



BUSA3021

PACE: Business Analytics Project

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

Department of Actuarial Studies and Business Analytics

Contents

<u>General Information</u>	2
<u>Learning Outcomes</u>	2
<u>General Assessment Information</u>	3
<u>Assessment Tasks</u>	3
<u>Delivery and Resources</u>	7
<u>Policies and Procedures</u>	7

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General Information

Unit convenor and teaching staff

Olivera Marjanovic

olivera.marjanovic@mq.edu.au

Credit points

10

Prerequisites

BUSA3020

Corequisites

Co-badged status

Unit description

This unit provides a platform for students to exercise the knowledge and skills that they have gained in previous units. The major component of the unit is an organisation-based group project, where students will actively engage with an organisation including but not limited to: not-for-profit organisations, government agencies, companies, and industry partners. Group work engages students in the challenges of interpersonal communication, task allocation, coordination and control. Students will gain an insight into the analytical problems faced by organisations and be able to contextualise their graduate capabilities into the final business project. The unit will consider key issues, concepts and frameworks of analytics ethics, and social responsibility, and how these can be applied to policy and practice. The class is conducted through lectures, workshops and discussions where students will develop an analytical solution around the client specified information-based problem. Throughout the unit, the emphasis is on the analysis process: identifying information needs, acquiring the necessary information, interpreting it and using it as the basis for strategic recommendations back to the client partner. Visit [Employability Connect](#) for important 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: Successfully work in teams to achieve group and organisational objectives.

ULO2: Demonstrate knowledge of data analysis techniques and apply various

quantitative data analysis techniques to resolve the information needs of an organisation.

ULO3: Be able to conduct an organisational and industry analysis to assess business opportunities by analysing customers, competitors, collaborators, and other external forces in a collaborative setting.

ULO4: Critically examining problem areas, developing feasible analytics investment decision options, developing key recommendations, and communicating this strategic thinking to others.

ULO5: Enhance awareness of analytics' contribution to society through discussion of ethical and professional conduct and issues in corporate social responsibility.

General Assessment Information

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**.

Assessment Tasks

Name	Weighting	Hurdle	Due	Groupwork/Individual	Short Extension	AI Approach
Skills development: Professional reflection	40%	No	09/09/2026	Individual	Yes	Open
Skills development: Development portfolio	20%	No	08/11/2026	Individual	Yes	Open
Professional practice: Data analytics for business strategy	40%	No	04/11/2026	Individual and Group	No	Open

Skills development: Professional reflection

Assessment Type ¹: Reflection task

Indicative Time on Task ²: 20 hours

Due: **09/09/2026**

Weighting: **40%**

Groupwork/Individual: Individual

Short extension ³: Yes

AI Approach: Open

The purpose of this assessment is for you to reflect on your professional development, industry project experience, teamwork, and emerging trends in business analytics, including ethical considerations and the future of work.

You will develop professional self-awareness, enhance your ability to 'learn how to learn,' and critically evaluate the skills and knowledge gained and will strengthen your critical thinking and professional awareness, gaining a competitive edge in real-world business environments.

Skills in focus:

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

Deliverable(s): Reflective report [max 1500 words]

Individual assessment

On successful completion you will be able to:

- Successfully work in teams to achieve group and organisational objectives.
- Be able to conduct an organisational and industry analysis to assess business opportunities by analysing customers, competitors, collaborators, and other external forces in a collaborative setting.
- Critically examining problem areas, developing feasible analytics investment decision options, developing key recommendations, and communicating this strategic thinking to others.
- Enhance awareness of analytics' contribution to society through discussion of ethical and professional conduct and issues in corporate social responsibility.

Skills development: Development portfolio

Assessment Type ¹: Portfolio

Indicative Time on Task ²: 20 hours

Due: **08/11/2026**

Weighting: **20%**

Groupwork/Individual: Individual

Short extension ³: Yes

AI Approach: Open

The purpose of this assessment is for you to reflect on the success of the project, consider client feedback, and articulate the business analytics skills you have developed for your future professional practice.

You will analyse business opportunities and industry trends while considering ethical and professional implications. This assessment will strengthen your reflective and analytical abilities, helping you connect your project experience to your ongoing professional development.

Skills in focus:

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

Deliverable(s): Written submission [1500 words] Individual assessment

On successful completion you will be able to:

- Successfully work in teams to achieve group and organisational objectives.
- Demonstrate knowledge of data analysis techniques and apply various quantitative data analysis techniques to resolve the information needs of an organisation.
- Be able to conduct an organisational and industry analysis to assess business opportunities by analysing customers, competitors, collaborators, and other external forces in a collaborative setting.
- Critically examining problem areas, developing feasible analytics investment decision options, developing key recommendations, and communicating this strategic thinking to others.
- Enhance awareness of analytics' contribution to society through discussion of ethical and professional conduct and issues in corporate social responsibility.

Professional practice: Data analytics for business strategy

Assessment Type ¹: Professional task

Indicative Time on Task ²: 40 hours

Due: **04/11/2026**

Weighting: **40%**

Groupwork/Individual: Individual and Group

Short extension ³: No

AI Approach: Open

The purpose of this assessment is for you to analyse business opportunities using data analytics, design strategic recommendations, and present your findings fit for a professional audience.

You will work collaboratively in teams, applying data analysis techniques to address business needs while evaluating industry and organisational opportunities.

Skills in focus:

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

Deliverable(s): Written report (30% - Group) [max 3000 words] and supplementary presentation (10% - Individual, each group is 15 minutes, each student will present 5-6 minutes). The supplementary presentation gives each individual student the opportunity to explain their contribution to the report.

Individual and group assessment

On successful completion you will be able to:

- Successfully work in teams to achieve group and organisational objectives.
- Demonstrate knowledge of data analysis techniques and apply various quantitative data analysis techniques to resolve the information needs of an organisation.
- Be able to conduct an organisational and industry analysis to assess business opportunities by analysing customers, competitors, collaborators, and other external forces in a collaborative setting.
- Critically examining problem areas, developing feasible analytics investment decision options, developing key recommendations, and communicating this strategic thinking to others.
- Enhance awareness of analytics' contribution to society through discussion of ethical and professional conduct and issues in corporate social responsibility.

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

The unit is comprised of 13 weekly in-person classes (1.5h lecture + 1.5 tutorial), held on-campus in weeks 1 to 13.

The unit is NOT designed for remote learning due the project-nature of this unit and work with the client. Weekly in-person attendance is expected.

IMPORTANT: You are expected to attend at least one of two meetings with the client, which are held in lectures, and meet them in person. This is respectful of their time and efforts to support your learning, for which they are not paid.

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](#)