ECFS868
Financial Risk Management
AFC Term 2 CBD 2016
Dept of Applied Finance and Actuarial Studies

Contents

General Information .................................................. 2
Learning Outcomes .................................................. 3
General Assessment Information ................................. 3
Assessment Tasks ..................................................... 4
Delivery and Resources .............................................. 8
Unit Schedule .......................................................... 10
Learning and Teaching Activities ................................. 12
Policies and Procedures ............................................. 13
Graduate Capabilities ............................................... 15
Changes from Previous Offering ................................. 18
Important Notice ..................................................... 18
Standards Required to Complete the Unit Satisfactorily .... 18

Disclaimer
Macquarie University has taken all reasonable measures to ensure the information in this publication is accurate and up-to-date. However, the information may change or become out-dated as a result of change in University policies, procedures or rules. The University reserves the right to make changes to any information in this publication without notice. Users of this publication are advised to check the website version of this publication (or the relevant faculty or department) before acting on any information in this publication.
## General Information

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Unit convenor and teaching staff</th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Unit Convenor / Lecturer</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Elizabeth Sheedy</td>
<td><a href="mailto:elizabeth.sheedy@mafc.mq.edu.au">elizabeth.sheedy@mafc.mq.edu.au</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Contact via Email</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sydney</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Lecturer</th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Maxwell Morley</td>
<td><a href="mailto:maxwell.morley@mq.edu.au">maxwell.morley@mq.edu.au</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Contact via Email</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Melbourne, Beijing, Sydney</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Lecturer</th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Paul Kennedy</td>
<td><a href="mailto:paul.kennedy@mq.edu.au">paul.kennedy@mq.edu.au</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Contact via email</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sydney, Singapore</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

| Mi Yea Park                      | miyea.park@mafc.mq.edu.au |

| Credit points                    | 4 |

| Prerequisites                    | (Admission to MAppFin or PGCertAppFin or GradDipAppFin) and (AFCP801 or (ECFS865 and ECFS867)) |

| Corequisites                     |  |

| Co-badged status                |  |
Unit description
Financial Risk Management (FRM) is based on an enterprise risk management framework designed to increase the likelihood that an organisation will achieve its objectives. Unlike traditional, purely defensive approaches to risk, FRM's philosophy focuses on how effective risk management adds value to the organisation. We consider methods for identifying, assessing and treating a variety of risks, with special focus on market, credit, funding liquidity and operational risks. The unit encompasses both quantitative skills and broader human and organisational issues. We encourage students to question the assumptions behind the models, to think about behavioural biases, to identify ethical issues, to consider incentives, and to think creatively of risk management solutions. The lectures deliver theoretical and industry relevance by using a case study methodology. Lectures are complemented by online learning activities designed to promote student interaction, engagement, and understanding throughout the Unit. Assessable pre-course activities must be completed prior to the first class.

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. Assess an enterprise, strategy, transaction or situation to identify and classify the key risks.
2. Apply a risk management framework having regard to the institutional setting (banks, non-financial corporation vs. managed funds).
3. Critique or defend governance systems for an enterprise having regard to incentive conflicts between stakeholder groups, information asymmetries, appropriate risk-taking and ethical considerations.
4. Identify and analyse ethical dilemmas that arise in risk management.
5. Understand and assess the following risks: market, credit, operational, funding liquidity
6. Use, interpret and critique quantitative methods to investigate market and credit risks.
7. Design risk management strategies appropriate to the organisational context and risk appetite.

General Assessment Information
To pass this unit (requires a Standardised Numerical Grade of 50 or better) the student must pass the final examination.

Assessable pre-course activities are to be completed. Assessable pre-course activities (taking 4-8 hours) MUST be completed prior to the first class. Go to Topic 1 and complete all the Before Class Activities. Non-completion will result in zero marks for these activities.
assessments and, more importantly, reduce the quality of your learning experience.

