AFCP8101

Financial System, Participants and Instruments

Term 4, Online-scheduled-weekday 2026

Department of Applied Finance

Contents

General Information

Unit convenor and teaching staff
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Credit points
10

Prerequisites
Admission to Master of Applied Finance or Graduate Diploma of Applied Finance

Corequisites

Co-badged status

Unit description
This unit assesses the structure, instruments and participants in the Financial System. It covers the theory and practical application of financial instruments including debt, equity, hybrids and derivatives. It also articulates the roles and objectives of participants in the system, social contracts and regulation.

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: Evaluate concepts and models used by various financial market participants and apply relevant concepts and models to meet participants needs and actual business situations.

ULO2: Assess financial products and instruments and construct sound and justifiable solutions that meet the requirements of financial market participants.

ULO3: Develop solutions for financing issues using appropriate models and financial data sources.

General Assessment Information

General Assessment Information

Late Submission Penalties **(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: https://students.mq.edu.au/study/assessment-exams/special-consideration'

Assessment Tasks

Name	Weighting	Hurdle	Due	Groupwork/Individual	Short Extension	AI Approach
Skills development: Knowledge quiz	25%	No	Refer to Assessment Tasks on iLearn	Individual	No	Open
Formal examination	40%	No	Exam period	Individual	No	Open
Professional practice: Financial market product analysis	35%	No	08/11/2026	Individual	No	Open

Skills development: Knowledge quiz

Assessment Type [1]: Problem-based task
Indicative Time on Task [2]: 20 hours
Due: **Refer to Assessment Tasks on iLearn**
Weighting: **25%**
Groupwork/Individual: Individual
Short extension [3]: No

AI Approach: Open

The purpose of this assessment is for you to demonstrate a critical understanding of financial market mechanics and participants and how they interact with each other. You will cover key finance concepts and their application in practice.

You will solve a set of multiple choice questions at a pre-specified time and important information will be made available on the unit iLearn page.

Skills in focus:

- Critical thinking and problem solving
- Discipline knowledge

Deliverable(s): Online quiz

Individual assessment

On successful completion you will be able to:

- Evaluate concepts and models used by various financial market participants and apply relevant concepts and models to meet participants needs and actual business situations.
- Assess financial products and instruments and construct sound and justifiable solutions that meet the requirements of financial market participants.
- Develop solutions for financing issues using appropriate models and financial data sources.

Formal examination

Assessment Type [1]: Examination
Indicative Time on Task [2]: 35 hours
Due: **Exam period**
Weighting: **40%**
Groupwork/Individual: Individual
Short extension [3]: No
AI Approach: Open

The purpose of this assessment is for you to 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 exam

Individual assessment

On successful completion you will be able to:

- Evaluate concepts and models used by various financial market participants and apply relevant concepts and models to meet participants needs and actual business situations.
- Assess financial products and instruments and construct sound and justifiable solutions that meet the requirements of financial market participants.
- Develop solutions for financing issues using appropriate models and financial data sources.

Professional practice: Financial market product analysis

Assessment Type [1]: Professional task
Indicative Time on Task [2]: 25 hours
Due: **08/11/2026**
Weighting: **35%**
Groupwork/Individual: Individual
Short extension [3]: No
AI Approach: Open

The purpose of this assessment is to develop your expertise in analysing the structure, instruments, and stakeholder perspectives behind a successful financial market product.

You will critically analyse structure and instruments required to deliver this product into the market.

Skills in focus:

- Digital skills
- Discipline knowledge
- Communication skills
- Critical thinking and problem solving

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

Individual assessment

On successful completion you will be able to:

- Assess financial products and instruments and construct sound and justifiable solutions that meet the requirements of financial market participants.
- Develop solutions for financing issues using appropriate models and financial data sources.

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[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

Refer to iLearn

Policies and Procedures

Macquarie University policies and procedures are accessible from Policy Central (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). 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) 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 2026.04 of the Handbook