UNIT OUTLINE

YEAR AND SEMESTER: 2011, SEM I
UNIT CONVENOR: DR MEENA CHAVAN
PRE-REQUISITES: Enrolment in Mcom/ MIB/MIR
UNIT WEIGHT: 4 CREDIT POINTS
UNIT LEVEL: 800
LECTURERS: Dr Meena Chavan (Unit Convenor)
Dr Robert Jack

Students in this unit should read this unit outline carefully at the start of semester. It contains important information about the unit. If anything in it is unclear, please consult one of the teaching staff in the unit.

ABOUT THIS UNIT

BUS804 International Business Strategy is a unit offered by the Business Department within the Faculty of Business and Economics at the Macquarie University.

The purpose of this unit is to provide - a conceptual framing of the interplay between the “Multinational Corporations”, the countries in which it does business, and the competitive environment in which it operates. The understanding of this framework enables the professional conduct of Global Business Operations. Even though many of the specific challenges in International Business will continue to evolve we believe that the conceptual framework is the powerful lens through which the changes can be viewed and should be robust enough to endure the changing environment. The aim of this unit is to provide such a lens. This course focuses on how multinational firms operate in a global economy. It will assist students to understand the management challenges associated with developing strategies and handling the operations of companies whose activities stretch across national boundaries.
## TEACHING STAFF

**UNIT CONVENOR & LECTURER**
Dr MEENA CHAVAN  
PhD (International Business)  
**OFFICE**
E4A level 6 Room 625  
Phone  61-2-98509026  
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**EMAIL**
mchavan@efs.mq.edu.au  
**CONSULTING HRS**
12.30 to 4 pm Thursdays  

**LECTURER (Afternoon class)**
Dr ROBERT JACK  
PhD (International Business)  
**OFFICE**
E4A level 6 Room 643  
Phone  61-2-98508463  
Fax  61-2-98506065  
**EMAIL**
rob.jack@mq.edu.au  
**CONSULTING HRS**
3pm to 6pm Wednesdays

## CLASSES

**LECTURES & STUDY**
3 hours face to face lecture, 40 classroom hours and 120 hrs self study  
**MORNING CLASS**
Thu 9-12 E4B 316  
**EVENING CLASS**
Wed 6-9 E6A 108  

The timetable for classes can be found at: [http://www.timetables.mq.edu.au/](http://www.timetables.mq.edu.au/)

## CODE OF CONDUCT

Please turn off your mobile phones while you are in class Arrive on time, and unless it is absolutely essential, please refrain from leaving the class in the middle of a discussion. Students are expected to refrain from unnecessary chatter in class and respect your fellow students. Lecture attendance is mandatory.
REQUIRED AND RECOMMENDED TEXTS AND/OR MATERIALS


UNIT WEB PAGE

This unit is supported by a web Page on BLACKBOARD. You can log into this using the following address: https://learn.mq.edu.au/

LEARNING OUTCOMES

The learning outcomes of this unit are to explore and understand:

- The nature and scope of international business issues
- Drivers, patterns and trends of globalization
- Key factors which serve to differentiate business systems in various cultural and economic settings
- International trade theories and patterns of international trade and Investment
- Foreign market entry strategies and international strategic alliances
- Global Foreign Direct Investment situation
- Implications of regional economic integration
- Global monetary system (Foreign exchange market and global capital Market)
- Ethical and environmental issues in international business and trade
- Evaluate and enhance the ability to think strategically and synthesize knowledge from other business disciplines.
GRADUATE CAPABILITIES

- An ability to gain an appreciation of the options in the global market-place, based on the application of macroeconomic theory
- An awareness of the different kinds of regional trade groups and organisations within the global economy
- An appreciation of diverse cultures and how they impact on business
- Understand the fundamentals of trade patterns within the global economy
- Understanding of the economic, environmental, societal, technological, legal and political forces that affect international business
- Understanding of how managing an international business operation differs from a domestic operation
- Understanding the process of developing and implementing an internationalisation strategy for a business
- An ability to devise different strategies to enter and compete successfully in the global marketplace
- Understand the key economic and business organisations which facilitate engagement with global business

This unit also seeks to develop the following generic skills:

Critical, Analytical and Integrative Thinking
- Problem Solving and Research Capability
- Effective Communication
- Capable of Professional and Personal Judgement and Initiative

LEARNING AND TEACHING STRATEGY

This unit will be taught via the participant-centered, the 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). Students will partake in lectures, discussions, cases, video cases and experiential exercises in class. Students are advised to attend all lectures and participate in discussions, missing classes and not participating in discussions will affect grades.