Assessment Tasks

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Weighting</th>
<th>Due</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Assignment</td>
<td>30%</td>
<td>Refer to Timetable</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Participation</td>
<td>10%</td>
<td>In iLearn</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Online Quizzes</td>
<td>20%</td>
<td>In iLearn</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Final Exam</td>
<td>40%</td>
<td>Refer to Timetable</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Assignment

Due: Refer to Timetable  
Weighting: 30%

Summary of Assessment Task

Individual / Group: Individual

Due Date: One week prior to the final exam.

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

Submission Method: Via Turnitin on iLearn; students are required to use the cover sheet provided.

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.

Other Information:

- The assignment may be available on the iLearn site. In some teaching Centres it may be handed out in class.

This Assessment Task relates to the following Learning Outcomes:

- Assess an enterprise, strategy, transaction or situation to identify and classify the key risks.
- Apply a risk management framework having regard to the institutional setting (banks, non-financial corporation vs. managed funds).
• Understand and assess the following risks: market, credit, operational, funding liquidity
• Use, interpret and critique quantitative methods to investigate market and credit risks.
• Design risk management strategies appropriate to the organisational context and risk appetite.

Participation

Due: In iLearn
Weighting: 10%

Summary of Assessment Task

Individual / Group: Individual

Timing/Duration: Assessable online discussion forums and class discussions will occur throughout the unit, with some assessment completed prior to the first class i.e. the 'Before Class' activities in relation to Topic 1. Students will be notified of closing dates for assessable online discussion forums in class and via the News Forum. Generally students will have a window of at least one week to make a contribution.

Grading Method: Participation judged on quality and frequency. Good questions are highly valued.

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

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:

• Assess an enterprise, strategy, transaction or situation to identify and classify the key risks.
• Apply a risk management framework having regard to the institutional setting (banks, non-financial corporation vs. managed funds).
• Critique or defend governance systems for an enterprise having regard to incentive conflicts between stakeholder groups, information asymmetries, appropriate risk-taking and ethical considerations.
• Identify and analyse ethical dilemmas that arise in risk management.
• Use, interpret and critique quantitative methods to investigate market and credit risks.
• Design risk management strategies appropriate to the organisational context and risk appetite.
Online Quizzes

Due: In iLearn
Weighting: 20%

Summary of Assessment Task

Individual / Group: Individual

Timing/Duration: Seven online quizzes will be scheduled throughout the unit with the first two quizzes to be completed before the first class (see ‘Before Class’ activities in relation to Topic 1). Students can complete the quiz any time before the closing date/time and the duration is 30-60 minutes.

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

Submission Method: Via iLearn.

Examination 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 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:

• Critique or defend governance systems for an enterprise having regard to incentive conflicts between stakeholder groups, information asymmetries, appropriate risk-taking and ethical considerations.
• Understand and assess the following risks: market, credit, operational, funding liquidity
• Use, interpret and critique quantitative methods to investigate market and credit risks.

Final Exam

Due: Refer to Timetable
Weighting: 40%

Summary of Assessment Task

Individual / Group: Individual

Due Date: Different Class Groups have different deadlines. Students should find the timetable and dates relevant to their group at www.mafc.mq.edu.au

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

Submission Method: As per MAFC Program Rules & Procedures at [www.mafc.mq.edu.au](http://www.mafc.mq.edu.au)

Duration: 2 hours plus 10 minutes reading time

Examination Conditions:

- All examinations are closed book. However, permitted materials and aids are:
  - A formula sheet to be provided at the exam.
  - Specified calculators only.
- Exam times and locations are noted in the unit timetable at [www.mafc.mq.edu.au](http://www.mafc.mq.edu.au).
- Refer to MAFC Program Rules & Procedures at [www.mafc.mq.edu.au](http://www.mafc.mq.edu.au).

