Graduate Certificate in Business (Applied Finance) (BS39)

Year offered: 2010
Admissions: Yes
CRICOS code: 031769E
Course duration (full-time): 1 semester (6 months) (Philanthropy and Nonprofit Studies is not available full-time)
Course duration (part-time): 2 semesters (1 year)
Domestic fees (indicative): 2010: Full fee tuition $9,500 (indicative) per semester
International Fees (indicative): 2010: Full fee tuition $11,500 (indicative) per semester
Domestic Entry: February and July
International Entry: February and July
Total credit points: 48
Standard credit points per full-time semester: 48
Standard credit points per part-time semester: 24
Course coordinator: Dr Amanda Gudmundsson
Discipline coordinator: Mr Peter Whelan
Campus: Gardens Point

Overview
The Graduate Certificate in Business is effectively one-third of the Master of Business program. Graduate Certificate in Business (Applied Finance) students will undertake 48 specified credit points (4 units) in your chosen discipline.

Course Design
Students are required to complete 48 credit points (4 units). The course can be undertaken either full-time (1 semester) or part-time (2 semesters).

Abbreviation
GradCertBus(Study Area A)

Other Majors
See also separate entries for the following majors in this course: Accounting, Human Resource Management, Integrated Marketing Communication, Interdisciplinary, International Business, Marketing, Philanthropy and Nonprofit Studies, Public Relations, or Research Studies.

Entry requirements (domestic and international students)
For all specialisations except Applied Finance the entry requirements are an undergraduate degree or equivalent in any field, with an overall minimum GPA of 4.0 (on a 7-point scale).

English language requirements (international students)
The Applied Finance specialisation normally requires an undergraduate degree (with minimum GPA of 4.0) or equivalent in an area other than Finance. Applicants interested in the Applied Finance specialisation who have an undergraduate degree in Finance should be referred to the Brisbane Graduate School of Business.

In addition to the above academic entry requirements, international students must meet the following English language proficiency levels for entry into the Faculty's postgraduate coursework courses:
- IELTS: overall band score of 6.5 with no sub-band below 6.0; or
- TOEFL: 575 (paper-based), 230 (computerised) or 90 with at least 20 in all bands (Internet Based) (if TOEFL permitted by visa requirements).

Special Entry
Applicants who have an undergraduate degree with a GPA below 4.0, or who do not have an undergraduate degree but have appropriate professional and employment experience, may be considered for special entry following the approval of the Discipline Coordinator. Such applicants may be required to attend a selection interview and present a portfolio of work.

Articulation
With approval of the relevant Discipline Coordinator in conjunction with approval from the Course Coordinator, students may articulate from the Graduate Certificate in Business to a related Master of Business course, depending on the major undertaken. Students must meet the entry requirements and/or prerequisites for further study. Students completing the Graduate Certificate in Business (Applied Finance) may articulate to the:
- BS16 Master of Business (Applied Finance)

Course Structure

Applied Finance

PROFESIONAL RECOGNITION: Students will meet the educational requirements for Associate status of the Financial Services Institute of Australasia (FINSIA).

Students are required to complete 4 units (48 credit points) from the following:

- EFN406 Managerial Finance
- Plus three units from:
  - EFN405 Managerial Economics
UNIT SYNOPSES

AYN456 BUSINESS AND CORPORATIONS LAW
This unit will introduce students to the Australian legal environment and develop students' knowledge and understanding of the basic principles of business law and the Australian corporations legislation. Students will be encouraged to develop their research and analytical skills relevant to contemporary business and corporate practice.  
Antirequisites: AYN410 and AYN412  Credit points: 12
Campus: Gardens Point  Teaching period: 2010 SEM-1 and 2010 SEM-2

EFN405 MANAGERIAL ECONOMICS
This unit addresses the following topics: managerial decision making in an economic environment; an introduction to economics, demand analysis, cost analysis, market strategy and the macroeconomic environment; issues including problems of resource allocation at the firm, in industry and in the economy.  
Antirequisites: GSN203, GSN411, GSN414, GSN491, GSN492 and GSZ491  Credit points: 12
Contact hours: 3 per week  Campus: Gardens Point  Teaching period: 2010 SEM-1 and 2010 SEM-2

EFN406 MANAGERIAL FINANCE
This unit is an introduction to the world of finance and financial management. Topics include: the finance function, the role of the financial manager; the Australian financial environment; sources of funds; present and future value; time value of money; financial mathematics; introduction to valuation; cost of funds; the firm investment decision; investment evaluation techniques; capital budgeting; portfolio theory; risk and return; capital asset pricing model; dividend policy; financial structure policy; futures; options.  
Antirequisites: GSN413, GSN423 and GSZ413  Credit points: 12
Contact hours: 3 per week  Campus: Gardens Point  Teaching period: 2010 SEM-1, 2010 SEM-2 and 2010 SUM

