Australian School of Business

Banking & Finance

FINS5531
Risk and Insurance

Course Outline
Semester 1, 2014

Part A: Course-Specific Information

Please consult Part B for key information on ASB policies (including those on plagiarism and special consideration), student responsibilities and student support services.
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PART A: COURSE-SPECIFIC INFORMATION

1 STAFF CONTACT DETAILS

List teaching staff:
Lecturer-in-charge: Donghui Li
Room ASB342
Phone No: 9385 5873
Email: Donghui@unsw.edu.au
Consultation Times – 10:00 am -12:00 pm (or by appointment)

2 COURSE DETAILS

2.1 Teaching Times and Locations
Lectures start in Week 1(to Week 12): The Time and Location are:

Mon 14:00 - 17:00  Quadrangle G035 (K-E15-G035)
Mon 18:00 - 21:00  John Goodsell LG21 (K-F20-LG21)

2.2 Units of Credit
The course is worth 6 units of credit.
There is no parallel teaching in this course.

2.3 Summary of Course
This course introduces the principles of risk management and insurance and provides a structured methodology in the identification, analysis and management of risks. An introduction to the basic principles of insurance, as one possible risk financing tool, is also presented.

2.4 Course Aims and Relationship to Other Courses

Aim
This course aims to equip the students with risk management exposure from insurance product perspective. After learning this course, the common practice to manage risk by insurance products is supposed to be adequately grasped.

Relationship of This Course to Other Course Offerings
This is an elective subject for all students who wish to graduate with finance major in the MCom. The course is relevant to a broad range of professions including corporate risk management, risk analysis, international risk environment studies and insurance strategies.
2.5 Student Learning Outcomes

By the end of the course, you should be able to:

1. Understand the principles of risk management and insurance
2. You should be able to understand the methodology in the identification, analysis and management of risks.
3. The basic principles of insurance, as one possible risk financing tool, is also expected to be understood.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Program Learning Goals and Outcomes</th>
<th>Course Learning Outcomes</th>
<th>Course Assessment Item</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>This course helps you to achieve the following learning goals for all ASB undergraduate postgraduate coursework [delete one] students:</td>
<td>On successful completion of the course, you should be able to:</td>
<td>This learning outcome will be assessed in the following items:</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1 Knowledge</td>
<td>Explain the assumptions of standard models of risk and insurance.</td>
<td>• Class exercise&lt;br&gt;• Exam&lt;br&gt;• Computer assignment</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2 Critical thinking and problem solving</td>
<td>Use statistical skills to present data relevant to problems in risk and insurance.</td>
<td>• Class exercise&lt;br&gt;• Exam&lt;br&gt;• Computer assignment</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3a Written communication</td>
<td>Use the standard models of risk and insurance to interpret and analyse real problems in risk and insurance.</td>
<td>• Computer assignment</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3b Oral communication</td>
<td>Construct written work which is logically and professionally presented.</td>
<td>• Oral presentation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4 Teamwork</td>
<td>Communicate ideas in a succinct and clear manner.</td>
<td>• Computer assignment&lt;br&gt;• Oral presentation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5a. Ethical, environmental and sustainability responsibility</td>
<td>Work collaboratively to complete a task.</td>
<td>• Computer assignment&lt;br&gt;• Oral presentation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5b. Social and cultural awareness</td>
<td>Identify and assess environmental and sustainability considerations in problems in risk and insurance.</td>
<td>• Exam&lt;br&gt;• Computer assignment</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

[Course Code – Course Name]
ASB Postgraduate Coursework Program Learning Goals and Outcomes

1. Knowledge: Our graduates will have current disciplinary or interdisciplinary knowledge applicable in local and global contexts.
   You should be able to identify and apply current knowledge of disciplinary or interdisciplinary theory and professional practice to business in local and global environments.

2. Critical thinking and problem solving: Our graduates will have critical thinking and problem solving skills applicable to business and management practice or issues.
   You should be able to identify, research and analyse complex issues and problems in business and/or management, and propose appropriate and well-justified solutions.

3. Communication: Our graduates will be effective communicators in professional contexts.
   You should be able to:
   a. Produce written documents that communicate complex disciplinary ideas and information effectively for the intended audience and purpose, and
   b. Produce oral presentations that communicate complex disciplinary ideas and information effectively for the intended audience and purpose.

4. Teamwork: Our graduates will be effective team participants.
   You should be able to participate collaboratively and responsibly in teams, and reflect on your own teamwork, and on the team’s processes and ability to achieve outcomes.