Extension Requests:

- You are expected to present yourself for examination at the time and place designated in the relevant MAFC Timetable at [www.mafc.mq.edu.au](http://www.mafc.mq.edu.au).
- 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](http://www.mafc.mq.edu.au) for information on the University’s Disruption to Studies Policy or non-attendance at an examination.

This Assessment Task relates to the following Learning Outcomes:

- Assess an enterprise, strategy, transaction or situation to identify and classify the key risks.
- Apply a risk management framework having regard to the institutional setting (banks, non-financial corporation vs. managed funds).
- Critique or defend governance systems for an enterprise having regard to incentive conflicts between stakeholder groups, information asymmetries, appropriate risk-taking and ethical considerations.
- Identify and analyse ethical dilemmas that arise in risk management.
- Understand and assess the following risks: market, credit, operational, funding liquidity
- Use, interpret and critique quantitative methods to investigate market and credit risks.
- Design risk management strategies appropriate to the organisational context and risk appetite.
Delivery and Resources

CLASSES

Face-to-Face Teaching: Generally 30 hours

Online Activities: Under the ‘flipped classroom’ model, some learning activities will take place independently and online (using iLearn).

Timetable: Detailed timetable for classes are on the Centre’s web site www.mafc.mq.edu.au

Class Changes:

Students will only be permitted to change classes if authorised by the Applied Finance Centre.

Request for changes must be made:

• By completion of a Change of Unit Form, available on the Centre’s web site at www.mafc.mq.edu.au; or
• In person by going to reception at the relevant Applied Finance Centre location.

Consultation Times: Students who wish to contact any of the teaching staff may do so through the unit’s iLearn forum in relation to general queries (so that all students may benefit).

REQUIRED AND RECOMMENDED TEXTS AND/OR MATERIALS

Text:

• Students should buy this text. It provides a very up-to-date exposition of relevant material. The lecture notes reference it extensively.

Additional Readings:

• Additional readings are included in the Unit notes and/or on the unit iLearn site.
• Essential readings are examinable but Extension readings are not. If in doubt, students should assume that a reading is examinable.

Lecture Notes: Available in printed form and electronically via iLearn.

Useful References:


Calculators:

• A financial calculator that can handle time value of money calculations, logs and power
functions is required.

- The Hewlett Packard calculator hp17bII+ is recommended.
- In examinations, any calculator is permitted provided it does not have communication capacity.
- No mobile phones or computers are permitted in examinations.

**Laptop Computers:**

- Some classes (Topics 3 and 6) involve in-class computer exercises. Students are strongly encouraged to bring (fully charged) laptops to those classes.

**Assumed Knowledge:** Mathematics, Statistics and Economics content

- Finance has a high level of numerate content. Consequently this unit is, in parts, mathematical and statistical. As an indication of the level of statistics, students should find the following problem easy to solve: If an asset has expected return of 10% p.a. and standard deviation of 15% p.a., what is the probability that returns over the next year will be less than 0%?
- Finance is a branch of Economics. This unit assumes knowledge of market structures (monopoly vs perfect competition), price elasticity of demand etc.
- AFCP812 Quantitative and Economic Analysis (gateway unit for MAF students) covers both quantitative techniques and microeconomics. If you wish to brush up your skills you may request enrolment into this unit on a non-award basis by sending an email to campusprogramservices@mafc.mq.edu.au

**Assumed Access:** Access to a computer with word processing and spreadsheet capability is assumed, as is general student computer literacy.

