



ACCG3040

Auditing and Assurance Services

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

Department of Accounting and Corporate Governance

Contents

<u>General Information</u>	2
<u>Learning Outcomes</u>	2
<u>General Assessment Information</u>	3
<u>Assessment Tasks</u>	4
<u>Delivery and Resources</u>	7
<u>Unit Schedule</u>	8
<u>Policies and Procedures</u>	9
<u>Changes from Previous Offering</u>	10

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General Information

Unit convenor and teaching staff

Unit Convenor

Rebecca Bachmann

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4ER 311

See iLearn for further details

Unit Moderator

James Hazelton

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N/A

Credit points

10

Prerequisites

130cp at 1000 level or above

Corequisites

Co-badged status

Unit description

This unit examines the theory and practice of auditing and assurance services. The unit focuses on the external audit of corporate financial reports while also considering a broader range of financial and non-financial assurance services. Students will develop a comprehensive understanding of the audit process and the professional auditing environment. Students will also be exposed to ethical requirements, corporate governance and other current issues in auditing and assurance, including data analytics. The unit is applied in nature and will require students to work through learning resources and assessment tasks based on contemporary Auditing Standards and real-world auditing case studies.

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 the purpose of external and internal audit and assurance services and

the various types of audit and assurance services within the Australian and international regulatory, professional and ethical frameworks and environment

ULO2: Analyse case-based scenarios by identifying and evaluating risk factors and their implications for audit planning and evidence gathering activities

ULO3: Design audit strategies, including applying quantitative methods, within the context of appropriate, sufficient, and relevant evidence, and design appropriate audit procedures (including tests of controls and substantive tests) in response to specific risks

ULO4: Apply professional judgement and decision making in evaluating audit evidence, the treatment of subsequent events, and in formulating audit opinions

ULO5: Develop knowledge and skills in data analytics and big data

ULO6: Demonstrate the capacity for effective collaboration with others and in communicating findings

General Assessment Information

Submission of assessment tasks

All applicable text based assessments must be submitted through Turnitin. It is the student's responsibility to ensure that work is submitted correctly prior to the due date. No hard copies of assessments will be accepted and only Turnitin records will be taken as records of submission.

Multiple submissions may be possible in some units via Turnitin prior to the final due date and time of an assessment task and originality reports may be made available to students to view and check their work. All identified matching text will be reconsidered carefully. Students should note that the system will not immediately produce the similarity score on a second or subsequent submission - it takes approximately 24 hours for the report to be generated. This may be after the due date so students should plan any resubmissions carefully. Please refer to instructions on how to submit your assignment through Turnitin and access similarity reports and feedback provided by teaching staff. Should you have questions about Turnitin or experience issues submitting through the system, you must inform unit staff by emailing us at accg3040@mq.edu.au. If the issue is technical in nature may also lodge OneHelp Ticket, refer to the [IT help page](#).

It is the responsibility of the student to retain a copy of any work submitted. Students must produce these documents upon request. Copies should be retained until the end of the grade appeal period each term. In the event that a student is asked to produce another copy of work submitted and is unable to do so, they may be awarded zero (0) for that particular assessment task.

Late Submission Penalties 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
Skills development: Presentation	20%	No	28/08/2026	Individual	No	Observed
Professional practice: Auditing	40%	No	16/10/2026	Individual and Group	No	Open AI
Formal examination	40%	No	Formal examination period	Individual	No	Observed

Skills development: Presentation

Assessment Type ¹: Presentation task

Indicative Time on Task ²: 20 hours

Due: **28/08/2026**

Weighting: **20%**

Groupwork/Individual: Individual

Short extension ³: No

AI Approach: Observed

The purpose of this assessment is to give you practical experience communicating in an audit setting.

Through a short presentation, you will demonstrate how to lead a purposeful client-related discussion that summarises key information relevant to the audit plan.

Skills in focus:

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

Deliverable(s): Presentation

Individual assessment

On successful completion you will be able to:

- Explain the purpose of external and internal audit and assurance services and the various types of audit and assurance services within the Australian and international regulatory, professional and ethical frameworks and environment
- Analyse case-based scenarios by identifying and evaluating risk factors and their implications for audit planning and evidence gathering activities
- Demonstrate the capacity for effective collaboration with others and in communicating findings

Professional practice: Auditing

Assessment Type ¹: Professional task

Indicative Time on Task ²: 35 hours

Due: **16/10/2026**

Weighting: **40%**

Groupwork/Individual: Individual and Group

Short extension ³: No

AI Approach: Open AI

The purpose of this assessment is for you to develop your expertise in auditing.

You will apply your knowledge of audit processes and procedures developed in the unit to a case study.

