



# ACCT20074 Contemporary Accounting Theory

## Term 2 - 2019

Profile information current as at 29/04/2024 08:27 pm

All details in this unit profile for ACCT20074 have been officially approved by CQU University and represent a learning partnership between the University and you (our student). The information will not be changed unless absolutely necessary and any change will be clearly indicated by an approved correction included in the profile.

## General Information

### Overview

This unit engages students to establish an advanced understanding of the nature and development of accounting theory and its application and regulation. It builds on the students' technical skills and their foundational knowledge of accounting practice. The topics covered include the history and development of accounting, traditional approaches to the formulation of accounting, standard setting and institutional arrangements, harmonisation of accounting standards, a range of theoretical perspectives and the links between accounting theory, research and practice.

### Details

Career Level: *Postgraduate*

Unit Level: *Level 9*

Credit Points: 6

Student Contribution Band: 10

Fraction of Full-Time Student Load: 0.125

### Pre-requisites or Co-requisites

Students must successfully complete ACCT20071 Foundations of Financial Accounting prior to enrolling in this unit.

Students who have successfully completed ACCT29083 Theory of Accounting cannot enrol in this unit.

Important note: Students enrolled in a subsequent unit who failed their pre-requisite unit, should drop the subsequent unit before the census date or within 10 working days of Fail grade notification. Students who do not drop the unit in this timeframe cannot later drop the unit without academic and financial liability. See details in the [Assessment Policy and Procedure \(Higher Education Coursework\)](#).

### Offerings For Term 2 - 2019

- Brisbane
- Melbourne
- Online
- Sydney

### Attendance Requirements

All on-campus students are expected to attend scheduled classes - in some units, these classes are identified as a mandatory (pass/fail) component and attendance is compulsory. International students, on a student visa, must maintain a full time study load and meet both attendance and academic progress requirements in each study period (satisfactory attendance for International students is defined as maintaining at least an 80% attendance record).

### Website

[This unit has a website, within the Moodle system, which is available two weeks before the start of term. It is important that you visit your Moodle site throughout the term. Please visit Moodle for more information.](#)

## Class and Assessment Overview

### Recommended Student Time Commitment

Each 6-credit Postgraduate unit at CQUniversity requires an overall time commitment of an average of 12.5 hours of study per week, making a total of 150 hours for the unit.

### Class Timetable

#### [Regional Campuses](#)

Bundaberg, Cairns, Emerald, Gladstone, Mackay, Rockhampton, Townsville

#### [Metropolitan Campuses](#)

Adelaide, Brisbane, Melbourne, Perth, Sydney

### Assessment Overview

#### 1. **Online Quiz(zes)**

Weighting: 20%

#### 2. **Group Work**

Weighting: 30%

#### 3. **Written Assessment**

Weighting: 50%

### Assessment Grading

This is a graded unit: your overall grade will be calculated from the marks or grades for each assessment task, based on the relative weightings shown in the table above. You must obtain an overall mark for the unit of at least 50%, or an overall grade of 'pass' in order to pass the unit. If any 'pass/fail' tasks are shown in the table above they must also be completed successfully ('pass' grade). You must also meet any minimum mark requirements specified for a particular assessment task, as detailed in the 'assessment task' section (note that in some instances, the minimum mark for a task may be greater than 50%). Consult the [University's Grades and Results Policy](#) for more details of interim results and final grades.

## CQUniversity Policies

**All University policies are available on the [CQUniversity Policy site](#).**

You may wish to view these policies:

- Grades and Results Policy
- Assessment Policy and Procedure (Higher Education Coursework)
- Review of Grade Procedure
- Student Academic Integrity Policy and Procedure
- Monitoring Academic Progress (MAP) Policy and Procedure – Domestic Students
- Monitoring Academic Progress (MAP) Policy and Procedure – International Students
- Student Refund and Credit Balance Policy and Procedure
- Student Feedback – Compliments and Complaints Policy and Procedure
- Information and Communications Technology Acceptable Use Policy and Procedure

This list is not an exhaustive list of all University policies. The full list of University policies are available on the [CQUniversity Policy site](#).

## Unit Learning Outcomes

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

1. Critically evaluate the Australian accounting and reporting regulatory environment, comparing it to regulatory environments in other countries as well as their progress in the international harmonisation project
2. Work individually and as part of a team to analyse complex and current business issues through the lens of appropriately selected and applied theories
3. Select and use effective project and research skills to evaluate and synthesise accounting knowledge, and communicate findings in an appropriately professional format
4. Reflect on feedback from others and improve research and communication skills accordingly.