**TECHNOLOGY USED AND REQUIRED**

**Unit’s iLearn Site:**

- Found by logging on to iLearn [ilearn.mq.edu.au](http://ilearn.mq.edu.au), then clicking on **ECFS 868 - Financial Risk Management.**
Unit Schedule

1. A RISK MANAGEMENT FRAMEWORK


Topics:

- Defining risk and risk management.
- The bank perspective.
- The corporate perspective.
- Exposure types (transaction, translation, economic).
- Handling exposure uncertainty
- Case Study: BHP Billiton

Pre-Class: Statistics Review, ERM Frameworks, Introductions, Bank Scandals

2. RISK AND THE BALANCE SHEET

References: Crouhy, Galai and Marks Chapters 3, 8 and 17

Topics:

- Asset and liability mismatch (gap analysis)
- Earnings variability, product repricing issues
• Funding liquidity risk (liquidity coverage ratio, net stable funding ratio)
• Early warning indicators and risk management for funding/liquidity risk
• Role of the Asset and Liability Committee
• Economic v. Regulatory Capital
• Risk-adjusted Return on Capital (RAROC)
• Bank regulatory frameworks
• Case Study: Lehman Brothers

3. ANALYSING MARKET RISK

References: Crouhy, Galai and Marks Chapter 7

Topics:
• Market risk in the corporate setting
• Monte Carlo simulation
• Analysing risk in trading/investment portfolios
• The Greeks (risk sensitivity)
• Some features of real-world data (violations of Normality)
• Value-at-risk and Expected Shortfall
• Regulatory trends in market risk
• Using risk measures to manage market risk
• Grappling with model risk

4. GOVERNANCE, ETHICS AND RISK

References: Crouhy, Galai and Marks Chapter 4

Topics:
• Why governance?
• Corporate governance overview
• Corporate governance and risk management
• Risk governance in banks
• Risk culture
• Designing the risk management framework
• Remuneration and Performance Measurement
• Performance based remuneration
• Equity based remuneration
• Ethical dilemmas for risk managers
• Case study: Barclays

Pre-Class: Readings, videos, online quiz and assessable forums
5. CREDIT RISK

References: Crouhy, Galai and Marks Chapters 9, 10

Topics:

- Retail vs Commercial vs Corporate Credit Context
- Key elements of credit risk (probability of default, loss given default, exposure at default)
- Methods of credit risk management
- Regulatory trends in credit risk
- Structural approach to credit analysis
- Reduced form methods for credit analysis (hazard rate modelling)
- Credit Rating Agencies
- Principles of credit model selection
- Counterparty credit risk (introduction)
- Credit Default Swaps (introduction)

6. OPERATIONAL RISK

References: Crouhy, Galai and Marks Chapter 14

Topics:

- Definition, scope and nature of operational risk (including long tail)
- Assessing operational risk with simulation methods and structured workshops
- Regulatory trends in operational risk
- Key Risk Indicators (KRI's) for operational risk
- Risk mitigation and treatment options

Learning and Teaching Activities

Strategy

Financial Risk Management has adopted the 'flipped classroom' methodology where students take greater responsibility for their own learning outside of the classroom. Students come to class better prepared and this enables class time to be used more effectively to explore complex issues and cases. There are more opportunities for student-to-student interaction, helping students to build the professional networks that are invaluable for career advancement. We expect that this learning and teaching method will encourage deeper and more effective learning.

The unit relies heavily on student engagement and participation by: (a) Continuous learning throughout the semester. 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

Students participate in this unit by: (a) Attending lectures and participating in class discussion; (b) Before each class, completing the pre-class activities, reading notes and other prescribed readings; (c) After each class, working systematically through suggested problem sets and completing post-class on-line activities; (d) Interacting in forums; and (e) Completing all assessment tasks and exams. On average the unit will require students to complete, for every hour of class time, approximately 4 hours private study.

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:


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](ask.mq.edu.au).

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

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

- Assess an enterprise, strategy, transaction or situation to identify and classify the key risks.
- Critique or defend governance systems for an enterprise having regard to incentive conflicts between stakeholder groups, information asymmetries, appropriate risk-taking and ethical considerations.
- Identify and analyse ethical dilemmas that arise in risk management.
- Understand and assess the following risks: market, credit, operational, funding liquidity
- Use, interpret and critique quantitative methods to investigate market and credit risks.