Case studies will be the extensively used. The case study method is widely used in business schools around the globe. 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 come prepared to discuss them in class. 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. If you are not prepared for a particular class case, please let me know in advance so that I don’t embarrass you inadvertently.

**LEARNING OBJECTIVES**

No firm today can survive without going global. We live in a global economy and this unit focuses on the what? Why? When? And How? of global corporate strategies and foreign market entry strategies. The unit will introduce students to vital issues in strategic decisions facing businesses in the global markets and to provide insights on the practices and policies used by businesses competing globally. It explores the challenges, dynamics and processes involved in managing the multi-national company. This course is designed to give students hands-on experience and will examine critical issues from the perspective of senior executives and managers in charge of these operations. Concepts developed in the course will be applied to the solution of “real world” problems through the use of case studies, role playing, experiential games, simulations and other learning strategies throughout the semester. Its objective is to provide participants with working knowledge of basic theoretical concepts, skills and sensitivities that will help them deal effectively with key management issues and challenges in today’s global business environment.

**WEEKLY COURSE SCHEDULE**

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<th>WEEK</th>
<th>TOPIC</th>
<th>Student Case Analysis</th>
<th>Chapters/class case</th>
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<td>Week 1</td>
<td>Course Introduction &amp; Globalization</td>
<td>Formation of Groups</td>
<td>Chapter 1</td>
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<td>21/02/11</td>
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<td>Video case: Product/business adaption</td>
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<td>Week 2</td>
<td>National Differences in Political Economy</td>
<td>Sample case study: IKEA - The global retailer</td>
<td>Chapter 2</td>
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<td>Video case: Slim secrets: Healthy snack products</td>
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<td>Week 3 07/03/11</td>
<td>Differences in Culture &amp; Ethics in International Business</td>
<td>Case study: BRL Hardy - Globalising an Australian wine company</td>
<td>Group case study presentations commence Chapter 3 &amp; 4</td>
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<td>Video case: Kathryn Brimblecombe-Fox - the artist as exporter</td>
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<td>Week 4 14/03/11</td>
<td>International Trade Theory &amp; The Political Economy of International trade</td>
<td>Case study: Silvio Napoli at Schindler India</td>
<td>Chapter 5 &amp; 6</td>
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<td>Video case: Australian auto components - being a world player</td>
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<td>Week 5 21/03/11</td>
<td>Foreign Direct Investment &amp; Regional Economic Integration</td>
<td>Case study: Boeing Vs Airbus - two decades of trade disputes.</td>
<td>Chapter 7 &amp; 8</td>
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<td>Week 6 28/03/11</td>
<td>The strategy of International Business</td>
<td>Case study: Progressive success - The Toyota way</td>
<td>Chapter 11</td>
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<td>Video cases: Imagination Entertainment &amp; Gloria Jeans Coffee</td>
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<td>Week 7 04/04/11</td>
<td>mMID-TERM EXAM</td>
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<td>Assessment includes weeks 1-6</td>
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<td>11/4/11 to 22/4/11</td>
<td>NTRA SESSION BREAK</td>
<td>Monday 11 April to Friday 22 April 2011</td>
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<td>WEEK</td>
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<td>Week 8</td>
<td>Exporting, Importing, and Counter trade</td>
<td>Case studies: MTV Networks &amp; Wal-Mart’s global expansion</td>
<td>Chapter 14 Video case: Aroma baby: Proactive exports growth</td>
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<td>Week 9</td>
<td>Entry strategy and Strategic alliances</td>
<td>Case study: TNA</td>
<td>Chapter 13 Video Case: Aspen Medical Services</td>
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<td>Week 10</td>
<td>The Organization of International Business</td>
<td>Case study: MYOB</td>
<td>Chapter 12 Video case: Wotif .com An E-Commerce success story</td>
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<td>Week 11</td>
<td>International HRM</td>
<td>Case study: HSBC holdings</td>
<td>Chapter 17</td>
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<td>Week 12</td>
<td>Global Production, Outsourcing and Logistics</td>
<td>Case study: The Wiggles</td>
<td>Chapter 16 Video Case: Gourmet Gardens &amp; Promotions in motion</td>
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<td>23/05/11</td>
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<td>INTERNATIONAL BUSINESS PLAN’S DUE ONLINE</td>
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<td>Week 13</td>
<td>Course Review</td>
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RESEARCH AND PRACTICE

- This unit gives you practice in applying research findings in your assignments
- This unit gives you opportunities to conduct your own research

SUPPLEMENTARY RESEARCH READINGS

Students are requested to read the additional readings on Blackboard. Most readings will be put on Blackboard and if necessary hard copies will be distributed.

