BUS 854
Leading and Managing in Culturally Diverse Environments
S1 External 2015
Dept of Marketing and Management

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## General Information

Unit convenor and teaching staff  
Unit Convenor  
Meena Chavan  
meena.chavan@mq.edu.au  
Contact via meena.chavan@mq.edu.au  
E4A level 6 Room 625  
Thursdays 6 pm - 7 pm  

Yang Yang  
yang.yang@mq.edu.au  

Credit points  
4

Prerequisites  
4cp at 800 level and (BUS651 or MKTG696 or admission to MIntRel)

Corequisites

Co-badged status

Unit description  
To succeed in a globalised business environment, it is imperative for managers to understand contemporary approaches to leading and managing in culturally diverse environments and explore strategies and tactics for managing international assignments and teams. Core objectives of this unit are to enhance multicultural competence and skills and impart an understanding of how cultural diversity affects managerial behaviour and processes which is highly valued by future employers. The unit utilises a range of assessments such as simulations, experiential exercises, forums, reflective tasks, case studies, presentations and group activities in order to synthesise students' understanding of cross-cultural theories and their ability to apply their learning.

## 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](https://www.mq.edu.au/study/calendar-of-dates)

## Learning Outcomes

On successful completion of this unit, you will be able to:

- Interpret and analyse the diversity of cultures and its implication as they relate to
business management and demonstrate a consciousness of the intricacy of operating in the global market

Appraise the multicultural 'big picture' in which global trade and government forces operate, and summarise the major culture-based challenges faced by international managers (political, social, legal, economic and technological)

Identify major cultural characteristics, including communication styles that characterise regions, nations, communities, organisations, groups and individuals

Investigate major cultural differences in views on strategy for international alliances, including controls, labour relations and management a range of culture-based tactics for international negotiation

Classify, characterize and critique arguments for adopting particular leadership styles globally in given situations, and for varying motivational techniques depending on circumstances

### Assessment Tasks

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Weighting</th>
<th>Due</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>CLASS PARTICIPATION(ONLINE)</td>
<td>20%</td>
<td>Ongoing</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CASE STUDY</td>
<td>20%</td>
<td>WEEK 2- 12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>REPORT</td>
<td>20%</td>
<td>14.05.2015 @5pm (evening)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FINAL EXAM</td>
<td>40%</td>
<td>University examination period.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### CLASS PARTICIPATION(ONLINE)

Due: **Ongoing**
Weighting: **20%**

Online forums will be conducted during the Semester.

These are analogous to tutorials in a traditional course.

You are required to participate actively in these, and your contributions will be assessed.

**A. CASE STUDY FORUM:**

Students must read every case study and make a post expressing your opinion, connecting current discussions by other students, relating to concepts learned in the video lectures, readings, your work experience or material from the case study. There is no word limit for the post. For each case study the forum will only be open for 2 weeks, which means that the forum for the first case study will close end of week 3.

**B. EXPERIENTIAL EXERCISE FORUM:**
These are comprised of application tasks and reflective activities. Reflective tasks are exercises designed to encourage reflection on Unit topics and associated readings. Each lecture will have one experiential exercise, and one video reflective task. Students must read these and post their perspectives in these forums. A rubric for online presentation is used to mark online participation which can be seen on iLearn. Each of these forums will close after 3 weeks.

LATE SUBMISSIONS

No extensions will be granted.

Students who have not submitted the task prior to the deadline will be awarded a mark of 0 for the task, except for cases in which an application for Disruption of Studies is made and approved.

On successful completion you will be able to:

- Interpret and analyse the diversity of cultures and its implication as they relate to business management and demonstrate a consciousness of the intricacy of operating in the global market
- Identify major cultural characteristics, including communication styles that characterise regions, nations, communities, organisations, groups and individuals
- Classify, characterize and critique arguments for adopting particular leadership styles globally in given situations, and for varying motivational techniques depending on circumstances

CASE STUDY

Due: WEEK 2-12
Weighting: 20%

Weekly (Case Analysis- Group work)

Every week nominated student groups will submit the case analysis through Turnitin.

The case analysis should address the following:

A. Introduction

A brief of the case environment, company, industry, country, culture and case problem

B. Body

Should include the following sections: Identification of major stakeholders and their problems, objectives and concern, recommended solutions, managerial implications.

C. Conclusion

Briefly summarize the essential complexities posed in this case and the practical implications and lessons learned.
D. Case question

Every case will have questions at the end which will serve as a direction to analyse the case. You do not have to answer these questions.

Detailed marking rubrics can be seen on iLearn and a document titled "How to analyse a case study" will provide further guidance.

