

MACQUARIE
UNIVERSITY



FACULTY OF
BUSINESS AND ECONOMICS

ACCG 872
Advanced Financial Reporting

Semester 1, 2011

*Department of Accounting and
Corporate Governance*

**MACQUARIE UNIVERSITY
FACULTY OF BUSINESS AND ECONOMICS
UNIT GUIDE**

Year and Semester:	2011 Semester 1
Unit Convenor:	Peter Zhang
Prerequisites:	ACCG 612
Credit Points:	4

Students in this unit should read this unit guide 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

This advanced financial accounting unit examines a number of accounting standards from a practical and profession-oriented perspective. The regulatory environment, the impact of the conceptual framework and problems with standard setting are considered.

TEACHING STAFF

Mr Peter Zhang	Location: Workstation 248B, Level 2, Building E4A Phone: 9850 6871 and 0404 071 881 Email: peter.zhang@mq.edu.au
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CONSULTATION TIMES

Wednesday 17:00 - 18:00 in Room 104 of Building E4B.

You are encouraged to seek help at a time that is convenient to you from the Unit Convenor during his regular consultation hours. In special circumstances, an appointment may be made outside regular consultation hours. Staff will not conduct any consultations by email. You may, however, phone staff during their consultation hours.

In order to gain access to staff located at levels 1, 2 and 3 of building E4A during their consultation hours please ring the staff member from the phones available in the lobby (phone numbers of relevant staff members will be provided on BlackBoard and are available next to the phones).

Students experiencing significant difficulties with any topic in the unit must seek assistance immediately.

CLASSES

- This unit has 3 hours per week face-to-face seminar approach teaching.
- The class is to be conducted on Monday 18:00 - 21:00 in the classroom C5A226.
- An attendance record will be kept by your lecturer.
- The timetable for classes can be found on the University web site at <http://www.timetables.mq.edu.au/>.

PRIZES

Details of prizes awarded by the Faculty of Business and Economics are available at: http://www.businessandconomics.mq.edu.au/undergraduate_degrees/prizes_scholarships.

REQUIRED AND RECOMMENDED TEXTS AND/OR MATERIALS

- The prescribed texts for this unit are:
Australian Accounting Standards (2nd edition 2009) by Picker, Leo, Loftus, Clark and Wise, John Wiley & Sons Australia, Ltd.
Financial Reporting Handbook 2011, John Wiley & Sons Australia, Ltd.
- These textbooks can be purchased as a package from the Macquarie University Co-op Bookshop.
- Copies of the Picker text are also available in the Reserve Section of the Macquarie Library.

TECHNOLOGY USED AND REQUIRED

Students need to have access to the internet. Course materials and announcements will be posted to the unit's BlackBoard web page.

UNIT WEB PAGE

The BlackBoard web page for this unit is accessible at <http://learn.mq.edu.au>.

LEARNING OUTCOMES

After successfully completing this unit, students are expected to gain:

1. An understanding of the role played by the principal bodies involved in regulating financial reporting in Australia;
2. An understanding of the detailed technical requirements of the Australian accounting standards covered in the unit;
3. An ability to interpret and apply the Australian accounting standards covered in the unit;
4. An appreciation of some of the issues and processes involved in adopting accounting standards equivalent to IFRSs;

5. A comprehension of the strengths and weaknesses of the accounting standards covered in the unit from the viewpoints of both preparers and users of financial reports; and
6. Development of generic skills such as the ability to work independently and think critically together with problem solving and discussion skills.

GRADUATE CAPABILITIES

In addition to the discipline-based learning objectives, all academic programs at Macquarie seek to develop the capabilities the University's graduates will need to develop to address the challenges, and to be effective, engaged participants in their world.

This unit contributes to this by developing the following graduate capabilities:

Learning Outcome	1	2	3	4	5	6
1. Discipline Specific Knowledge and Skills	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
2. Critical, Analytical and Integrative Thinking		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
3. Problem Solving and Research Capability			✓	✓	✓	
4. Creative and Innovative			✓			✓
5. Effective Communication	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
6. Capable of Professional & Personal Judgement and Initiative			✓	✓	✓	✓

TEACHING AND LEARNING STRATEGY

There are 3 contact hours of teaching per week. The class is conducted primarily as a seminar rather than a lecture.

Prior to each seminar, students are requested to work through the assigned readings and to prepare answers to all questions in the weekly assignment. Assignment answers are required to be typed. Students are expected to come to class ready to discuss their solutions and may be called upon to present their solutions to the class.

Further, all students are expected to contribute to the class discussions, and are encouraged to raise any questions which they have about the weekly topics during the seminar. Ample opportunity is provided during each seminar for students to raise questions with their lecturer.

RESEARCH AND PRACTICE

- This unit gives you practice in applying research findings in your weekly assignment questions on interpreting and applying accounting standards.
- This unit gives you opportunities to conduct your own research into the most current development of accounting standard setting.

RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN ASSESSMENT AND LEARNING OUTCOMES

Assessment marks are allocated as follows:

	Marks
Class Presentation	5
Diagnostic Quiz	5
Weekly Assignment	10
Mid-semester Examination	20
Final Examination	<u>60</u>
Total	100

The following table summarises the linkages between the Assessment Tasks and Learning Outcomes, and between the Assessment Tasks and Graduate Capabilities that are provided in this Unit Guide.

	Assessment Task 1	Assessment Task 2	Assessment Task 3	Assessment Task 4	Assessment Task 5
Name	Class Presentation	Diagnostic Quiz	Weekly Assignment	Mid-semester Examination	Final Examination
Description	Student are allocated two of the weekly assignment questions and required to present their answers to the class.	Covering weeks 1 - 3 topics.	Five of students' weekly assignments are collected to gauge their learning efforts.	Covering weeks 1 - 6 topics.	All topics in the unit are examinable. <i>(3 hours plus 10 minutes reading time)</i>
Due Date	Starting from week 3 as per schedule	Week 4 <i>(14 March 2011)</i>	5 random collections ranging from weeks 2 - 13	Week 7 <i>(4 April 2011)</i>	End-of-semester University Exam period
Weighting	5%	5%	10%	20%	60%
Grading Method	Correctness of the answer and quality of the presentation	Based on correctness	Based on completeness to assess the learning outcomes	In accordance with the marking criteria	In accordance with the marking criteria
Submission Method	Weeks 3 - 12 as per schedule	Collected at the completion of the in-class quiz	Collected at the beginning of class	At the completion of mid-exam during the class	At the completion of exam during the final exam period
Feedback	Feedback will be provided after the presentation.	Quiz results and feedback will be provided in week 6 during the class.	Marked assignments will be returned in the week following the collection.	Exam script viewing will be available in week 8.	Grade results and viewing of examination scripts.
Estimated Student Workload	6 hours	9 hours	4 - 5 hours per week	18 hours <i>(3 hours per weekly class)</i>	39 hours <i>(3 hours per weekly class)</i> <i>Totally circa 180 hours including weekly 3-hour seminar time</i>
Learning Outcomes Assessed					
1	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
2	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
3		✓	✓	✓	✓
4	✓		✓		
5	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
6	✓		✓		
Graduate Capabilities Assessed					
1	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
2	✓		✓	✓	✓
3		✓	✓	✓	✓
4	✓		✓		
5	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
6	✓				

Further information regarding the above assessment tasks:

Irrespective of the total marks that have been accumulated, to achieve a Pass grade in this unit you must also pass the final examination. This requirement will be strictly enforced.

I. CLASS PRESENTATION (5%)

During the semester, each student will be allocated two of the weekly assignment questions and required to present their answers to those questions to the class.

The presentation questions assigned will relate to a theoretical aspect of a topic. Each presentation will be graded out of 5 marks with the final mark being that awarded for the better of the two presentations.

Marks will be determined based on both the technical correctness of the answer and on the quality of the presentation. The responsive input from the other class members will also be taken into account in finalising the mark.

II. DIAGNOSTIC QUIZ (5%)

A short in-class quiz will be held in week 4 and relate to all the topics covered in the first 3 weeks. The quiz is to be used as a low risk diagnostic task intended to identify any students who are having difficulty with the unit content.

Students with unsatisfactory learning results in the quiz will be identified and asked to consult with the unit convenor about ways to improve their academic performance.

III. WEEKLY ASSIGNMENT (10%)

During the semester, five of your weekly assignments will be collected for the purpose of assessing whether or not you are making sufficient efforts in preparing answers to assignment questions.

No advance notice will be given that a particular weekly assignment will be collected. It is only possible to submit your assignment in the session in which the assignment is due. If you do not attend and that week's assignment is collected, the marks for that assignment are automatically forfeited.

This part of the assessment is worth 10%. The following grading system will apply.

- An assignment deemed by the tutor to be satisfactory will be graded as "S" (satisfactory) and earn 2 marks. That is, all questions have been satisfactorily attempted meaning a genuine attempt to *fully* answer all questions.
- An assignment deemed by the tutor to be incomplete will be graded as "I" (incomplete) and earn 1 mark. That is, a small number of the questions have not been attempted or not fully answered, but a genuine attempt has been made to fully answer the other questions.

- An assignment deemed by the tutor to be unsatisfactory will be graded as “U” (unsatisfactory) and earn 0 mark. That is, the output of the efforts to the assignment is assessed as below the category of “I” (incomplete).

Weekly assignments must be typed - no hand-written assignments will be accepted. Also, your Student Number must appear in the top right-hand corner of each page of the assignment.

IV. MID-SEMESTER EXAMINATION (20%)

The mid-semester examination will be held at the normal class time on Monday 4 April 2011. All topics up to and inclusive of the topic for the class of 28 March 2011 are examinable. The length of that week’s seminar will be one hour with the remaining two hours used for mid-exam.

Further information regarding the format of the mid-examination will be provided in class in due course.

