



ACCG941

Governance, Risk and Ethics

S2 Day 2018

Dept of Accounting & Corporate Governance

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General Information

Unit convenor and teaching staff

Unit Convenor and Lecturer

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4ER Level 2

See iLearn

Moderator

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Credit points

4

Prerequisites

ACCG926

Corequisites

ACCG943

Co-badged status

Unit description

This unit examines governance within an organisation in the broad context of the agency relationship. This unit focuses on the respective roles and responsibilities of directors and officers to organisational stakeholders and of accounting and auditing as a support and control functions. The topics addressed include internal review, control and feedback, compliance issues relating to decision-making and the decision support function as well as risk controls. In addition, the unit critically examines personal and professional ethical issues, ethical frameworks and professional values as applied in the context of the accountants' duties and as a guide to appropriate professional behaviour and conduct in a variety of situations.

Important Academic Dates

Information about important academic dates including deadlines for withdrawing from units are available at <https://www.mq.edu.au/study/calendar-of-dates>

Learning Outcomes

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

- Show an understanding of governance, risks and ethics in accounting.
- Demonstrate the ability to apply the agency relationship in a business context.
- Evaluate the professional accountant's role in internal control, review and compliance.
- Explain the role of accountant in identifying, assessing, controlling and mitigating risk.
- Apply professional values and judgements through an ethical framework that is in the best interests of society and the profession.

Assessment Tasks

Name	Weighting	Hurdle	Due
Assessed Coursework	15%	No	Throughout
Class Test	15%	No	Week 8
Assignment	20%	No	See iLearn
Exam	50%	No	See iLearn

Assessed Coursework

Due: **Throughout**

Weighting: **15%**

Homework exercises form a critical part in the study process, as they serve to reinforce concepts that are covered in class or online. Students have often failed a unit as they do not follow a disciplined approach over the session. To this end, students will be required to attend seminars with their weekly homework. The teaching staff will check that these are satisfactorily attempted.

The teaching staff will collect exercises on six (6) occasions at the beginning of the class, without prior notice. Marks are awarded for the completeness and evidence that corrections are made as appropriate during class-time.

The homework component will be worth 12%, with each submission counting for 2%. The remaining 3% will be based on the quality and frequency of the student's seminar participation. Students should be prepared to engage constructively in open discussions on relevant topical issues.

On successful completion you will be able to:

- Show an understanding of governance, risks and ethics in accounting.

- Demonstrate the ability to apply the agency relationship in a business context.
- Evaluate the professional accountant's role in internal control, review and compliance.
- Explain the role of accountant in identifying, assessing, controlling and mitigating risk.
- Apply professional values and judgements through an ethical framework that is in the best interests of society and the profession.

Class Test

Due: **Week 8**

Weighting: **15%**

The class test is a one hour and half diagnostic summative assessment designed to let students demonstrate the knowledge and skills they have attained in the first six sessions.

Extensions

There are no extensions for this assessment. Students must be present in class to sit for the class test.

Penalties

Students not attending the class test will be given a 0 grade. This penalty does not apply for cases in which an application for Special Consideration is made and approved.

On successful completion you will be able to:

- Show an understanding of governance, risks and ethics in accounting.
- Demonstrate the ability to apply the agency relationship in a business context.
- Evaluate the professional accountant's role in internal control, review and compliance.

Assignment

Due: **See iLearn**

Weighting: **20%**

The purpose of the assignment is to allow students to put knowledge developed in the unit into practice in a real life setting and allow students to demonstrate their ability to apply their knowledge on a group basis. The assignment should help students reflect on their learning and link concepts learned in the unit to professional practice. This is a formative assessment designed to prepare students for the final exam. Further details on the Assignment are provided on the iLearn.

In addition to this 20% unit weighting, a further direct assessment on the assignment topics will be made as a part of the *Final Examination*. This assignment component in the *Final Examination* constitutes an overall 20% unit weighting.

Extensions

No extensions will be granted. Late tasks will be accepted up to 72 hours after the submission deadline.

Penalties

There will be a deduction of 10% 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 – 20% penalty). This penalty does not apply for cases in which an application for Special Consideration is made and approved.

On successful completion you will be able to:

- Show an understanding of governance, risks and ethics in accounting.
- Demonstrate the ability to apply the agency relationship in a business context.
- Evaluate the professional accountant's role in internal control, review and compliance.
- Apply professional values and judgements through an ethical framework that is in the best interests of society and the profession.

Exam

Due: **See iLearn**

Weighting: **50%**

The exam is a summative assessment designed to let students demonstrate the knowledge and skills they have attained in the previous three formative assessments.

A closed book two and a half hour examination for this unit will be held at a time and place to be advised on iLearn. Further details about the final exam for this unit will be available in the final week of classes and also on the unit web page (iLearn).

The only exception to not sitting an examination at the designated time is because of documented illness or unavoidable disruption. In these circumstances, students should consider applying for Special Consideration.