WEBSITES

Global edge Global business resources  
http://globaledge.msu.edu/

Virtual Library on International Development  
http://www2.etown.edu/vl/intldev.html

The World Index of Chambers of Commerce & Industry  
http://www.worldchambers.com/

The United Nations  
http://www.un.org/

A Business Researcher's Interests: International Business Technology Information Research Portals on World's Countries & World Newspapers  
http://www.brint.com/International.htm

JOURNALS

- Harvard Business Review;
- Journal of Business Strategy;
- Mckinsey Quarterly.
- Emerald Library Database (http://www.emerald-library.com)
- Asia Week
- Asian Wall Street Journal
- Business Review Weekly
- Journal of International Business Studies
- Management Review
- Straits Times
- The Australian Bulletin
- The Australian Financial Review
- Economist & Fortune
READINGS:


REFERENCING GUIDLINES

The Harvard Style of referencing is recommended in this unit.

Please refer to the University Library website on referencing for further details:

http://www.lib.mq.edu.au/readyref/cites.html

CLASS ASSESSMENTS

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<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Weighting</th>
<th>Due Date</th>
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<tr>
<td>Case Analysis (Group Work)</td>
<td>15%</td>
<td>Weeks 3-12</td>
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<tr>
<td>Midterm Exam</td>
<td>15%</td>
<td>Week 7</td>
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<tr>
<td>International Business Plan Project (Group Work)</td>
<td>20%</td>
<td>Week 12</td>
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<td>Final Exam</td>
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University examination period is from Monday 6 June 2011. Please check the exam timetable for accurate dates.

Assignment 1

Weekly (Case Analysis-Presentation- Group Work)

Due Date: From Week 3

Value: 15%

Time: 25 minutes all up.

The class will be divided into 10 groups of 5-6 members each and groups will pick a case and a week in a draw and discuss and present the analysis for the week’s case study within a time period of 25 minutes in class. Each group will be given a mark out of 15 for the presentation. Please note the mark will not be a group mark and every one of the members should present and will be marked individually for the part they present.

All students are supposed to read the week’s case study before coming to class and come ready to discuss, defend and question other students. The process of
analysing a case study will be taught to you in the first 2 lectures and a “How to analyse a case study” document is on the Black Board.

The case analysis will include:

A. Introduction.

B. Body (should include the following sections: identification of major stakeholders and their problems, objective and concern; positive and negative views, identification of problems; analysis of alternative solutions; recommended solutions, managerial implications)

C. Conclusion Briefly summarize the essential complexities posed in this case and the significance of optional solutions. Marks will be allocated to each of these. Detailed criteria are up on the Black Board.

D. Answers to case questions Every case will have questions at the end and you are supposed to answer them in context to your analysis.

Marking criteria are:

- Analytical skills
- Innovative solutions
- Team work
- Presentation skill.

Assignment 2

International Business Plan (Group work)

Due date: Week 11
Value: 20%
Length: 20-40 pages

International Business Plan Project

In this project students develop a plan to introduce a new product or service into a market somewhere around the globe. The assignment includes the following:

1. Identify the distinctive features of doing business in a specific country (e.g., demographics, economic conditions, competition, political/legal forces, cultural forces, etc.).
2. Conduct a Risk Assessment that describes the various risk factors associated with doing business in that country (e.g., political risk, currency risk, economic risk, property rights risk, etc.).

3. Identify a product or service that you would like to market in this country. Identify the specific rationale that makes your idea a viable business opportunity.

4. Develop a Market Entry Strategy and specific Market Entry Plan to enter the country of choice (e.g., exporting, piggybacking, counter trade, foreign production, etc.).

There are some good resources available to assist students in examining the economic, political, cultural, infrastructural, and demographic factors around the globe:

- **Global Entrepreneurship Monitor reports** (see drop down on upper right hand corner of this site for specific country report)
- **World Bank website** (click on Documents & Reports, and use the country search feature - this site has a wealth of information on many key topics)
- **CIA World Fact book** (extensive information available at this site)

An International Business Plan will be uploaded on the Blackboard for guidance. The best projects will be submitted to the Austrade Business Plan competition:

**Austrade International Business Plan Competition 2011**

The 2011 International Business Plan Competition for individual students and teams enrolled at a tertiary institution in Australia is open from February to 15 October.

