AFCP613
Financial Statement Analysis and Modelling
AFC Term 2 Online 2016
Dept of Applied Finance and Actuarial Studies

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General Information

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Unit Convenor / Lecturer
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Contact via Email

Credit points
4

Prerequisites
Admission to GradCertFin or MBkgFin

Corequisites

Co-badged status
AFCP813

Unit description
This unit equips students with financial analysis skills to support advanced study in corporate finance and investment analysis. Emphasis is placed on being able to interpret financial statements in the context of a company’s operational performance and strategy, to assess historical financial performance and to prepare a spreadsheet based financial model capable of forecasting integrated financial statements for a company. After this unit, students should understand the language of financial statements, and be able to use an Annual Report to develop an understanding of a company’s historical performance and prospects. Specific topics include the Income Statement, Balance Sheet, Cash Flow Statement and financial statement analysis using Dupont methodology. Financial modelling applications will also be developed, so students will be able to prepare forecasts for the three financial statements, as well as being able to integrate the three statements.

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. Explain the main components of and the linkages between the three major financial statements.
2. Critically assess a company’s historical financial performance using financial ratios and other analysis tools.
3. Apply financial analysis skills to develop financial projections for a project or business.
4. Construct spreadsheet based integrated financial models.
5. Demonstrate proficiency in using spreadsheet based financial modelling to solve a range of finance based problems.

Assessment Tasks

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Weighting</th>
<th>Hurdle</th>
<th>Due</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Quizzes</td>
<td>20%</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>In iLearn</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Short Exercises</td>
<td>20%</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>In iLearn</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Assignment</td>
<td>30%</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>In iLearn</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Final Examination</td>
<td>30%</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>Exam week</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Quizzes

Due: In iLearn
Weighting: 20%

Summary of Assessment Task

Individual / Group: Individual

Due Dates: See assessment summary in iLearn for due dates

Timing: Two online quizzes will be conducted during the term.

Grading Method: Refer to ‘Standards Required to Complete the Unit Satisfactorily’

Submission Method: Online via iLearn.

Quiz Conditions: Open book.

Extension Requests:

• You are expected to make yourself available for assessment during the relevant quiz window.
• If you have extenuating circumstances (such as illness or misadventure) that prevent you
This Assessment Task relates to the following Learning Outcomes:

- Explain the main components of and the linkages between the three major financial statements.
- Critically assess a company’s historical financial performance using financial ratios and other analysis tools.
- Apply financial analysis skills to develop financial projections for a project or business.

Short Exercises

Due: In iLearn
Weighting: 20%

Summary of Assessment Task

Individual / Group: Individual

Due Dates: See assessment summary in iLearn for due dates.

Timing: Short exercises will be conducted during the term. Refer to the assessment summary in iLearn.

Grading Method: See assessment summary in iLearn.

Submission Method: Online via the Unit's iLearn site.

Extension Requests:

- You are expected to make yourself available for assessment.
- If you have extenuating circumstances (such as illness or misadventure) that prevent you from participating, please make arrangements with your Lecturer prior to the due date.
- Unless prior arrangements have been made, a zero mark will apply.

This Assessment Task relates to the following Learning Outcomes:

- Explain the main components of and the linkages between the three major financial statements.
- Critically assess a company’s historical financial performance using financial ratios and other analysis tools.
- Apply financial analysis skills to develop financial projections for a project or business.
- Construct spreadsheet based integrated financial models.
- Demonstrate proficiency in using spreadsheet based financial modelling to solve a range of finance based problems.
Assignment
Due: In iLearn
Weighting: 30%

Summary of Assessment Task
Individual / Group: Individual
Due Dates: The assignment is in two parts. See assessment summary in iLearn for the due dates.
Grading Method: Refer to ‘Standards Required to Complete the Unit Satisfactorily’
Submission Method: Via iLearn.

Extension Requests:
- If you have extenuating circumstances that prevent you from submitting your assignment by the due date, please make arrangements with your Lecturer prior to the due date.
- Unless prior arrangements have been made, any late submission of assignments will automatically be penalised. In the absence of special circumstances, a zero mark will apply.

This Assessment Task relates to the following Learning Outcomes:
- Explain the main components of and the linkages between the three major financial statements.
- Critically assess a company’s historical financial performance using financial ratios and other analysis tools.
- Apply financial analysis skills to develop financial projections for a project or business.
- Construct spreadsheet based integrated financial models.
- Demonstrate proficiency in using spreadsheet based financial modelling to solve a range of finance based problems.

Final Examination
Due: Exam week
Weighting: 30%

Summary of Assessment Task
Individual / Group: Individual
Due Date: See the assessment summary in iLearn for the due date.
Grading Method: Refer to ‘Standards Required to Complete the Unit Satisfactorily’
Submission Method: The final exam will be an open book online exam
Duration: 3 hours

Examination Conditions:

- The final exam is an open book online exam.
- Refer to MAFC Program Rules & Procedures at www.mafc.mq.edu.au.

