



BUSA8086

Cyber Security, Governance Frameworks and Ethics

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

Department of Actuarial Studies and Business Analytics

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General Information

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Credit points 10
Prerequisites (Admission to MActPrac or MInfoTechCyberSec) or (Admission to MCom and BUSA6004) or (Admission to MIT and (COMP6325 or COMP6310)) or ACCG8048
Corequisites
Co-badged status ACCG8086
Unit description Organisations have an ethical and legal responsibility to safeguard customer data in a constantly evolving cyber security environment. This unit is designed for students to gain an understanding of cyber security governance frameworks and ethical issues relating to the complex issues relating to cyber security. The primary objectives of the unit are for students to be able to evaluate cyber security trade-offs, use relevant governance frameworks to develop a cyber security road map and to be able to examine and provide recommendations for cyber security ethical dilemmas.

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 the trade-offs between cyber security, cost/resources and business opportunities/competitive advantage.

ULO2: Develop a cyber security road map for a specific organisation.

ULO3: Explain the governance principles and frameworks relevant to cyber security.

ULO4: Examine and provide recommendations for potential ethical dilemmas of the work of cyber security experts.

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**.

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: Cybersecurity roadmap	30%	No	11/09/2026	Individual	Yes	Open AI
Skills development: Cyber challenges	30%	No	30/10/2026	Individual	Yes	Open AI
Professional practice: Ethical practices of cybersecurity	40%	No	06/11/2026	Individual	Yes	Open AI

Professional practice: Cybersecurity roadmap

Assessment Type ¹: Professional task

Indicative Time on Task ²: 20 hours

Due: **11/09/2026**

Weighting: **30%**

Groupwork/Individual: Individual

Short extension ³: Yes

AI Approach: Open AI

The purpose of this assessment is for you to develop an understanding of major cybersecurity governance concepts and apply them in a real-world scenario.

You will develop a strategic cybersecurity roadmap or plan for the Board of a specific organisation and reflect on your learning from the first half of the semester.

Skills in focus:

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

Deliverable(s): Written Report [2500 words]

Individual assessment

On successful completion you will be able to:

- Develop a cyber security road map for a specific organisation.
- Explain the governance principles and frameworks relevant to cyber security.

Skills development: Cyber challenges

Assessment Type ¹: Portfolio

Indicative Time on Task ²: 20 hours

Due: **30/10/2026**

Weighting: **30%**

Groupwork/Individual: Individual

Short extension ³: Yes

AI Approach: Open AI

The purpose of this assessment is for you to progressively develop practical skills in skills and knowledge on contemporary cyber security governance issues.

You will complete a series of learning activities throughout the semester and compile a portfolio that showcases your solutions to the dilemmas relating to the weekly topic.

Skills in focus:

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

Deliverable(s): Written portfolio of completed activities

Individual assessment

On successful completion you will be able to:

- Evaluate the trade-offs between cyber security, cost/resources and business opportunities/competitive advantage.
- Develop a cyber security road map for a specific organisation.
- Explain the governance principles and frameworks relevant to cyber security.

Professional practice: Ethical practices of cybersecurity

Assessment Type ¹: Professional task

Indicative Time on Task ²: 40 hours

Due: **06/11/2026**

Weighting: **40%**

Groupwork/Individual: Individual

Short extension ³: Yes

AI Approach: Open AI

The purpose of this assessment is for you to implement ethical and governance principles of cybersecurity to real-world scenarios.

You will analyse ethical dilemmas faced by cybersecurity professionals using contemporary examples and reflect on your learning from the first half of the semester, supported by relevant readings and scholarly sources.

Skills in focus:

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

Deliverable(s): Written report [3000 words]

Individual assessment

On successful completion you will be able to:

- Evaluate the trade-offs between cyber security, cost/resources and business opportunities/competitive advantage.

- Develop a cyber security road map for a specific organisation.
- Explain the governance principles and frameworks relevant to cyber security.
- Examine and provide recommendations for potential ethical dilemmas of the work of cyber security experts.

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

Please refer to iLearn

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.

Unit information based on version 2026.03 of the [Handbook](#)