Financial Markets Concepts - Unit Outline

The Financial Markets Concepts is the first unit in the Financial Markets Certificate. This core unit provides a broad overview of the Australian OTC and exchange-traded markets environment. It introduces financial market sectors, participants, and the economic environment. Participants will assess how the Reserve Bank of Australia’s monetary policies and the business cycle affect the money, bond, and FX markets. Leading economic indicators and their effects on economic output and financial markets are examined. Participants will analyse longer term macroeconomic developments and their effect on financial markets such as inflation targeting and quantitative easing.

Learning Outcomes

At the end of the unit, participants will be able to:
1. Identify the purpose of financial markets in the economy
2. Critically examine the role of participants in the financial markets
3. Interpret the impact of economic indicators and apply these to financial market products
4. Analyse the impact of socioeconomic events and regulatory change on financial markets
5. Demonstrate professional communications skills
ASSESSMENT TASKS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Tasks</th>
<th>Due</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Assignment</td>
<td>Week 6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Skills assessment (case study)</td>
<td>Week 6</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Assignment
The assignment is based on a series of short answer questions covering the material in the unit. The assignment has a 50% weighting.

Skills assessment report
The skills assessment report consists of scenario-based questions designed to test your ability to apply the unit content to a workplace setting. The report has a 50% weighting.

These two assessment tasks are final exams (e.g., substantive not formative tasks). If a participant fails, the unit they will need to retake the unit. Feedback is not provided for final exams. An appeals process is available. You must have passed all lesson quizzes and the workshop prior to taking the assessment tasks.

LEARNING ACTIVITIES

Lessons and quizzes
To complete the unit, you must work through all the online lessons. As you progress through each lesson you will be able to assess whether you have understood the content by completing the online quizzes. You must pass the automatically marked quizzes. Multiple attempts are allowed.

Workshop
There is a compulsory workshop in week four. You must have passed all lesson quizzes prior to the workshop. Contribution to the workshop will be assessed and you must get a satisfactory assessment to be able to take the Assessment Tasks.

Discussion forum activities
You will have access to facilitators for questions throughout the term via discussion forums. We encourage you to use the discussion forums to ask questions, post your thoughts on each lesson and engage fully in the cohort community.

STUDY SCHEDULE

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<tr>
<th>Wk.</th>
<th>Activity</th>
<th>Activity</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Self-study - Structured Lessons</td>
<td>TEAMS Welcome. Complete Unit Topics – reading, videos, online resources, quiz</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Self-study - Structured Lessons</td>
<td>Complete Unit Topics – reading, videos, online resources, quiz</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Self-study - Structured Lessons</td>
<td>Complete Unit Topics – reading, videos, online resources, quiz</td>
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<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Workshop</td>
<td>Complete Unit Topics, prepare &amp; participate (the online workshop 7 hours or less for skills development &amp; scaffold application assessment)</td>
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<td>5</td>
<td>Skills Development &amp; Application Assessment</td>
<td>Complete case assessment report &amp; assignment</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>Skills Development &amp; Application Assessment</td>
<td>Complete case assessment report &amp; assignment</td>
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Enrolled participants can access their unit one week prior to commencement. Please ensure that you are ready at the start of commencement and maintain a steady study pace. Experience suggests that participants that fall behind struggle to catch up. Please ensure you complete the Orientation Module prior to the commencement date.

**ACADEMIC RECOGNITION OF PRIOR LEARNING - (RPL)**
Recognition of prior learning acknowledges your prior study and work experience. Macquarie University recognises formal, Informal, and non-formal learning when considering granting Recognition of Prior Learning (RPL). RPL can be used to:

- satisfy entry requirements.
- exempt study of a required (core) unit.

To be granted Academic RPL, please indicate in your application that you would like to be considered for RPL for a specific core unit in the financial markets certificate and we will assess your application. For further details please contact afma@mq.edu.au

**WHAT WILL YOU ACHIEVE FROM COMPLETING THIS UNIT?**

**MICRO-CREDENTIALS**
Successful completion of each unit will provide 5 credit points towards relevant post graduate award programs at Macquarie University.

**AFMA ACCREDITATION**
Successful completion of this unit is a key step in participants from AFMA member firms completing the education precondition for AFMA accreditation.

**OTHER INFORMATION**

**Student support**
The Orientation Module provides academic writing resources and study strategies to help you improve your marks and take control of your study.

If you have any concerns or questions as you work through the unit, or need additional guidance as to what you should be doing, email afma@mq.edu.au

If your question relates to the learning material, then you should post to the Discussion Forum on the unit page in the Financial Markets Certificate ProLearn.

**Duration**
You have a maximum of 18 months to complete the full Financial Markets Certificate (from date of initial registration) unless otherwise approved.

**Grading of assessments**
Assessments are marked and an overall mark is calculated based on the weighting of each assessment. A grade is awarded based on the overall mark as either ‘competent’ or ‘not yet competent’.

Results are subject to final approval by the University. Once approved, your grade will be sent to your designated email address.
Policies and Procedures

Macquarie University policies and procedures are available from afma@mq.edu.au

Late submissions and extensions

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.

You may apply for Special Consideration on the basis of misadventure. Please refer to the special consideration policy.
Contact: afma@mq.edu.au

Submitting your assessment tasks

You must submit your completed skills assessment for marking through Financial Markets Certificate ProLearn website. When you upload the skills assessment, it will be checked by Turnitin, a plagiarism detection software.

Academic honesty

Personal integrity is a core ethical principle in AFMA’s Code of Conduct. Consequently, academic integrity is an important principle to which all students enrolled in the Financial Markets Certificate are expected to adhere. For example, any academic work that you submit for assessment must be your own work and when you do include ideas and work from other people, this must be acknowledged. See the Orientation Module for further information.