5. Ethical, social and environmental responsibility: Our graduates will have a sound awareness of ethical, social, cultural and environmental implications of business issues and practice.
   You should be able to:
   a. Identify and assess ethical, environmental and/or sustainability considerations in business decision-making and practice, and
   b. Consider social and cultural implications of business and /or management practice.

3 LEARNING AND TEACHING ACTIVITIES

3.1 Approach to Learning and Teaching in the Course

The experiential learning approach will be adopted throughout the course. This involves a reflection of the knowledge and experience gained by students in their previous academic and professional activities.

3.2 Learning Activities and Teaching Strategies

This course is a combination of formal lectures, a presentation and a computing assignment. The lectures are used to explain concepts and to give real life examples of situations in which these concepts are used. The computing assignment is designed for problem-solving and discussion of issues raised in the lectures. The presentation is designed for you to analyse the real life risk environment of a particular firm. There is an expectation that students will engage in additional readings, as well as H&N and John.
4 ASSESSMENT

4.1 Formal Requirements

In order to pass this course, you must:

- achieve a composite mark of at least 50.

4.2 Assessment Details

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Assessment</th>
<th>Due Week</th>
<th>Weight</th>
<th>Learning Outcome/s Assessed</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>In-class mid session exams</td>
<td>Week 6</td>
<td>30%</td>
<td>The mid session exams will test your understanding of the relevant lecture knowledge. It covers lecture contents from week 1 to week 4.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Group Assignment</td>
<td>Week 10</td>
<td>30%</td>
<td>Mergers and Acquisitions (M&amp;As) in Insurance Industry</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Group Presentation</td>
<td>Week 12</td>
<td>20%</td>
<td>Risk Analysis of a Firm Chosen by Yourself</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Final exam</td>
<td>External</td>
<td>20%</td>
<td>The final exam will test your understanding of lecture contents from week 7 to week 9.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Announcements: Mid-exam in Week 6 is in-class tests. The format is multiple choice questions ONLY. Final Exam is external and is multiple choice questions ONLY.

4.3 Assessment Format

Computer assignment in Week 5 requires minimum two and maximum three people in one group. If you have more than three people in one group, please separate into two groups. There should be maximum 20 pages in your report and the writing should be double lined.

4.4 Assignment Submission Procedure

The electronic format assignment should be submitted to me by email (donghui@unsw.edu.au) no later than 6 pm on Friday of Lecture Week Ten.
4.5 Late Submission

There will be 20% deduction for every one hour delay.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Quality Assurance</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>The ASB is actively monitoring student learning and quality of the student experience in all its programs. A random selection of completed assessment tasks may be used for quality assurance, such as to determine the extent to which program learning goals are being achieved. The information is required for accreditation purposes, and aggregated findings will be used to inform changes aimed at improving the quality of ASB programs. All material used for such processes will be treated as confidential.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

5 COURSE RESOURCES

Required textbook:


Black Board

Lecture notes, assessment details, and announcements are all provided on Moodle. Students should make a point of checking this site regularly.

6 COURSE EVALUATION AND DEVELOPMENT

Each year feedback is sought from students and other stakeholders about the courses offered in the School and continual improvements are made based on this feedback. UNSW's Course and Teaching Evaluation and Improvement (CATEI) Process is one of the ways in which student evaluative feedback is gathered.

There will be a survey every two-three weeks to collect your feedback regarding the previous a few weeks' teaching and learning. The survey basically is to help you improve your learning quality and provides an additional channel for you to express your opinions. The teaching methods and/or some teaching contents may be adjusted partially according to the consensus of the survey. This is to help you to improve course relevance and subject interests for your learning need.
# COURSE SCHEDULE