This is a group activity and one student from the group will upload their case analysis through Turnitin as stated below.

SUBMISSION PROCEDURE (Group)

Students are required to submit an electronic copy of their assessment to Turnitin via the Internet as part of the submission process for assignments. Your assignment will then be automatically compared to work of your classmates, previous students from Macquarie and other universities, with material available on the Internet, both freely available and subscription-based electronic journals. Before submission, name your electronic file in a Word document with your surname and student number, e.g., Smith20101309. Please make sure that only one member of your group submits the report to Turnitin for plagiarism check. The word doc will then have his/her surname and student number.

LATE SUBMISSIONS

Late Submissions (All assignments)

No extensions will be granted. Students who have not submitted the task prior to the deadline will be awarded a mark of 0 for the task, except for cases in which an application for Disruption of Studies is made and approved. All assessments are mandatory. Detailed marking rubrics can be seen on ilearn.

On successful completion you will be able to:

- Interpret and analyse the diversity of cultures and its implication as they relate to business management and demonstrate a consciousness of the intricacy of operating in the global market
- Appraise the multicultural 'big picture' in which global trade and government forces operate, and summarise the major culture-based challenges faced by international managers (political, social, legal, economic and technological)
- Classify, characterize and critique arguments for adopting particular leadership styles globally in given situations, and for varying motivational techniques depending on circumstances
REPORT
Due: **14.05.2015 @5pm (evening)**
Weighting: **20%**

REPORT (Individual assignment)

Length: 2500 words
Due Date: Week 10 - 14th May 2015 @5 pm
Submission: Online through Turnitin
Estimated student workload: 10 hours
Grading Criteria: Please see rubrics on iLearn

**Brief description:**

**THE EU CULTURE**

Britain may be in the front line of the Euro crisis, but it is not the only country affected. The Eurozone is a massive market for businesses from the United States, China, India, Japan, Russia and the other major world economic powers. China has considered lending money to Europe, they are that concerned that the Euro may collapse. Meanwhile, the International Monetary Fund (IMF), which was set up to help countries in economic difficulty, set aside hundreds of billions of dollars for a bailout of some of the Eurozone countries. The wider world is so keen to see the Euro survive — even if that means it has fewer members — for the following reasons.

**To preserve the Eurozone’s massive consumer market.** A staggering 322 million Europeans use the Euro every day. It’s the currency of seventeen nations. Besides daily activities, these people use the Euro to buy goods and services from overseas — if there was a collapse in its value, then they would be less able to buy imports.

**To prevent a global recession.** A collapse of the Euro or a situation where some European governments would be unable to repay their debt would have a huge, negative impact on the world economy. It would resemble the financial crisis of 2007 and 2008 (in truth, it could be much worse than that). At the very least, businesses around the globe would think twice about investing and taking on new staff while others might start to trim their operations and cut jobs. A global economic recession would be highly likely.

**To protect the world financial system.** Banks around the globe have invested in the government debt of Eurozone countries. These banks also hold large amounts of Euros. If the current crisis gets much worse, then the government debt and currency that they hold will fall in value, which could undermine their own financial well being. It could be like the 2007 and 2008 financial crash all over again, with the global banking system under threat. This would be bad news for everyone.

It’s not just the 322 million people in the Eurozone which depend on their currency — there are
150 million people in African countries whose currencies are pegged to value the Euro. If the Eurozone fragments and the value of the Euro collapses, these African countries will see the value of currency collapse too.

Against a backdrop of this ongoing Euro zone volatility, companies are continuing to review their exposures in Europe, including the nature and extent of their Euro-related contracts, and are asking what measures they can put in place to protect their assets and limit cash flow threats. This uncertainty has affected business confidence in different ways in nations across the world.

Please read the following extracts and papers in the context of the task outlined below -

http://www.economist.com/node/2156423
http://www.huffingtonpost.com/obrien-browne/a-different-take-on-the-e_b_1212418.html
http://www.pwc.com/gx/en/audit-services/publications/eurozone-crisis-impact.jhtml

YOUR TASK: You are a consultant tasked with a submission, developing a comprehensive analysis of the impact of the Euro crisis on "THE WORLD" in general and "AUSTRALIAN BUSINESS" in particular to assist them with their strategy in the Euro zone. Whilst doing this your focus will be on the "CULTURE" of the European country you select and you will analyse the situation based on the cultural dimensions and cultural theories that you study in class. Your report should encompass all risks: Political, Cultural, Social, Legal, Economic and provide advice on their impact to Australia business operating in EU. Please note you can select any country of your choice in the EU. In particular you are required to critique, analyze and assess the four issues with CULTURE as a basis:

i. Global impact of Euro crisis on businesses and industries in EU, Australia and the World.

ii. Country (EU country of your choice) specific economic, political, legal, cultural, social, cultural characteristics and history

iii. Possible implications and contingency planning for Australian business

GUIDELINES FOR WRITTEN ASSESSMENTS

All assignments submitted for assessment must adhere to the following standards.