The competition enables tertiary students to plan the elements required for an Australian business to sell its products or services overseas. Entrants may select one of three streams, reflecting differing stages of growth for an Australian-based business:

1. **International business concept** – a new business idea that is not yet operating.

2. **New to international business** – an existing business that is not yet selling overseas

3. **Expanding markets** – business is currently doing business overseas and plans to expand into another market that has sales opportunities for the product or service.
International business plans should consider elements such as business capability, market research, market entry strategy, marketing strategy and international business administration.

Lecturers are encouraged to include the competition in their assessment programs. The [rules and entry form](#) (55KB) provides an outline of the competition.

Also available is a [market research file](#) (116KB) to help students select overseas markets based on real demographic, cultural and commercial information. This market research file contains advice and useful links to data, articles and agencies related to our trading partners.

The winning individual or team will receive $2,000. The opportunity to attend the National Export Awards Presentation and Gala Dinner in November will be presented to the national individual winner (or the designated representative in a team entry).

**ASSESSMENT CRITERIA FOR THE PROJECT**
The quality of your research project in this unit will be assessed on the following criteria:

- Extensive Quality Research
- Organisation of the project
- Team Work
- Decisions made
- Outcomes

**RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN ASSESSMENT AND LEARNING OUTCOMES**

- Demonstrate successful team work
- Appraise through experiential learning of corporate settings, various business situations
- Demonstrate professional presentation skills and analytical skills
- Acquire strong conceptual knowledge along with examinable skills in the real time real world corporate cases
- Acquire knowledge on all aspects of launching a global business by conducting in depth research in the country of choice selected for doing business with.
- Critically analyse the assigned cases
- Participate in class discussions
- Demonstrate an understanding of the theoretical conceptual and practical issues in International business by recalling facts theory and examples.
EXAMINATIONS

MID TERM EXAM

Date: Week 7
Value: 15%
Venue: Class 1 MORNING CLASS Thu 9-12 E4B 316
         Class 2 EVENING CLASSSS Wed 8-9 E6A 108
Length: 1.5 hours
Format: Case study, essay questions and exercises

FINAL EXAM

Date: University examination period from
Value: 50%
Length: 2.5 hours
Format: Case study, Essay questions and exercises.

University examination period is from Monday 6 June 2011
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<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Assessment Task 1</th>
<th>Assessment Task 2</th>
<th>Assessment Task 4</th>
<th>Assessment Task 5</th>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Title/Name</strong></td>
<td>CASE STUDY PRESENTATION GROUP WORK</td>
<td>MIDTERM EXAM</td>
<td>INTERNATIONAL BUSINESS PLAN</td>
<td>FINAL EXAM</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Description</strong></td>
<td>Groups will discuss and present the analysis for the week’s case study/ reading material in a time period of 25 minutes in class</td>
<td>Case study, Essay questions and exercises</td>
<td>In this project students develop a plan to introduce a new product or service into a market somewhere around the globe.</td>
<td>Case study, Essay questions and exercises</td>
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<td><strong>Due date</strong></td>
<td>Week 3-12</td>
<td>Week 7 4.4.11</td>
<td>Week 12 23.5.11</td>
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<td><strong>Grading method</strong></td>
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<td>Practical answers</td>
<td>The quality of your research project in this unit will be assessed on the following criteria:</td>
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<td>• Analytical skills</td>
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<td>• Innovative solutions</td>
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<td>• Team work</td>
<td>Testing of application skills</td>
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<td>In class (group work)</td>
<td>In class</td>
<td>Submit online</td>
<td>University examination process</td>
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<td><strong>Feedback</strong></td>
<td>On the day of presentation or following week</td>
<td>Week 8 7.10.10</td>
<td>Week 13 11.5.10</td>
<td>Marks will be online in the Exam results period</td>
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GENERAL EXAMINATION INFORMATION

You are expected to present yourself for examination at the time and place designated in the University Examination Timetable. The timetable will be available in Draft form approximately eight weeks before the commencement of the examinations and in Final form approximately four weeks before the commencement of the examinations.
http://www.timetables.mq.edu.au/exam

The only exception to not sitting an examination at the designated time is because of documented illness or unavoidable disruption. In these circumstances you may wish to consider applying for Special Consideration. The University’s policy on special consideration process is available at http://www.mq.edu.au/policy/docs/special_consideration/policy.html

If a Supplementary Examination is granted as a result of the Special Consideration process the examination will be scheduled after the conclusion of the official examination period. (Individual Faculties may wish to signal when the Faculties' Supplementary Exams are normally scheduled.)