On successful completion you will be able to:

- Show an understanding of governance, risks and ethics in accounting.
- Demonstrate the ability to apply the agency relationship in a business context.
- Evaluate the professional accountant's role in internal control, review and compliance.
- Explain the role of accountant in identifying, assessing, controlling and mitigating risk.
- Apply professional values and judgements through an ethical framework that is in the best interests of society and the profession.

Delivery and Resources

Classes

- This unit includes 13 weekly seminars and a number of activities as detailed in this unit guide.

- The timetable for classes can be found on the University web site at: <http://www.timetables.mq.edu.au/>
- Seminar attendance for this unit is compulsory.
- Students are required to get involved in seminar discussion.

Student workload

150 hours

Activities	Hours
Sessional seminars	39
Assessed sessional coursework (Preparation for Homework and Class Test)	18
Assignment	40
Final exam	20
Readings/self-study	33
Total	150

Required and Recommended Texts and/or Materials

Prescribed textbooks:

Students are required to refer to the most recent SBL Complete Text, Exam kit and Pocket notes from Kaplan Publishing. Details and pricing can be found at <http://kaplan-publishing.kaplan.co.uk/acca-books/Pages/acca>.

Additional materials will be provided at the beginning of the unit and under each of the weekly headings in ilearn.

Students must read the relevant materials before coming to class and in completing the assessment tasks as well as undertake their own further research. Direction will be provided by the Unit Convenor on additional research materials.

Unit Web Page

Students are required to access a computer and the internet at various times in completing this unit, to download course material available on the learning management system (ilearn) and to complete assessment tasks.

Unit Schedule

1	Introduction to Strategic Business Leader paper.
2	Governance general principles.
3	Approaches to Corporate Governance.
4	Stakeholders and corporate social responsibility.
5	The board of directors.
6	Reporting to stakeholders.
7	Identification, assessment and measurement of risk. SEMESTER BREAK
8	Managing, monitoring and mitigating risk. <u>Class Test</u>
9	Management internal control systems and reporting.
10	Audit and compliance.
11	Professionalism, ethical codes and the public interest (I).
12	Professionalism, ethical codes and the public interest (II).
13	Revision.

Policies and Procedures

Macquarie University policies and procedures are accessible from [Policy Central](https://staff.mq.edu.au/work/strategy-planning-and-governance/university-policies-and-procedures/policy-central) (<https://staff.mq.edu.au/work/strategy-planning-and-governance/university-policies-and-procedures/policy-central>). Students should be aware of the following policies in particular with regard to Learning and Teaching:

- [Academic Appeals Policy](#)
- [Academic Integrity Policy](#)

- [Academic Progression Policy](#)
- [Assessment Policy](#)
- [Fitness to Practice Procedure](#)
- [Grade Appeal Policy](#)
- [Complaint Management Procedure for Students and Members of the Public](#)
- [Special Consideration Policy](#) (**Note:** *The Special Consideration Policy is effective from 4 December 2017 and replaces the Disruption to Studies Policy.*)

Undergraduate students seeking more policy resources can visit the [Student Policy Gateway](https://students.mq.edu.au/support/study/student-policy-gateway) (<https://students.mq.edu.au/support/study/student-policy-gateway>). It is your one-stop-shop for the key policies you need to know about throughout your undergraduate student journey.

If you would like to see all the policies relevant to Learning and Teaching visit [Policy Central](http://staff.mq.edu.au/work/strategy-planning-and-governance/university-policies-and-procedures/policy-central) (<http://staff.mq.edu.au/work/strategy-planning-and-governance/university-policies-and-procedures/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/study/getting-started/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.

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 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

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 - 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

- Show an understanding of governance, risks and ethics in accounting.
- Demonstrate the ability to apply the agency relationship in a business context.
- Evaluate the professional accountant's role in internal control, review and compliance.
- Explain the role of accountant in identifying, assessing, controlling and mitigating risk.
- Apply professional values and judgements through an ethical framework that is in the best interests of society and the profession.

Assessment tasks

- Assessed Coursework
- Class Test
- Assignment
- 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

- Show an understanding of governance, risks and ethics in accounting.
- Demonstrate the ability to apply the agency relationship in a business context.
- Evaluate the professional accountant's role in internal control, review and compliance.
- Explain the role of accountant in identifying, assessing, controlling and mitigating risk.
- Apply professional values and judgements through an ethical framework that is in the best interests of society and the profession.

Assessment tasks

- Assessed Coursework
- Class Test
- Assignment
- 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

- Show an understanding of governance, risks and ethics in accounting.
- Apply professional values and judgements through an ethical framework that is in the best interests of society and the profession.

Assessment tasks

- Assessed Coursework
- Class Test
- Assignment
- Exam

Changes from Previous Offering

The topics and assignment have been revised to align with those of the new ACCA Strategic Business Leader curriculum's.

Research and Practice, Global and Sustainability

This unit addresses global and sustainability issues as direct areas of study and as necessary implications arising from the materials, assessment and academic discussion and debate in classes/seminars. We promote sustainability by developing the ability of students to research and locate information within the accounting discipline. This unit provides students with the opportunity to obtain skills which will benefit them throughout their career.