AFIN253
Financial Management
S1 Evening 2015
Dept of Applied Finance and Actuarial Studies

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General Information

Unit convenor and teaching staff
Unit Convenor
Damian Bridge
Please check iLearn for consultation details

Lecturer
Professor Stefan Trueck
Please check iLearn for consultation details

Unit Administrator
Sharon Collett
N/A

Credit points
3

Prerequisites
(ACCG100 or ACCG105 or ACCG106) and (ECON111 or BBA103) and (STAT170 or STAT171 or PSY122) and ACST101 and (24cp or GPA of 2.0)

Corequisites

Co-badged status

Unit description
This introductory unit in corporate finance focuses on the financing and investing decisions made by the finance manager of an organisation. While the emphasis is on the theory of the firm, students are also given exposure to current issues affecting corporate finance in Australia. Satisfactory completion of the unit equips students with a grasp of the following principles of financial economics: the relation between risk and expected return; the time value of money; and valuation of securities via discounted cash flows. The unit also provides an introductory coverage of derivative securities and no arbitrage valuation. The unit provides a standalone introduction to finance for students not planning to continue with study in the area. Analytical, quantitative and generic skills are emphasised. The unit aims to develop graduate capabilities centred upon effective communication, higher order analysis and problem-solving skills.

Important Academic Dates
Information about important academic dates including deadlines for withdrawing from units are available at https://students.mq.edu.au/important-dates
**Learning Outcomes**

1. Discuss fundamental aspects of the theory of the firm and outline current issues affecting corporate finance in Australia.
2. Explain financing and investing decisions made by finance managers.
3. Demonstrate understanding of the relation between risk and expected return, the time value of money, and valuation of securities via discounted cash flows.
4. Apply first principles in finance theory and fundamental analytical techniques to simple real-life problems.

**General Assessment Information**

It is the responsibility of students to view their marks for each within session assessment on iLearn within 20 days of posting. If there are any discrepancies, students must contact the unit convenor immediately. Failure to do so will mean that queries received after the release of final results regarding assessment tasks (not including the final exam mark) will not be addressed.

**Assessment Tasks**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Weighting</th>
<th>Due</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Quizzes</td>
<td>15%</td>
<td>Various</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Class Test</td>
<td>15%</td>
<td>Week 6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Assignment</td>
<td>20%</td>
<td>Monday 18th May</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Final Examination</td>
<td>50%</td>
<td>University Examination Period</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Quizzes**

Due: **Various**  
Weighting: **15%**

Students will be assigned a set of multiple choice question each week to be completed online through iLearn.

This includes 5 quizzes (2% each) and the week 4 Diagnostic Quiz (5%).

Please check iLearn for relevant due dates.

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. Where an application for special consideration is made the student will receive the average mark for other quizzes.

This Assessment Task relates to the following Learning Outcomes:
Discuss fundamental aspects of the theory of the firm and outline current issues affecting corporate finance in Australia.

Explain financing and investing decisions made by finance managers.

Demonstrate understanding of the relation between risk and expected return, the time value of money, and valuation of securities via discounted cash flows.

Apply first principles in finance theory and fundamental analytical techniques to simple real-life problems.

Class Test
Due: Week 6
Weighting: 15%

Class mid semester test will be held in Week 6 (10%).

There will be no supplementary class tests available.

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.

Where special consideration is applied for and approved students will be given a verbal examination by two members of staff.

You are permitted ONE A4 page of paper containing reference material printed on both sides. The material must be handwritten. The page will not be returned at the end of the examination.

This Assessment Task relates to the following Learning Outcomes:

- Discuss fundamental aspects of the theory of the firm and outline current issues affecting corporate finance in Australia.
- Explain financing and investing decisions made by finance managers.
- Demonstrate understanding of the relation between risk and expected return, the time value of money, and valuation of securities via discounted cash flows.
- Apply first principles in finance theory and fundamental analytical techniques to simple real-life problems.

Assignment
Due: Monday 18th May
Weighting: 20%

There will be two components to the assessment. There will be a group component (10%) and individual component (10%)

Submission
Due Monday 18th May at 12 Noon (i.e. in the middle of the day) using Turnitin within iLearn.
Please see ilearn for further details regarding the assignment.