1. Cover Page

For each of the assignment, you must use a cover (or title) page that provides the following
information:
(a) your full name and student number;
(b) contact details: email address;
(c) unit code and name
(d) assignment number and assignment title;

2. Presentation of Assignments
Assignments should meet normal academic and professional standards of presentation, including:
a) all pages, excluding the cover page, should be numbered;
b) page margins should be at least 2.5 cm on all four edges and 1.5 line spaced;
c) Times New Roman font type and font size of 12 points should be used.
d) Harvard referencing system should be used.

3. Submission Procedure (Individual)
Students are required to submit an electronic copy of their assessment to Turnitin via the Internet as part of the submission process for assignments. Your assignment will then be automatically compared to work of your classmates, previous students from Macquarie and other universities, with material available on the Internet, both freely available and subscription-based electronic journals. Before submission, name your electronic file in a Word document with your surname and student number, e.g., Smith20101309.

4. Late Submissions (All assignments)
No extensions will be granted. Students who have not submitted the task prior to the deadline will be awarded a mark of 0 for the task, except for cases in which an application for Disruption of Studies is made and approved. All assessments are mandatory.

On successful completion you will be able to:
• Appraise the multicultural 'big picture' in which global trade and government forces operate, and summarise the major culture-based challenges faced by international managers (political, social, legal, economic and technological)
• Identify major cultural characteristics, including communication styles that characterise regions, nations, communities, organisations, groups and individuals
• Investigate major cultural differences in views on strategy for international alliances, including controls, labour relations and management a range of culture-based tactics for international negotiation
FINAL EXAM

Due: University examination period.
Weighting: 40%

The final exam will be held along with the internal students.

You will have 3 hours to complete the exam paper.

All chapters from the textbook are assessed.

There are two sections:
A. 1 Case Study (marks 10)
B. Essay Questions (marks 30)

Essay questions will include:

- Experiential application questions
- Questions from lecture topics

A sample exam can be found on iLearn.

On successful completion you will be able to:

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Delivery and Resources

Summary of Assessments

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Task</th>
<th>Weight</th>
<th>Due Date</th>
<th>Linked Learning Outcomes</th>
<th>Linked Graduate Capabilities</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Class Participation(Online)</td>
<td>20%</td>
<td>From Week 1</td>
<td>1,3,5</td>
<td>1,2,3</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Number and length of classes: 3 hours online teaching per week (Listening to video lectures and participating in the forums). The timetable for classes can be found on the University web site at: http://www.timetables.mq.edu.au/

Medical certificates must be provided if you are not able to meet any deadlines for assignments, without incurring a penalty.

Please read the full policy located at: http://www.mq.edu.au/policy/docs/special_consideration/policy.html

In order to complete the unit satisfactorily students need to complete and submit all assignments on the due date and attempt the final exam during the university examination period.

**Required and Recommended Texts and/or Material**

Required text: ‘International Management: Managing Across Borders and Cultures – Text and Cases’, Eight Edition (International Edition) by Helen Deresky, Pearson Education, 2014. This contains all the required chapter readings and case studies in addition to material posted on iLearn. A copy of the required text is also available in the Macquarie Library and obtainable from Macquarie University Coop Bookshop (macq_byr@coop-bookshop.com.au)

Students should have their own copy of this text. It is mandatory that you have the 8th edition, 2014 version as this text contains all the case studies and experiential exercises that will be done in class. There are some copies on the library shelves and in library reserve. Lectures support and add to the textbook but cannot replace it. It is a standard work of reference on cross cultural management. Classroom sessions are backed up online with lecture notes, case studies, articles and discussion

**Technology Used and Required**

Access to a personal computer is required in order to complete tasks on iLearn. Students are required to use information technology in this unit. Students will need to use: Library databases to source materials for the research reports, which are accessed electronically for conducting, research for assignments;

Electronic (internet) access to iLearn to download unit learning resources and upload
assignments or other materials required for class activities and assignments; Microsoft word and Power point (where applicable) for the research reports and presentations. You can check that your computer’s software and hardware are compatibility with Macquarie University standard requirements at:

https://learn.mq.edu.au/webct/RelativeResourceManager/25994001/Public%20Files/uw/softw

Unit Web Page

Course material is available on the learning management system (ilearn).
The web page for this unit can be found at: https://ilearn.mq.edu.au/login/MQ/

Recommended readings are available through eReserve.