EFN410 ECONOMIC AND FINANCIAL MODELLING
This unit introduces students to the modelling techniques which are frequently used in a business and financial environment. Modelling is used as an aid to decision-making, as a means of forecasting important variables and as a planning and analysis tool. Various modelling exercises are used to illustrate the use of these modelling techniques in an economic and financial context.  
Prerequisites: EFN412  Antirequisites: AYN419, EFN503  Credit points: 12
Contact hours: 3 per week  Campus: Gardens Point  Teaching period: 2010 SEM-1 and 2010 SEM-2

EFN412 ADVANCED MANAGERIAL FINANCE
This unit expands on material introduced and developed in EFN406 Managerial Finance. Its objective is to examine the key decisions made by corporate financial managers (that is, the investment, financing and dividend decisions). Topics include: the financing decision; capital structure, debt versus equity, lease versus debt, term structure versus default structure of interest rates; the dividend decision; dividends versus capital gains, franked versus unfranked income; firm valuation, free cash flow model; evaluation of takeovers; Risk and Return; diversification, the CAPM model, its practical application and its relationship to efficient market hypothesis; forwards, futures, options, warrants, convertibles and risk management using financial derivatives.  
Prerequisites: EFN406  Credit points: 12
Contact hours: 3 per week  Campus: Gardens Point  Teaching period: 2010 SEM-1 and 2010 SEM-2

EFN414 INTERNATIONAL FINANCE
This unit introduces the theory and practice of international finance, the relationship between domestic and international financial markets, international parity conditions and arbitrage, foreign exchange risk management, country and political risk management, international trade finance, international portfolio investment, multinational cost of capital and capital structure, international capital budgeting and foreign direct investment.  
Prerequisites: EFN406  Antirequisites: EFN417  Credit points: 12
Contact hours: 3 per week  Campus: Gardens Point  Teaching period: 2010 SEM-2

EFN415 SECURITY ANALYSIS
This unit deals with security analysis and portfolio management. The unit is both practical and theoretical. Topics covered include: portfolio theory and the capital
asset pricing model; bond and equity portfolio management; fundamental valuation techniques; portfolio hedging; active vs. passive investment strategies; and the evaluation of portfolio performance. The ultimate purpose of this unit is to provide the necessary tools for students to manage investment risk and return, select mispriced securities, design and administer investment portfolios, accomplish goals in portfolio management, and measure the performance of investment management. **Prerequisites:** EFN406  **Credit points:** 12  **Contact hours:** 3 per week  **Campus:** Gardens Point

**EFN416 TREASURY AND PORTFOLIO MANAGEMENT**
This unit introduces the student to the treasury environment in which financial institutions operate. The key to the unit is the raising of funds and the management of interest rate risk. This unique hands-on unit allows students to develop these skills by trading in a simulated environment of international economic uncertainty. Students have trading parameters within which they should operate and decisions must be made concerning source of funds, term and duration, interest rate re-set, and risk management with derivatives. Trading will be conducted over a simulated four quarter year. **Prerequisites:** EFN406  **Credit points:** 12  **Contact hours:** 3 per week  **Campus:** Gardens Point  **Teaching period:** 2010 SEM-1

**EFN420 INTRODUCTION TO FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT**
This unit is a preliminary study of financial information and financial markets and it includes a number of techniques required for analysing financial information.  **Credit points:** 12  **Contact hours:** 3 per week  **Campus:** Gardens Point  **Teaching period:** 2010 SEM-1 and 2010 SEM-2

**EFN421 FINANCIAL PLANNING AND STRATEGIES**
This unit aims to give students a solid grounding in the world of Financial Planning and Superannuation. This will involve gaining knowledge of financial markets and instruments as well as the appropriate regulatory framework.  **Credit points:** 12  **Contact hours:** 3  **Campus:** Gardens Point  **Teaching period:** 2010 SEM-1 and 2010 SEM-2

**EFN505 FINANCIAL RISK MANAGEMENT**
The unit covers the main areas of modern risk management. The focus is on measuring and managing risks in financial institutions. Particular attention is paid to developing understanding of the analytical techniques employed in the construction of hedging strategies and the interrelations between the main areas of risk management. The unit emphasises empirical applications and assessment of risk management techniques. Topics covered include the current state of prudential regulation of financial institutions, measurement and management of market risks, hedging strategies with derivatives and managing interest rate and exchange rate risks. **Prerequisites:** EFN415  **Credit points:** 12  **Contact hours:** 3 per week  **Campus:** Gardens Point  **Teaching period:** 2010 SEM-1 and 2010 SEM-2

**EFN507 ADVANCED CAPITAL BUDGETING**
Topics in this unit include: capital investment analysis, the NPV rule, adjusted present value, replacement decisions, retirement decisions, unequal lives, optimal life, cost of capital, estimating beta, capital rationing, valuation of new issues, mergers and takeovers, analysis of financial and leverage leases, the impact of recent taxation changes on the financing, dividend and investment decisions of the firm, capital budgeting in an international context, access or infrastructure pricing, and real options. The course includes a series of case studies, problems and exercises, which require the student to apply the theory they have learned, to practical situations not covered in normal undergraduate courses. A basic understanding of spreadsheets is assumed. **Prerequisites:** EFN406 and EFN412  **Credit points:** 12  **Contact hours:** 3 per week  **Campus:** Gardens Point  **Teaching period:** 2010 SEM-2