Extension

No extensions will be granted. Late tasks will be accepted up to 72 hours after the submission deadline. There will be a deduction of 20% of the total available marks made from the total awarded mark for each 24 hour period or part thereof that the submission is late (for example, 25 hours late in submission – 40% penalty). This penalty does not apply for cases in which an application for special consideration is made and approved.

This Assessment Task relates to the following Learning Outcomes:

- Discuss fundamental aspects of the theory of the firm and outline current issues affecting corporate finance in Australia.
- Explain financing and investing decisions made by finance managers.
- Demonstrate understanding of the relation between risk and expected return, the time value of money, and valuation of securities via discounted cash flows
- Apply first principles in finance theory and fundamental analytical techniques to simple real-life problems.

Final Examination

Due: University Examination Period
Weighting: 50%

A final examination of 2 hours will occur during the university examination period.

To be eligible to pass this unit, a pass is required in the final examination.

You are permitted ONE A4 page of paper containing reference material printed on both sides. The material must be handwritten. The page will not be returned at the end of the examination.

This Assessment Task relates to the following Learning Outcomes:

- Discuss fundamental aspects of the theory of the firm and outline current issues affecting corporate finance in Australia.
- Explain financing and investing decisions made by finance managers.
- Demonstrate understanding of the relation between risk and expected return, the time value of money, and valuation of securities via discounted cash flows
- Apply first principles in finance theory and fundamental analytical techniques to simple real-life problems.
Delivery and Resources

Classes

• Students should each week attend their allocated lecture of up to two hours duration, and their allocated 55 minute tutorial.

• Tutorials begin in Week 2 and cover material based on the preceding week’s lecture topic.

• Students should attend PAL Sessions where necessary to improve their understanding of the material covered.

• Attendance at tutorials is very important for successful completion of assessment tasks in this unit. Tutors keep weekly attendance records. These may be taken into consideration in determining the overall unit result. The tutorial attendance record may also be taken into account in considering applications for supplementary end-of-semester final examinations.

• The timetable for classes can be found on the University web site at: http://www.timetables.mq.edu.au/

Prizes

Information on prizes is available at MQ website: www.businessandeconomics.edu.au/undergraduate_degrees/prizes_scholarships.

Required and Recommended Texts and/or Materials

Required Text (source for weekly tutorial questions)

The textbook will assist you in the weekly quizzes.

• Printed copy: Fundamentals of Corporate Finance, Australasian 2nd Edition + iStudy 2 Card


Technology Used and Required

• Financial non-programmable calculators can be used in the unit. A financial calculator is not essential as a scientific non-programmable calculator should meet all your needs.
(calculation of the Internal Rate of Return (IRR) is not required in any of the assessment tasks). Note: Only non-programmable calculators without text retrieval functionality are allowed for use in the unit’s assessments tasks.

- Excel or similar spreadsheeting tool will be required to complete the assignment.
- Students should have access to the internet.

**Unit Web Page**

- Course material and announcements are available on the learning management system (iLearn).
- Students should check iLearn regularly before each lecture, tutorial and assessment.

**Learning and Teaching Activities**

The unit is delivered through weekly lectures and tutorial classes. Tutorial questions will mostly be sourced from the required textbook. The question numbers that will be discussed in tutorials will be posted to iLearn each week. Students should attempt these questions before tutorials. Brief answers to the tutorial questions will be posted on iLearn after each week.

To achieve the best possible results students should:

1) Attend all lectures and tutorial classes, though attendance is not compulsory;

2) As it is unlikely that tutors will be able to cover all questions and problems in each tutorial class, students should attempt and complete all assigned questions and problems before attending tutorial classes;

3) Tutorial questions and problems are assigned from the required text book;

4) Read the assigned chapters of the required text book before attending lectures;

5) Download lecture notes from iLearn, which are available weekly before lectures. Ensure these notes are brought to lectures.

6) Attend PAL sessions where difficulties are experienced.

**Changes since the last unit offering**

Nil

**Unit Schedule**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Week No.</th>
<th>Date (Week Beginning)</th>
<th>Topic</th>
<th>Chapters</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>23 February</td>
<td>Introduction to Financial Management</td>
<td>1 &amp; 2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>2 March</td>
<td>Time Value of Money Fundamentals</td>
<td>5 &amp; 6</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
* Refer to iLearn each week to find the tutorial questions from the recommended textbook.

**Policies and Procedures**

Macquarie University policies and procedures are accessible from [Policy Central](http://mq.edu.au/policy/docs). Students should be aware of the following policies in particular with regard to Learning and Teaching:

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).