## Alignment of Learning Outcomes, Assessment and Graduate Attributes



### Alignment of Assessment Tasks to Learning Outcomes

Assessment Tasks	Learning Outcomes			
	1	2	3	4
1 - Online Quiz(zes) - 20%	•	•		
2 - Group Work - 30%	•	•	•	•
3 - Written Assessment - 50%	•	•	•	•

### Alignment of Graduate Attributes to Learning Outcomes

Graduate Attributes	Learning Outcomes			
	1	2	3	4
1 - Knowledge	○	○	○	○
2 - Communication	○	○	○	○
3 - Cognitive, technical and creative skills				
4 - Research	○	○	○	
5 - Self-management				
6 - Ethical and Professional Responsibility				
7 - Leadership				
8 - Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Cultures				

## Alignment of Assessment Tasks to Graduate Attributes

Assessment Tasks	Graduate Attributes							
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
1 - Online Quiz(zes) - 20%	○							
2 - Group Work - 30%	○	○		○				
3 - Written Assessment - 50%	○	○		○				

## Textbooks and Resources

### Textbooks

ACCT20074

#### Prescribed

#### Financial Accounting Theory

Edition: 4th (2014)

Authors: Craig Deegan

McGraw-Hill Australia

North Ryde , NSW , Australia

ISBN: 9780071013147

Binding: Other

#### Additional Textbook Information

#### Additional Textbook Information

There will be an e-version of the textbook for students to purchase. Students can access E-text via this link:

<http://www.mheducation.com.au/9781743074626-aus-vitalsource-ebook-online-access-for-financial-accounting-theory>

However, if you prefer a paper text, they will be available at the CQUniversity Bookshop here:

<http://bookshop.cqu.edu.au> (search on the Unit code)

View textbooks at the CQUniversity Bookshop

[View textbooks at the CQUniversity Bookshop](#)

### IT Resources

**You will need access to the following IT resources:**

- CQUniversity Student Email
- Internet
- Unit Website (Moodle)

## Referencing Style

All submissions for this unit must use the referencing style: [American Psychological Association 6th Edition \(APA 6th edition\)](#)

For further information, see the Assessment Tasks.

## Teaching Contacts

**Kazi Islam** Unit Coordinator

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**Peter Best** Unit Coordinator

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## Schedule

### Week 1 - 15 Jul 2019

Module/Topic	Chapter	Events and Submissions/Topic
An introduction to theoretical perspective of accounting	1	

### Week 2 - 22 Jul 2019

Module/Topic	Chapter	Events and Submissions/Topic
The regulation of financial accounting	2 & 3	

### Week 3 - 29 Jul 2019

Module/Topic	Chapter	Events and Submissions/Topic
International experience in financial accounting	4	Assessment 1 Quiz 1 and Quiz 2 are available online from Week 3.

### Week 4 - 05 Aug 2019

Module/Topic	Chapter	Events and Submissions/Topic
Normative theories: values and measurement	5	

### Week 5 - 12 Aug 2019

Module/Topic	Chapter	Events and Submissions/Topic
Normative theories: the conceptual framework	6	

### Vacation Week - 19 Aug 2019

Module/Topic	Chapter	Events and Submissions/Topic

### Week 6 - 26 Aug 2019

Module/Topic	Chapter	Events and Submissions/Topic
Theories of voluntary disclosure of accounting information: Positive Accounting Theory (PAT)	7	

### Week 7 - 02 Sep 2019

Module/Topic	Chapter	Events and Submissions/Topic
Theories of voluntary disclosure of accounting information: system-oriented theories	8	

### Week 8 - 09 Sep 2019

Module/Topic	Chapter	Events and Submissions/Topic
Theories of voluntary disclosure of accounting information: accountability, social and environmental reporting	9	<b>Group assignment</b> Due: Week 8 Friday (13 Sept 2019) 11:45 pm AEST

### Week 9 - 16 Sep 2019

Module/Topic	Chapter	Events and Submissions/Topic
Positive theories regarding reactions of capital markets to financial reporting	10 & 11	Assessment 1 Quiz 1 Due Week 9 Friday 11:45 PM.