The Macquarie university examination policy details the principles and conduct of examinations at the University. The policy is available at:
http://www.mq.edu.au/policy/docs/examination/policy.htm

ACADEMIC HONESTY

The nature of scholarly endeavor, dependent as it is on the work of others, binds all members of the University community to abide by the principles of academic honesty. Its fundamental principle is that all staff and students act with integrity in the creation, development, application and use of ideas and information. This means that:

- all academic work claimed as original is the work of the author making the claim
- all academic collaborations are acknowledged
- academic work is not falsified in any way
- when the ideas of others are used, these ideas are acknowledged appropriately.

Further information on the academic honesty can be found in the Macquarie University Academic Honesty Policy at
http://www.mq.edu.au/policy/docs/academic_honesty/policy.html
Macquarie University uses the following grades in coursework units of study:

HD - High Distinction  
D - Distinction  
CR - Credit  
P - Pass  
F - Fail

Grade descriptors and other information concerning grading are contained in the Macquarie University Grading Policy which is available at: [http://www.mq.edu.au/policy/docs/grading/policy.html](http://www.mq.edu.au/policy/docs/grading/policy.html)

Academic Senate has a set of guidelines on the distribution of grades across the range from fail to high distinction. Your final result will include one of these grades plus a standardised numerical grade (SNG). On occasion your raw mark for a unit (i.e., the total of your marks for each assessment item) may not be the same as the SNG which you receive. Under the Senate guidelines, results may be scaled to ensure that there is a degree of comparability across the university, so that units with the same past performances of their students should achieve similar results. It is important that you realise that the policy does not require that a minimum number of students are to be failed in any unit. In fact it does something like the opposite, in requiring examiners to explain their actions if more than 20% of students fail in a unit. The process of scaling does not change the order of marks among students. A student who receives a higher raw mark than another will also receive a higher final scaled mark.


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**GRADING APPEALS AND FINAL EXAMINATION SCRIPT VIEWING**

If, at the conclusion of the unit, you have performed below expectations, and are considering lodging an appeal of grade and/or viewing your final exam script please refer to the following website which provides information about these processes and the cut off dates in the first instance. Please read the instructions provided concerning what constitutes a valid grounds for appeal before appealing your grade.

SPECIAL CONSIDERATION

The University is committed to equity and fairness in all aspects of its learning and teaching. In stating this commitment, the University recognises that there may be circumstances where a student is prevented by unavoidable disruption from performing in accordance with their ability. A special consideration policy exists to support students who experience serious and unavoidable disruption such that they do not reach their usual demonstrated performance level.

The policy is available at: http://www.mq.edu.au/policy/docs/special_consideration/procedure.html

STUDENT SUPPORT SERVICES

Macquarie University provides a range of Academic Student Support Services. Details of these services can be accessed at http://www.student.mq.edu.au.

IT CONDITIONS OF USE

Access to all student computing facilities within the Faculty of Business and Economics is restricted to authorised coursework for approved units. Student ID cards must be displayed in the locations provided at all times.

Students are expected to act responsibly when utilising University IT facilities. The following regulations apply to the use of computing facilities and online services:

- Accessing inappropriate web sites or downloading inappropriate material is not permitted. Material that is not related to coursework for approved unit is deemed inappropriate.
- Downloading copyright material without permission from the copyright owner is illegal, and strictly prohibited. Students detected undertaking such activities will face disciplinary action, which may result in criminal proceedings.

Non-compliance with these conditions may result in disciplinary action without further notice.

Students must use their Macquarie University email addresses to communicate with staff as it is University policy that the University issued email account is used for official University communication.
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<th>GROUP ASSIGNMENT COVER SHEET</th>
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- We certify that this assignment is the work of the group, based on their personal study and research, and that all material and sources in the preparation of this assignment have been appropriately acknowledged. We have read and understood the policy on plagiarism set out at http://www.student.mq.edu.au/plagiarism/ and understand that students found to be plagiarizing will be penalized.

- All Business Plans will be uploaded on BB.

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