Timetable portal: http://timetables.mq.edu.au

No extensions will be granted. Students who have not submitted the task prior to the deadline will be awarded a mark of 0 for the task, except for cases in which an application for special consideration is made and approved.

Unit Schedule

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Week</th>
<th>Lecture: Topic and Reading</th>
<th>Case Study and Experiential Activity</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| 1    | Assessing the environment: Political, Economic, Legal, Technological  
Chapter 1 | Experiential activity:  
Forces at work |
| 2    | Managing Interdependence: Social Responsibility, Ethics, Sustainability  
Chapter 2 | Case Study 1: Blackberry in International Markets  
Experiential activity:  
Predatory competition |
| 3    | Understanding the Role of Culture  
Chapter 3 | Case Study 2: Google's Orkut in Brazil  
Experiential activity:  
Business trip to Japan |
| 4    | Communicating Across Cultures  
Chapter 4 | Case Study 3: MTV Networks: The Arabian Challenge  
Experiential activity:  
Cultural differences in business communication |
| 5 | Cross-cultural Negotiation and Decision | Case Study 4: Alibaba  
Experiential activity:  
Cross cultural negotiations |
|---|---|---|
| 6 | Formulating Strategy | Case Study 5: Carrefour's Misadventure  
Experiential activity:  
Renault and Nissan in South Africa |
| 7 | Implementing Strategy | Case Study 6: Walmart's expansion in Africa  
Experiential activity:  
Cross culture mergers and acquisitions |
| | Mid Term Break | Mid session break:  
12 - 27 April 2015 |
| 8 | Organisation Structure and Control systems | Case Study 7 : Chrysler  
Experiential activity:  
Images of Organisational Culture |
| 9 | Staffing, Training and Compensation for Global Operations | Case Study 8: Foreign Investment in China  
Experiential activity: Career opportunities overseas |
| 10 | Developing a Global Management Cadre | Case Study 9: Mahindra & Mahindra  
Experiential activity:  
Expat Life in EU |
Learning and Teaching Activities

Learning and Teaching Activities

This unit will be taught via the participant-centered and experiential learning method of teaching. “Experiential learning takes place when a person is involved in an activity, then looks back and evaluates it, determines what was useful or important to remember and uses this information to perform another activity” (John Dewey, 1938). Online teaching would comprise of lecture videos and forum participation of three hours’ duration.

Students will partake in discussions on forums for cases, video cases and experiential exercises online. Case studies will be the extensively used. Case analyses are intended to be analytical critiques on some central issues of the case being discussed. As this is a discussion-oriented class, students will read all of the case studies indicated on the course schedule and discuss and defend themselves online. Every student is expected to participate. In your case analyses, please refrain from writing a summary of the case or repackaging the information already provided in the case. Based on the information provided in the case, be analytically judgmental, propose alternative managerial views and action plans, and discuss the relevance and appropriateness of the frameworks proposed in the readings and lectures to the case. In short, write what you think of the situation in the case and not merely repeat what the author says. The course teaches several models for cultural analysis of case studies. Some examples are: Hofstede, Trompenaars, and Edward Hall. These models are to be used for group case study assignments and the research paper. This unit is presented through the following learning media: Thirteen weekly video lectures combined with online discussions, case studies, experiential exercise and videos. Lectures are supported online on ilearn: http://ilearn.mq.edu.au

Lecture notes, assignment details, assessment methods, case studies, reading and reference materials and a sample exam paper are posted on ilearn.

Policies and Procedures

Macquarie University policies and procedures are accessible from Policy Central. Students should be aware of the following policies in particular with regard to Learning and Teaching:

Academic Honesty Policy  http://mq.edu.au/policy/docs/academic_honesty/policy.html
The Disruption to Studies Policy is effective from March 3 2014 and replaces the Special Consideration Policy.

In addition, a number of other policies can be found in the Learning and Teaching Category of Policy Central.

**Student Code of Conduct**

Macquarie University students have a responsibility to be familiar with the Student Code of Conduct: [https://students.mq.edu.au/support/student_conduct/](https://students.mq.edu.au/support/student_conduct/)

**Results**

Results shown in *iLearn*, 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 [ask.mq.edu.au](http://ask.mq.edu.au).

**Student Support**

Macquarie University provides a range of support services for students. For details, visit [http://students.mq.edu.au/support/](http://students.mq.edu.au/support/)

**Learning Skills**

Learning Skills ([mq.edu.au/learningskills](http://mq.edu.au/learningskills)) provides academic writing resources and study strategies to improve your marks and take control of your study.