Moreover, please be aware that there will be no supplementary mid-semester examination for students who cannot sit the mid-exam. Absence from the mid-examination will result in an increase in the weighting of the final examination to 80% of the total assessment marks, provided that appropriately documented evidence of misadventure or illness is received in time. That is, the student who could not attend the mid-exam must lodge an Advice of Absence form with the Student Centre within 7 days after the mid-examination, together with the valid documentary evidence such as a medical certificate to support his or her reason for absence. Advice of Absence forms submitted more than 7 days after the mid-examination will not be accepted.

Students approved for a final examination weighting of 80% will be posted on the unit web page.

Feedback on the mid-exam performance will be provided allowing students to review their papers and discuss their performance with the unit convenor.

V. FINAL EXAMINATION (60%)

A final examination is included as an integral assessment task for this unit to provide assurance that:

- (i) the product belongs to the student; and
- (ii) the student has attained the knowledge and skills tested in the exam.

The final examination for this unit will be held during the University Examination period which, in the First Half Year of 2011, is from 6 June to 24 June. More information about the final examination will be provided later in the semester.

You are expected to present yourself for examination at the time and place designated in the University Examination Timetable. The timetable will be available at <http://www.timetables.mq.edu.au/exam> 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.

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.

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 endeavour, 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; and
- 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.

GRADES

Macquarie University uses the following grades in coursework units of study:

HD - High Distinction;
D - Distinction;
CR - Credit;
P - Pass; and
F - Fail.

All final grades in the Department of Accounting and Corporate Governance are determined by a grading committee and are not the sole responsibility of the Unit Convenor.

Macquarie University's 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).

The Standardised Numerical Grade (SNG) is not a summation of the individual assessment components.

To be awarded a specific grade, students are required to perform at an equivalent standard in the final examination and the overall assessment mark in the unit.

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>.

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.

http://www.businessandconomics.mq.edu.au/for/new_and_current_students/undergraduate/admin_central/grade_appeals.

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.

Learning Activity Schedule

week	Date	Topic	Text	AASBs	Weekly Questions
1	21 Feb	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Financial reporting regulatory environment The AASB Conceptual Framework 	Ch 1 Ch 2	The AASB Conceptual Framework 1031	D1.1, 1.3, 1.4, 1.9, 1.10, 1.11 D2.2, 2.6, 2.12, 2.13, 2.14, 2.16
2	28 Feb	Property, plant and equipment (recognition, depreciation, revaluation and derecognition)	Ch 10	116	D10.3, 10.4, 10.10, 10.16, 10.25; E10.9, 10.11, 10.13
3	7 Mar	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Intangible assets Impairment of assets 	Ch 11 Ch 13	138 136	D11.1, 11.3, 11.6, 11.12; E11.2, 11.3; P11.1, 11.2, 11.3 D13.2, 13.10, 13.11, 13.15; E13.4, 13.6; P13.3
4	14 Mar	Tax effect accounting (I)	Ch 8	112	D8.3, 8.5, 8.6, 8.9; E8.4, 8.5, 8.6, 8.7, 8.8
5	21 Mar	Tax effect accounting (II)	Ch 8	112	P8.1, 8.2, 8.3, 8.7; P10.2
6	28 Mar	Inventories	Ch 9	102	D9.3, 9.5, 9.6, 9.8, 9.9, 9.10; E9.5, 9.6, 9.7, 9.8, 9.9, 9.10; P9.2, 9.4
7	4 Apr	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Provisions, contingent liabilities and contingent assets Events after the reporting period 	Ch 5 Ch 18	137 110	D5.2, 5.4, 5.5, 5.7; E5.2, 5.7, 5.9, 5.10; P5.2 D18.4; E18.7
<i>Mid Semester Break (11 April - 24 April)</i>					
8	18 Apr <i>(for Easter Monday)</i>	Leases	Ch 14	117	D14.1, 14.3, 14.4, 14.5, 14.16, 14.18; E14.4, 14.5, 14.6, 14.7; P14.1, 14.3
9	2 May	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Employee benefits Related party disclosures 	Ch 16	119 124	D16.3, 16.5, 16.9; E16.3, 16.4, 16.5, 16.8; P16.1, 16.6 Questions on AASB 124
10	9 May	Accounting for mineral resources	Ch 15	6	D15.1, 15.4, 15.5; E15.1, 15.3; P15.1, P15.2
11	16 May	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Revenue recognition Construction contracts 	Ch 4	118 111	D4.1, 4.2, 4.3, 4.5, 4.6; E4.4, 4.5, 4.6, 4.7; P4.1, 4.2, 4.3 Questions on AASB 111
12	23 May	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Principles of disclosure Presentation of financial statements 	Ch 18 Ch 19	101 108 1031	D18.1, 18.2, 18.3, 18.5, 18.6; E18.2, 18.3, 18.4, 18.5, 18.6 D19.2, 19.5, 19.8; E19.7, 19.8, 19.9, 19.10; P19.2, 19.4, 19.6
13	30 May	Revision			