

MACQUARIE UNIVERSITY

Division of Economic and Financial Studies



UNIT OUTLINE 2003

FIN 310 ISSUES IN APPLIED FINANCE

Dr. Ronald D. Ripple
Lecturer-in-charge
Office: C5C 364
Phone: 9850 7063
Email: rripple@efs.mq.edu.au

Unit overview

This unit attempts to provide an understanding of how theory and practice mesh in cutting-edge issues in applied finance.

Lectures are presented by leading practitioners from the finance industry, who outline and discuss with students the latest models and techniques. These are supplemented by lectures from experienced university staff.

Presenters are also often more than willing to answer informal questions about what the industry expects from graduates in finance, how best to obtain and survive an interview, how to get a challenging and promising position in the finance and investment industry, how to plan a successful career, and the mistakes to avoid.

The list of presenters, their affiliations and their topics, and the dates of their presentations is given below.

Assessment

The unit assessment will be based on a semester essay and an examination, with the following weights:

Semester essay:	25%
Examination:	75%

The essay is to be 2500 words in length. The topic will be selected by the student, and will be drawn from one of the topic areas to be lectured on during the semester. Additional details related to formatting, etc. will be provided in a separate handout. The due date for the essay is 27 May 2003.

The examination will be comprised of both multiple choice and long-answer questions.

Class/lecture preparation

It will typically be the case that the overheads for each lecture will be available in ERIC, by the end of the day, on the Thursday prior to the lecture. Occasionally there will be additional suggested reading available at the same time.

Lecture and Topic Schedule

Week	Date	Lecturer and Topic
1	3 March	Dr. Ronald D. Ripple (Macquarie University) <i>Introduction, and Ethics, Codes of Conduct, and the Finance Industry</i>
2	10 March	Dr. Ronald D. Ripple (Macquarie University) <i>Ethics, Codes of Conduct, and the Finance Industry</i>
3	17 March	Dr. Ronald D. Ripple (Macquarie University) <i>Real options valuation</i>
4	24 March	Dr. Volf Frishling (Chief Manager, Quantitative Research, Risk Management, Institutional Banking, CBA) <i>Applications of Stochastic Analysis in Finance</i>
5	31 March	Mr. David Pearson (Head of Risk Operations, Trading Risk Management, Westpac) and Dr. Giuilo Katis (Quantitative Analyst, Trading Risk Management, Westpac) <i>Managing Market Risk</i>
6	7 April	Mr. Martin Stockley-Smith (Sydney Futures Exchange) <i>Clearing Operations</i> Mid-semester Break
7	28 April	Ms. Jennifer Elliott (Managing Director, Moodys) <i>The Credit Rating Process</i>
8	5 May	Mr. John McKinnon (GMO Australia) <i>Global Funds Management</i>
9	12 May	Mr. Greg Mizon (Head of Portfolio Management Unit and Financing Product, Westpac) <i>Credit Risk Modeling I</i>
10	19 May	Dr. John Jarratt (Head of Group Portfolio Unit, Westpac) <i>Credit Risk Modeling II</i>
11	26 May	Mr. Tim Stringer (Property Portfolio Manager, AMP) <i>Commercial Property Investment</i>
12	2 June	Mr. Tim Stringer (Property Portfolio Manager, AMP) <i>Commercial Property Investment</i>
13	9 June	Queen's Birthday – Public Holiday