Extension Requests:

- Deferral of an examination is not permitted, unless special consideration has been approved by the Director of Studies under the University’s Disruption to Studies Policy.
- Refer to MAFC Program Rules & Procedures at www.mafc.mq.edu.au for information on the University’s Disruption to Studies Policy for non-attendance at an examination.

This Assessment Task relates to the following Learning Outcomes:

- Explain the main components of and the linkages between the three major financial statements.
- Critically assess a company’s historical financial performance using financial ratios and other analysis tools.
- Apply financial analysis skills to develop financial projections for a project or business.

Delivery and Resources

REQUIRED AND RECOMMENDED TEXTS AND/OR MATERIALS

Required Text:

Financial Statements Demystified by Kramer and Johnson 209 McGraw-Hill.

This textbook is available as either a print book or eBook. Details of the two versions are shown below:


Additional Readings:

- Additional readings are included in iLearn
- Students should assume these readings are examinable unless otherwise advised.

Assumed Knowledge: Mathematical content

- Finance has a high level of numerate content. Consequently this unit is, in parts,
mathematical and arithmetical. As an indication of the level of algebra required, students should find the following problem easy to solve:

$$1,000 = 681.20 \times \left(1 + \frac{Z}{2}\right)^{10}$$

Solve for $Z$:

**Assumed Access:** Access to a computer with word processing and spreadsheet capability is assumed, as is general student computer literacy. A recent version of Excel is the preferred choice spreadsheet.

### TECHNOLOGY USED AND REQUIRED

This is an online unit which will make use of the University's iLearn system.

**Unit's iLearn Site:**

- Found by logging on to iLearn [ilearn.mq.edu.au](http://ilearn.mq.edu.au), then clicking on Financial Statement Analysis and Modelling.
- This is where you will find forums, downloadable resources and links to important pages.
- The forum allows you to communicate with other students and lecturer(s) and may provide supplementary material.
- You are requested to post your questions on the forums at least 24 hours prior to the assignment submission date or the examination date. Questions posted after that time may not be answered. **Please try to not leave your questions to the last few days.**

**Important Notice:**

- It is important that you familiarize yourself with the Unit’s iLearn site.
- All students should check iLearn regularly and look for updates and distribution of materials related to the unit or assessments and participate in forum discussions.

**Assumed access to technology:** Access to a computer with word processing and spreadsheet capability is assumed, as is general student computer literacy. A recent version of Excel is the preferred choice spreadsheet.

### Unit Schedule

The following schedule is a guide to the timing of each topic. Details of the required readings are provided in iLearn.

https://unitguides.mq.edu.au/unit_offers/68022/unit_guide/print
Learning and Teaching Activities

Strategy

Programs in the Applied Finance Centre adopt a deep teaching and learning strategy in which students acquire and retain knowledge and also are able to make sense of the issues and concepts and apply them in the “real world”. The program relies heavily on student engagement and participation by: (a) Continuous learning throughout the term. This is encouraged through a combination of students undertaking prescribed reading throughout the units and/or completion of practice problems, online activities, case studies, assignments, class discussions, etc and interaction via forums; and (b) Assessments, which enable the student to demonstrate his/her understanding of the learning objectives achieved through the continuous learning.

Student Participation

This is an online unit. Students participate in this unit by: (a) Actively engaging with the required readings of this unit; (b) Working systematically through exercises and completing on-line activities; (c) Interacting in forums; and (d) Completing all assessment tasks and exams.

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

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Week</th>
<th>Topic</th>
<th>Date when you should have started working on this topic</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>0</td>
<td>Orientation and Topic 1: Introduction to financial statement analysis</td>
<td>28 March 2016</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Topic 1: Introduction to financial statement analysis</td>
<td>4 April 2016</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Topic 2: Introduction to modelling</td>
<td>11 April 2016</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Topic 3: Preparing financial statements</td>
<td>18 April 2016</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Topic 4: A closer look at the balance sheet</td>
<td>25 April 2016</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>Topic 5: Preparing a financial model Part 1</td>
<td>2 May 2016</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>Topic 7: Analysis of financial statements Part 1</td>
<td>16 May 2016</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>Topic 8: Analysis of financial statements Part 2</td>
<td>23 May 2016</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9</td>
<td>Topic 9: Preparing a financial model Part 3</td>
<td>30 May 2016</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10</td>
<td>Exam preparation</td>
<td>6 June 2016</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>


Disruption to Studies Policy http://www.mq.edu.au/policy/docs/disruption_studies/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/

**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.

Students should also consult the MAFC Program Rules & Procedures found at http://www.mafc.mq.edu.au

**Student Support**

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

**Learning Skills**

Learning Skills (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 (MAFC-specific)**

For all student enquiries, please contact studentsupport@mafc.mq.edu.au
Student Enquiry Service
For all student enquiries, visit Student Connect at ask.mq.edu.au

Equity 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.

Learning Skills
Learning Skills (http://www.students.mq.edu.au/support/learning_skills/) 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

IT Help
For help with University computer systems and technology, visit http://www.mq.edu.au/about_us/offices_and_units/information_technology/help/.