### Week 10 - 23 Sep 2019

Module/Topic	Chapter	Events and Submissions/Topic
Critical perspectives of accounting	12	

**Week 11 - 30 Sep 2019**

Module/Topic	Chapter	Events and Submissions/Topic
Contemporary issues	Discussion on selected topics	Assessment 1 Quiz 2 Due Week 11 Friday 11:45 PM.

**Week 12 - 07 Oct 2019**

Module/Topic	Chapter	Events and Submissions/Topic
		<b>Research Report</b> Due: Week 12 Friday (11 Oct 2019) 11:45 pm AEST

**Review/Exam Week - 14 Oct 2019**

Module/Topic	Chapter	Events and Submissions/Topic

**Exam Week - 21 Oct 2019**

Module/Topic	Chapter	Events and Submissions/Topic

## Assessment Tasks

### 1 Online quizzes

**Assessment Type**

Online Quiz(zes)

**Task Description**

This assessment item is an individual task which comprises two online quizzes (quiz 1 and quiz 2) of 10 marks each. Each quiz consists of 20 multiple choice questions randomly generated from a pool of questions. The two quizzes will appear online in Moodle in Week 3 and remain open until the due date and time provided for completion of those quizzes.

A student may choose to undertake and complete either quiz at any time before the expiry of the due date and time. Each quiz is set on the basis of specific modules as under:

Quiz (Online Test) 1: Modules 1-6

Quiz (Online Test) 2: Modules 7-11.

If any student faces technical difficulties with Moodle or network communications while trying to undertake these quizzes should *email* the unit coordinator immediately, and where appropriate a second attempt may be arranged. Students need to remember that both quizzes will disappear after the due date and time, and hence will not be opened up again.

**Number of Quizzes**

2

**Frequency of Quizzes**

Other

**Assessment Due Date**

Quiz 1 is due on Week 9 Friday 11:45 PM. Quiz 2 is due on Week 11 Friday 11:45 PM. There is no provision for an extension for this assessment.

**Return Date to Students**

The result of these online quizzes will be made available as soon as the quiz is submitted.

**Weighting**

20%

**Assessment Criteria**

As each quiz comprises 20 questions for 10 marks, each question is worth 0.5% of the overall unit assessment. That is, 0.5 mark will be provided on the basis of one correct (or most correct) answer to each question.

**Referencing Style**

- [American Psychological Association 6th Edition \(APA 6th edition\)](#)

**Submission**

Online

**Learning Outcomes Assessed**

- Critically evaluate the Australian accounting and reporting regulatory environment, comparing it to regulatory environments in other countries as well as their progress in the international harmonisation project
- Work individually and as part of a team to analyse complex and current business issues through the lens of appropriately selected and applied theories

**Graduate Attributes**

- Knowledge

## 2 Group assignment

**Assessment Type**

Group Work

**Task Description**

The objective of this assignment is to assist students to learn and develop a range of skills such as researching, reviewing literature, analysis, critical evaluation and communication in a team work environment. The assignment must be completed in a group consisting of 3 to 4 members unless the unit coordinator decides on special circumstances. On-Campus students must form group within the class in the first 3 weeks of the term. Distance students will liaise with the unit coordinator to find group members.

The assignment requirements, guidelines and marking criteria will be provided in Moodle in Week 1.

Students need to be aware of plagiarism and assignment extension policies. It is important that each member of the group contributes equally in completing this assignment.

**Assessment Due Date**

Week 8 Friday (13 Sept 2019) 11:45 pm AEST

Assignment must be submitted on or before due date specified via Moodle submission facility

**Return Date to Students**

Week 11 Monday (30 Sept 2019)

Marked assignments with appropriate comments/feedback along with mark sheet will be uploaded in Moodle by the return date specified.

**Weighting**

30%

**Assessment Criteria**

Detailed marking criteria will be provided in the assessment with due consideration of the following:

- Demonstration of knowledge applying key theories
- Correct referencing, appropriate grammar, readability and structure of the report
- Evidence of contributions to the group.

**Referencing Style**

- [American Psychological Association 6th Edition \(APA 6th edition\)](#)

**Submission**

Online Group

**Submission Instructions**

Only assignments submitted via Moodle submission facility will be accepted. Assignment title page must have all group members name and ID details.