**Supplementary Exams**

*Further information regarding supplementary exams, including dates, is available here*

[http://www.businessandeconomics.mq.edu.au/current_students/undergraduate/how_do_i/special_consideration](http://www.businessandeconomics.mq.edu.au/current_students/undergraduate/how_do_i/special_consideration)

**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 Enquiry Service**

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

**Equity Support**

Students with a disability are encouraged to contact the [Disability Service](http://disability.mq.edu.au) who can provide appropriate help with any issues that arise during their studies.

**IT Help**

For help with University computer systems and technology, visit [http://informatics.mq.edu.au/help/](http://informatics.mq.edu.au/help/)
Graduate Capabilities

Capable of Professional and Personal Judgement and Initiative

We want our graduates to have emotional intelligence and sound interpersonal skills and to demonstrate discernment and common sense in their professional and personal judgement. They will exercise initiative as needed. They will be capable of risk assessment, and be able to handle ambiguity and complexity, enabling them to be adaptable in diverse and changing environments.

This graduate capability is supported by:

**Learning outcomes**

- Discuss fundamental aspects of the theory of the firm and outline current issues affecting corporate finance in Australia.
- Explain financing and investing decisions made by finance managers.
- Demonstrate understanding of the relation between risk and expected return, the time value of money, and valuation of securities via discounted cash flows.
- Apply first principles in finance theory and fundamental analytical techniques to simple real-life problems.

**Assessment tasks**

- Quizzes
- Class Test
- Assignment
- Final Examination

Problem Solving and Research Capability

Our graduates should be capable of researching; of analysing, and interpreting and assessing data and information in various forms; of drawing connections across fields of knowledge; and they should be able to relate their knowledge to complex situations at work or in the world, in order to diagnose and solve problems. We want them to have the confidence to take the initiative in doing so, within an awareness of their own limitations.

This graduate capability is supported by:

**Learning outcomes**

- Discuss fundamental aspects of the theory of the firm and outline current issues affecting corporate finance in Australia.
- Explain financing and investing decisions made by finance managers.
• Demonstrate understanding of the relation between risk and expected return, the time value of money, and valuation of securities via discounted cash flows
• Apply first principles in finance theory and fundamental analytical techniques to simple real-life problems.

Assessment tasks

• Quizzes
• Class Test
• Assignment
• Final Examination

Discipline Specific Knowledge and Skills

Our graduates will take with them the intellectual development, depth and breadth of knowledge, scholarly understanding, and specific subject content in their chosen fields to make them competent and confident in their subject or profession. They will be able to demonstrate, where relevant, professional technical competence and meet professional standards. They will be able to articulate the structure of knowledge of their discipline, be able to adapt discipline-specific knowledge to novel situations, and be able to contribute from their discipline to inter-disciplinary solutions to problems.

This graduate capability is supported by:

Learning outcomes

• Discuss fundamental aspects of the theory of the firm and outline current issues affecting corporate finance in Australia.
• Explain financing and investing decisions made by finance managers.
• Demonstrate understanding of the relation between risk and expected return, the time value of money, and valuation of securities via discounted cash flows
• Apply first principles in finance theory and fundamental analytical techniques to simple real-life problems.

Assessment tasks

• Quizzes
• Class Test
• Assignment
• Final Examination

Critical, Analytical and Integrative Thinking

We want our graduates to be capable of reasoning, questioning and analysing, and to integrate and synthesise learning and knowledge from a range of sources and environments; to be able to
critique constraints, assumptions and limitations; to be able to think independently and systematically in relation to scholarly activity, in the workplace, and in the world. We want them to have a level of scientific and information technology literacy.

This graduate capability is supported by:

**Learning outcomes**

- Discuss fundamental aspects of the theory of the firm and outline current issues affecting corporate finance in Australia.
- Explain financing and investing decisions made by finance managers.
- Demonstrate understanding of the relation between risk and expected return, the time value of money, and valuation of securities via discounted cash flows.
- Apply first principles in finance theory and fundamental analytical techniques to simple real-life problems.

**Assessment tasks**

- Quizzes
- Class Test
- Assignment
- Final Examination

**Changes from Previous Offering**

There have been no changes since the previous offering.

**Research and Practice**

This unit uses research from external sources including journal articles and other text books which will be made available on iLearn.