Skills in focus:

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

Deliverable(s): Written submission [max 4500 words]

Individual and group assessment

On successful completion you will be able to:

- Analyse case-based scenarios by identifying and evaluating risk factors and their implications for audit planning and evidence gathering activities
- Design audit strategies, including applying quantitative methods, within the context of appropriate, sufficient, and relevant evidence, and design appropriate audit procedures

(including tests of controls and substantive tests) in response to specific risks

- Demonstrate the capacity for effective collaboration with others and in communicating findings

Formal examination

Assessment Type ¹: Examination

Indicative Time on Task ²: 35 hours

Due: **Formal examination period**

Weighting: **40%**

Groupwork/Individual: Individual

Short extension ³: No

AI Approach: Observed

The purpose of this assessment is for you to formally demonstrate the expertise you have gained in this unit.

You will participate in a 2-hour exam held during the University Examination period.

Important information about the exam will be made available on the unit iLearn page. You should also review the [MQ Exams website](#) for general tips.

Deliverable(s): Formal examination

Individual assessment

On successful completion you will be able to:

- Explain the purpose of external and internal audit and assurance services and the various types of audit and assurance services within the Australian and international regulatory, professional and ethical frameworks and environment
- Analyse case-based scenarios by identifying and evaluating risk factors and their implications for audit planning and evidence gathering activities
- Design audit strategies, including applying quantitative methods, within the context of appropriate, sufficient, and relevant evidence, and design appropriate audit procedures (including tests of controls and substantive tests) in response to specific risks
- Apply professional judgement and decision making in evaluating audit evidence, the treatment of subsequent events, and in formulating audit opinions
- Develop knowledge and skills in data analytics and big data

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

Unit delivery and learning resources

Students are required to attend a weekly lecture and tutorial (lectures commence in Week 1, tutorials commence from Week 2). There are also online learning resources that students are required to engage with to complement the weekly lecture and tutorial.

Lectures and tutorials are interactive and are designed to facilitate further discussion of concepts covered in online learning resources and their application to practical cases.

The timetable for classes can be found on the University website at: <https://publish.mq.edu.au/>

Changes to student timetables may only be made through eStudent. Students wishing to change their allocated tutorial should log onto to eStudent and enrol in a tutorial where there is a vacancy. Any question of an administrative nature about tutorial allocations should be addressed to accg3040@mq.edu.au. Student enrolments must be finalised by the end of Week 1. No further changes may be made after Week 1.

Required and Recommended Texts and/or Materials

The **required** text for the unit, which is available from McGraw-Hill online, is:

Gay, G. and Simnett, R. (2024) Auditing and Assurance Services in Australia, ebook 8th edition, McGraw-Hill, Sydney, Australia.

Additional required readings will also be made available on iLearn.

Students are also expected to read relevant standards and guidance which are available online at <http://www.auasb.gov.au> (ASAs, ASQC, ASRS, and AGS) and <http://www.apesb.org.au> (APES). These are also contained in the Chartered Accountants Australia and New Zealand Auditing Handbook.

The following text is **recommended** as a useful reference:

Moroney, R., Campbell, F. and Hamilton, J. (2020) Auditing: A practical approach, 4th Edition, John Wiley & Sons Australia Ltd, Brisbane, Australia.

Technology Used and Required

Students will need access to a personal computer and the internet to review and complete online learning activities, including videos, slide decks, podcasts, additional readings, assessment

details and notices from the ACCG3040 iLearn site, as well as to complete and make submissions for the assessment tasks in this Unit.

Further information on any specific technology requirements will be made available on the unit iLearn site.

The unit iLearn can be found at: <http://iLearn.mq.edu.au>.

You are strongly encouraged to regularly visit the website to check for important announcements and use it as a resource to enhance your learning experience.

What is required to complete this unit satisfactorily

In addition to the requirements outlined in the Unit Assessment Guide available on iLearn, students are required to achieve an overall pass for the unit to achieve a passing grade in this unit, students are expected to be independent learners who assume personal responsibility for their learning and take a pro-active approach to addressing any deficiencies in their understanding of the course material through independent research and inquiry and consultations with peers and instructors as appropriate. A detailed learning approach is provided in the Unit Weekly Guide available on iLearn.

Unit Schedule

Week	Topics	Week commencing
1	Overview	27-Jul
2	Client acceptance	3-Aug
3	The audit risk model	10-Aug
4	Assertions	17-Aug
5	Test of controls	24-Aug
6	Substantive testing	31-Aug
7	Audit completion	6-Oct
8	Sustainability assurance	14-Oct
	MID-SESSION BREAK	21-Sept — 5-Oct-26
9	Information Technology	6-Oct
10	Big data and AI in auditing	12-Oct
11	Legal liability and professional ethics	19-Oct
12	Other assurance services	26-Oct
13	Revision	2-Nov
	Exam period	9 — 27-Nov-26

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

Refinements to unit content have been made to reflect updated materials and current events, most notably in relation to sustainability and AI.

Unit information based on version 2026.05 of the **Handbook**