**Learning Outcomes Assessed**

- Critically evaluate the Australian accounting and reporting regulatory environment, comparing it to regulatory environments in other countries as well as their progress in the international harmonisation project
- Work individually and as part of a team to analyse complex and current business issues through the lens of appropriately selected and applied theories
- Select and use effective project and research skills to evaluate and synthesise accounting knowledge, and communicate findings in an appropriately professional format
- Reflect on feedback from others and improve research and communication skills accordingly.

**Graduate Attributes**

- Knowledge
- Communication
- Research

## 3 Research Report

### Assessment Type

Written Assessment

### Task Description

This is an individual task. The assignment will require students to undertake research examining how selected theories, accounting standards and frameworks guide the preparation of annual reports of listed companies. Unless otherwise suggested by the unit coordinator, companies will be selected from the Australian Securities Exchange (ASX). The unit coordinator will advise which company/ies will have to be selected. The assessment will be available in moodle in Week 5

### Assessment Due Date

Week 12 Friday (11 Oct 2019) 11:45 pm AEST

Assignment must be submitted on or before the due date specified via Moodle submission facility.

### Return Date to Students

This assessment item will not be returned to students until final grades are certified. Students are asked to check the Moodle site after that time for their marks and associated comments/feedback.

### Weighting

50%

### Assessment Criteria

Detailed marking criteria will be provided in the assessment in moodle with due consideration of the following:

- Demonstration of knowledge of relevant theories, accounting standards and frameworks
- Ability to analyse and explain company annual reporting practices applying relevant theories, accounting standards and frameworks
- Correct referencing, appropriate grammar, readability and structure of the report.

### Referencing Style

- [American Psychological Association 6th Edition \(APA 6th edition\)](#)

### Submission

Online

### Submission Instructions

Assignment must be submitted on or before the due date specified via Moodle submission facility. The assignment must include title page detailing assignment topic, student name and ID.

### Learning Outcomes Assessed

- Critically evaluate the Australian accounting and reporting regulatory environment, comparing it to regulatory environments in other countries as well as their progress in the international harmonisation project
- Work individually and as part of a team to analyse complex and current business issues through the lens of appropriately selected and applied theories
- Select and use effective project and research skills to evaluate and synthesise accounting knowledge, and communicate findings in an appropriately professional format
- Reflect on feedback from others and improve research and communication skills accordingly.

### Graduate Attributes

- Knowledge
- Communication
- Research



## Academic Integrity Statement

As a CQUniversity student you are expected to act honestly in all aspects of your academic work.

Any assessable work undertaken or submitted for review or assessment must be your own work. Assessable work is any type of work you do to meet the assessment requirements in the unit, including draft work submitted for review and feedback and final work to be assessed.

When you use the ideas, words or data of others in your assessment, you must thoroughly and clearly acknowledge the source of this information by using the correct referencing style for your unit. Using others' work without proper acknowledgement may be considered a form of intellectual dishonesty.

Participating honestly, respectfully, responsibly, and fairly in your university study ensures the CQUniversity qualification you earn will be valued as a true indication of your individual academic achievement and will continue to receive the respect and recognition it deserves.

As a student, you are responsible for reading and following CQUniversity's policies, including the [Student Academic Integrity Policy and Procedure](#). This policy sets out CQUniversity's expectations of you to act with integrity, examples of academic integrity breaches to avoid, the processes used to address alleged breaches of academic integrity, and potential penalties.

### What is a breach of academic integrity?

A breach of academic integrity includes but is not limited to plagiarism, self-plagiarism, collusion, cheating, contract cheating, and academic misconduct. The Student Academic Integrity Policy and Procedure defines what these terms mean and gives examples.

### Why is academic integrity important?

A breach of academic integrity may result in one or more penalties, including suspension or even expulsion from the University. It can also have negative implications for student visas and future enrolment at CQUniversity or elsewhere. Students who engage in contract cheating also risk being blackmailed by contract cheating services.

### Where can I get assistance?

For academic advice and guidance, the [Academic Learning Centre \(ALC\)](#) can support you in becoming confident in completing assessments with integrity and of high standard.

### What can you do to act with integrity?



#### Be Honest

If your assessment task is done by someone else, it would be dishonest of you to claim it as your own



#### Seek Help

If you are not sure about how to cite or reference in essays, reports etc, then seek help from your lecturer, the library or the Academic Learning Centre (ALC)



#### Produce Original Work

Originality comes from your ability to read widely, think critically, and apply your gained knowledge to address a question or problem