- Workshops
- StudyWise
- Academic Integrity Module for Students
- Ask a Learning Adviser

**Student Services and Support**

Students with a disability are encouraged to contact the Disability Service who can provide appropriate help with any issues that arise during their studies.

**Student Enquiries**

For all student enquiries, visit Student Connect at [ask.mq.edu.au](http://ask.mq.edu.au)
Graduate Capabilities

PG - Capable of Professional and Personal Judgment and Initiative

Our postgraduates will demonstrate a high standard of discernment and common sense in their professional and personal judgment. They will have the ability to make informed choices and decisions that reflect both the nature of their professional work and their personal perspectives.

This graduate capability is supported by:

Learning outcomes

• Interpret and analyse the diversity of cultures and its implication as they relate to business management and demonstrate a consciousness of the intricacy of operating in the global market
• Identify major cultural characteristics, including communication styles that characterise regions, nations, communities, organisations, groups and individuals
• Classify, characterise and critique arguments for adopting particular leadership styles globally in given situations, and for varying motivational techniques depending on circumstances

Assessment tasks

• CLASS PARTICIPATION(ONLINE)
• REPORT
• FINAL EXAM

PG - Discipline Knowledge and Skills

Our postgraduates will be able to demonstrate a significantly enhanced depth and breadth of knowledge, scholarly understanding, and specific subject content knowledge in their chosen fields.

This graduate capability is supported by:

Learning outcomes

• Interpret and analyse the diversity of cultures and its implication as they relate to business management and demonstrate a consciousness of the intricacy of operating in
the global market
• Appraise the multicultural 'big picture' in which global trade and government forces operate, and summarise the major culture-based challenges faced by international managers (political, social, legal, economic and technological)
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Assessment tasks
• CLASS PARTICIPATION(ONLINE)
• CASE STUDY
• REPORT
• FINAL EXAM

PG - Critical, Analytical and Integrative Thinking
Our postgraduates will be capable of utilising and reflecting on prior knowledge and experience, of applying higher level critical thinking skills, and of integrating and synthesising learning and knowledge from a range of sources and environments. A characteristic of this form of thinking is the generation of new, professionally oriented knowledge through personal or group-based critique of practice and theory.

This graduate capability is supported by:

Learning outcomes
• Appraise the multicultural 'big picture' in which global trade and government forces operate, and summarise the major culture-based challenges faced by international managers (political, social, legal, economic and technological)
• Investigate major cultural differences in views on strategy for international alliances, including controls, labour relations and management a range of culture-based tactics for international negotiation
• Classify, characterize and critique arguments for adopting particular leadership styles globally in given situations, and for varying motivational techniques depending on circumstances

Assessment tasks
• CLASS PARTICIPATION(ONLINE)
• CASE STUDY
Changes from Previous Offering

CHANGES IN THE UNIT OUTLINE SINCE THE LAST OFFERING

Changes from previous offerings are as follows: a) A few case studies have been updated with new cases. b) Experiential activities have been updated c) All old videos have been replaced with new longer ones d) Reflective inclass activities have been included in the inclass activities.

Research & Practice, Global & Sustainability

This unit gives you opportunities to conduct research and gives you practice in applying research findings in your assessments.

The unit uses research from several external sources namely academic journals, books, media articles and government publications as listed below to support your learning of cross cultural concepts, theories and current happenings:

Journal of Cross Cultural Management
Diversity in organisations, communities and nations.
Journal of International Business studies
Management International review
OECD Publications

SUPPLEMENTARY RESEARCH RESOURCES

Official website of Geert Hofstede
http://www.geert-hofstede.com/
Global edge Global business resources
http://globaledge.msu.edu/
Country profiles
http://www.kwintessential.co.uk/resources/country-profiles.html
Virtual Library on International Development
http://www2.etown.edu/vl/intdev.html
The World Index of Chambers of Commerce & Industry
http://www.worldchambers.com
The United Nations
http://www.un.org
International Business Times [http://www.ibtimes.com/](http://www.ibtimes.com/) The unit works in collaboration with industry bodies like Optus, Department of Fair Trade, Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade and Sustainable Business, Australia to understand the progress in Global Climate Agreements worldwide and the impact of culture on its acceptances towards sustainable global business practices.

This unit gives you opportunities to conduct research and gives you practice in applying research findings in your assessments. The unit works in collaboration with industry bodies like Optus, Department of Fair Trade, Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade and Sustainable Business, Australia to understand the progress in Global Climate Agreements worldwide and the impact of culture on its acceptances towards Sustainable Global Business Practices.