level of personal standards of performance which is reviewed through reflective activity and feedback from others.

Skills development: Investigating current issues

Assessment Type ¹: Professional task

Indicative Time on Task ²: 25 hours

Due: **06/10/2026**

Weighting: **40%**

Groupwork/Individual: Individual and Group

Short extension ³: No

AI Approach: Open

The purpose of this assessment is for you to develop your skills in identifying, analysing, evaluating and addressing contemporary challenges relevant to your profession.

Skills in focus:

- Discipline knowledge
- Global, ethical and environmental citizenship
- Collaboration and communication
- Critical thinking and problem solving
- Work readiness

Deliverable(s): Research report [max 3500 words]

Individual and group assessment

On successful completion you will be able to:

- Analyse the environments in which professional works, manages time and resources to achieve personal and professional commitments.
- Integrate the interests of different stakeholders in an organisation or/and professional environment, including customers, competitors, collaborators, and other external forces.
- Develop personal, professional skills and group work capabilities through the identification of new opportunities, anticipate challenges and plan potential solutions with identification of personal and organisational bias.
- Critique the chosen profession's contribution to society by considering the implications of professional values, ethics and attitudes in decision making.
- Develop a high level of personal standards of performance which is reviewed through reflective activity and feedback from others.

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 structured as a participation subject as part of the PACE program and as Capstone unit. It integrates the materials that are covered in first and second year accounting and business law units, applying this material to an environment where accounting graduates become a professional in an environment that is contemporary, global and technologically driven.

The objectives of the unit are to consolidate and investigate the factors and contextual issues that influence the competitive business environment for an accountant. It addresses the role of an accounting professional in the application of governance structures, accountability regimes, professional development, skill enhancements, and a continuous awareness of self-positioning and self-renewal in terms of professional and personal competency. The unit is not only reflective and integrative, but also future-focused, offering opportunities for 'real world' preparatory experience in the accounting profession. The class is conducted through workshops and discussions where students learn to develop personal and professional skills in sustaining a professional profile in business and the profession.

The unit provides opportunities for students to engage with the community through panels from professional accounting bodies, community groups, NGO's, MQ alumni, public sector and commercial organisations, and others. The unit requires students to complete a major research project which includes topics that are valued by industry partners and are mutually beneficial to both Macquarie University students and industry partners. While the project attempts to bridge the gap between students and the accounting profession, it also provides an opportunity for students to clarify and refine their understanding of the accounting profession through discussion with industry partners and peers. Group work engages students in the challenges of interpersonal communication, task allocation, coordination and control. Cohesive and systematic presentations from a range of industry partners also provide students with an opportunity to think critically about the accounting profession. Through these presentations, students will gain an insight into organisations and be able to contextualise their graduate capabilities into the main project. By reflecting on industry partners' presentations, students will be able to identify what they have learned about the accounting profession and how they have learned. This will result in a greater sense of ownership, which in return will help students to develop valuable career and leadership skills, improve their job prospects and make a difference to business and the community for which they work. Further, students are exposed to case studies which present realistic, complex, and contextually rich situations and involve dilemmas, conflicts, and/or problems accountants face in the profession, which will allow students to understand emergent issues for accounting professionals.

The unit comprises 13 seminars that include lectures, presentations by industry partners, case study sessions, and students' presentations.

Unit Schedule

Please refer iLearn for the weekly schedule.

Policies and Procedures

Macquarie University policies and procedures are accessible from [Policy Central \(https://policies.s.mq.edu.au\)](https://policies.s.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 2026.03 of the [Handbook](#)