Assessment tasks

- Assignment
- Participation
- Online Quizzes
- 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

- Assess an enterprise, strategy, transaction or situation to identify and classify the key risks.
- Identify and analyse ethical dilemmas that arise in risk management.
- Understand and assess the following risks: market, credit, operational, funding liquidity
- Use, interpret and critique quantitative methods to investigate market and credit risks.
Design risk management strategies appropriate to the organisational context and risk appetite.

**Assessment tasks**

- Assignment
- Participation
- Online Quizzes
- Final Exam

**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**

- Critique or defend governance systems for an enterprise having regard to incentive conflicts between stakeholder groups, information asymmetries, appropriate risk-taking and ethical considerations.
- Identify and analyse ethical dilemmas that arise in risk management.
- Understand and assess the following risks: market, credit, operational, funding liquidity
- Use, interpret and critique quantitative methods to investigate market and credit risks.
- Design risk management strategies appropriate to the organisational context and risk appetite.

**Assessment tasks**

- Assignment
- Participation
- Final Exam

**PG - Research and Problem Solving Capability**

Our postgraduates will be capable of systematic enquiry; able to use research skills to create new knowledge that can be applied to real world issues, or contribute to a field of study or practice to enhance society. They will be capable of creative questioning, problem finding and problem solving.

This graduate capability is supported by:
Learning outcomes

- Apply a risk management framework having regard to the institutional setting (banks, non-financial corporation vs. managed funds).
- Critique or defend governance systems for an enterprise having regard to incentive conflicts between stakeholder groups, information asymmetries, appropriate risk-taking and ethical considerations.
- Identify and analyse ethical dilemmas that arise in risk management.
- Understand and assess the following risks: market, credit, operational, funding liquidity
- Use, interpret and critique quantitative methods to investigate market and credit risks.
- Design risk management strategies appropriate to the organisational context and risk appetite.

Assessment tasks

- Assignment
- Online Quizzes
- Final Exam

PG - Effective Communication

Our postgraduates will be able to communicate effectively and convey their views to different social, cultural, and professional audiences. They will be able to use a variety of technologically supported media to communicate with empathy using a range of written, spoken or visual formats.

This graduate capability is supported by:

Learning outcomes

- Apply a risk management framework having regard to the institutional setting (banks, non-financial corporation vs. managed funds).
- Critique or defend governance systems for an enterprise having regard to incentive conflicts between stakeholder groups, information asymmetries, appropriate risk-taking and ethical considerations.
- Identify and analyse ethical dilemmas that arise in risk management.
- Understand and assess the following risks: market, credit, operational, funding liquidity
- Use, interpret and critique quantitative methods to investigate market and credit risks.
- Design risk management strategies appropriate to the organisational context and risk appetite.
Assessment tasks

- Assignment
- Participation
- Final Exam

PG - Engaged and Responsible, Active and Ethical Citizens

Our postgraduates will be ethically aware and capable of confident transformative action in relation to their professional responsibilities and the wider community. They will have a sense of connectedness with others and country and have a sense of mutual obligation. They will be able to appreciate the impact of their professional roles for social justice and inclusion related to national and global issues.

This graduate capability is supported by:

Learning outcomes

- Apply a risk management framework having regard to the institutional setting (banks, non-financial corporation vs. managed funds).
- Critique or defend governance systems for an enterprise having regard to incentive conflicts between stakeholder groups, information asymmetries, appropriate risk-taking and ethical considerations.
- Identify and analyse ethical dilemmas that arise in risk management.
- Understand and assess the following risks: market, credit, operational, funding liquidity

Assessment tasks

- Participation
- Final Exam

Changes from Previous Offering

No changes.

Important Notice

This unit guide may be subject to change. The latest version is on the Centre’s website www.mq.edu.au. Students should read the Unit Guide carefully at the start of semester. It 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. 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, providing the examination component is passed.

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:

- To pass this unit (requires a Standardised Numerical Grade of 50 or better) the student must pass the final examination.
- 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:
### Grade and Expectation

<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).