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.

Graduate Capabilities
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
- Apply financial analysis skills to develop financial projections for a project or business.
- Construct spreadsheet based integrated financial models.
- Demonstrate proficiency in using spreadsheet based financial modelling to solve a range of finance based problems.

Assessment tasks
- Quizzes
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

- Explain the main components of and the linkages between the three major financial statements.
- Critically assess a company’s historical financial performance using financial ratios and other analysis tools.
- Apply financial analysis skills to develop financial projections for a project or business.
- Construct spreadsheet based integrated financial models.
- Demonstrate proficiency in using spreadsheet based financial modelling to solve a range of finance based problems.

Assessment tasks

- Quizzes
- Short Exercises
- 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 systemically 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 outcome

- Critically assess a company’s historical financial performance using financial ratios and
other analysis tools.

**Assessment tasks**

- Quizzes
- Short Exercises
- Assignment
- Final Examination

**Important Notice**

This unit guide contains important information about the Unit. If anything is unclear, please consult one of the unit lecturers.

**Standards Required to Complete the Unit Satisfactorily**

**University Policy on Grading:**

- Macquarie University’s Academic Senate has established a Grading Policy available at [http://www.mq.edu.au/policy/docs/grading/policy.html](http://www.mq.edu.au/policy/docs/grading/policy.html). Your final result will include:
  - A grade ranging from Fail to High Distinction; and
  - A Standardised Numerical Grade (SNG). A SNG is not a summation of the individual assessment components, but is allocated on the basis of the performance in all assessment items.

- It is important to note:
  - The Policy does not require that a minimum or maximum number of students are to be failed in any unit;
  - Grades will not be allocated to fit a predetermined distribution; and
  - The process of allocating SNGs does not change the rank order of marks among students who pass the unit.

**Specific Unit Grading:**

- All final grades in the Applied Finance Centre are determined by a grading committee and are not the sole responsibility of the unit convenor.
- The core criteria used to assess student work in this unit are:
  - Knowledge and understanding: Understanding key ideas, knowledge and use of concepts.
  - Application: Ability to apply theoretical ideas and frameworks in practice and in a critically reflective way.
• Reasoning and analysis: Ability to analyse, use critical reasoning and principles to formulate a position, balancing theory and personal reflection.
• Professional literacy and research: Understanding of professional factors (language and landscape) and ability to undertake appropriate research.
• Communication and presentation: Ability to communicate and present effectively (written and oral, as relevant).
• Use of mathematical and statistical ideas: Ability to use mathematical and statistical ideas, methods and formulae appropriately.

• Performance in relation to each of these criteria are assessed against the University’s grading descriptors:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Grade</th>
<th>Expectation</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>High Distinction</td>
<td>Provides consistent evidence of deep and critical understanding in relation to the learning outcomes. There is substantial originality and insight in identifying, generating and communicating competing arguments, perspectives or problem solving approaches; critical evaluation of problems, their solutions and their implications; creativity in application as appropriate to the discipline.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Distinction</td>
<td>Provides evidence of integration and evaluation of critical ideas, principles and theories, distinctive insight and ability in applying relevant skills and concepts in relation to learning outcomes. There is demonstration of frequent originality in defining and analysing issues or problems and providing solutions; and the use of means of communication appropriate to the discipline and the audience.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Credit</td>
<td>Provides evidence of learning that goes beyond replication of content knowledge or skills relevant to the learning outcomes. There is demonstration of substantial understanding of fundamental concepts in the field of study and the ability to apply these concepts in a variety of contexts; convincing argumentation with appropriate coherent justification; communication of ideas fluently and clearly in terms of the conventions of the discipline.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pass</td>
<td>Provides sufficient evidence of the achievement of learning outcomes. There is demonstration of understanding and application of fundamental concepts of the field of study; routine argumentation with acceptable justification; communication of information and ideas adequately in terms of the conventions of the discipline. The learning attainment is considered satisfactory or adequate or competent or capable in relation to the specified outcomes.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fail</td>
<td>Does not provide evidence of attainment of learning outcomes. There is missing or partial or superficial or faulty understanding and application of the fundamental concepts in the field of study; missing, undeveloped, inappropriate or confusing argumentation; incomplete, confusing or lacking communication of ideas in ways that give little attention to the conventions of the discipline.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Review of Grade and final examination Script viewing:

• A student who has been awarded a final grade for a unit and who does not believe it is an accurate reflection of their performance, and has grounds for such a claim and can demonstrate those grounds, may apply to have their grade reviewed.

• For information on requesting a review of grade and/or viewing your final exam script, please refer to the University’s Grade Appeal Policy at [http://www.mq.edu.au/policy/docs/gradeappeal/policy.html](http://www.mq.edu.au/policy/docs/gradeappeal/policy.html) and MAFC Program Rules & Procedures at [http://www.mafc.mq.edu.au](http://www.mafc.mq.edu.au).