## Lecture Topics and Required Reading

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Week</th>
<th>Subject</th>
<th>Chapter.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>• Overview of Risk Management</td>
<td>H&amp;N 1-2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• History of Insurance and Risk Management</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>• Diversification of Risk;</td>
<td>H&amp;N 4-5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• Insurer Ownership, Financial and Operational Structure</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• Case Study I</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>• Insolvencies;</td>
<td>H&amp;N 7-8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• Insurance Pricing.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• Group Discussion 1—Insurability of a Certain Risk</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>• Regulation and compliance</td>
<td>John 4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• Concepts underlying insurance law</td>
<td>and 6</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• Mid-exam revision</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>Computing Assignment—Lab Illustration (Topic: M&amp;As in Insurance Industry): 30%; Due in Week 11</td>
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<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>In-class Mid Exam—Multiple Choice Questions (30% of Total Assessment)</td>
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<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>• Introduction to life insurance</td>
<td>John 9</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• Life insurance products</td>
<td>and 13</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• Mid-Exam Question Solution</td>
<td></td>
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<td></td>
<td>• Case Study II—Insurance Products Real Examples: Travel Insurance from QBE</td>
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<td></td>
<td>• Case Study III—Systemic Risk in Insurance—an analysis of insurance and financial stability (Part 1)</td>
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<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>• Personal risk management</td>
<td>John 12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• Mandated and health insurance</td>
<td>and 15</td>
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<tr>
<td>9</td>
<td>• Automobile Insurance</td>
<td>H&amp;N 13,14</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• Homeowners Insurance</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• Group Discussion—Whose Responsibility is for the car accidents in Sydney? Terrorism attack in Madrid, Spain? and insurers in Australia.</td>
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<td></td>
<td>• Practice Problem—Utility Theory</td>
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<td></td>
<td>• Case Study V—Catastrophe Analysis: Hurricane Katrina and Tsunami</td>
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<td></td>
<td>• Case Study VI: Health Insurance in Australia</td>
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<tr>
<td>10</td>
<td>Group Presentation Part I—20% Making Schemes Available in Subject Website</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>11</td>
<td>Group Presentation Part II—20%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12</td>
<td>Final Exam Revision</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

H & N:  Harrison and Niehaus, *Risk Management and Insurance*
Exams Coverage:


- Final Exam: Lecture Notes, Textbook Concept Checks, End of Chapter Questions and Problems for Lectures 7-9.

8 FINS5531 Group Presentation Topic

You should work on this project in teams of maximum 3 students. Choose any company and conduct a risk management project on it. The purpose of this project is for you to apply the material learned from this subject to an existing organization. In preparing for the project, you should assume the role of independent risk management consultants hired by this organization. The project should contain the following components:

1. Table of contents, as well as an executive summary section.
2. A brief introduction of this organization, including the objective of this entity.
3. Identification and discussions of the problems (or potential problems), i.e. exposures, perils and hazards.
4. Complete recommendations for risk management alternatives (including reasons supporting your suggestions). You should also describe their current risk management strategies and make comments or suggestions for improvements.
5. Reference section should list all the documentation (including directories of web links) you’ve used in preparing your project.

Please be precise and clear in your presentation. Cite references appropriately in the main content whenever applicable. There is no minimum requirement as to the length of the project. However, I would expect no more than 10 minutes of oral presentation.

In order to make sure you are making reasonable progress in your assignment, there are a couple of deadlines you have to keep in mind. The following is a suggested guideline for your project timetable. You do not have to submit any report regarding your progress.

- You should form your group by **week 4**.
- By **week 6**, you should have decided which organization on which you want to do the analysis. **Access to company information should be an important factor in your choice of companies so make sure you have done some research on this before making your decision.** Write down (within one page) the company name and what are the resources or methods for obtaining the information/data about this company you have identified so far.
- Prepare a rough draft of your project by **week 8**. This rough draft should incorporate as much of your final project as possible. Include a cover memo describing what remains to be completed and your plan for the next two weeks. The memo should also mention the contribution by each group member thus far as well as each individual’s responsibility for the rest of the project.
The completed presentation is due in **week 10**. Immediately after oral presentation, each member of the group is required to submit a name sheet of your group including student ID and names. On this sheet, everyone is required to evaluate the contribution of each group member in your group. Assign the percentage of contribution toward the finished project by each group member (including yourself). Your contribution to the group project will be used as a reference as to your individual grade for this project.
[FINS 5531]
[Risk and Insurance]

Course Outline
Semester 1, 2014

Part B: Key Policies, Student Responsibilities and Support
PART B: KEY POLICIES, STUDENT RESPONSIBILITIES AND SUPPORT

1 PROGRAM LEARNING GOALS AND OUTCOMES

The Australian School of Business Program Learning Goals reflect what we want all students to BE or HAVE by the time they successfully complete their degree, regardless of their individual majors or specialisations. For example, we want all our graduates to HAVE a high level of business knowledge, and a sound awareness of ethical, social, cultural and environmental implications of business. As well, we want all our graduates to BE effective problem-solvers, communicators and team participants. These are our overall learning goals for you.

You can demonstrate your achievement of these goals by the specific outcomes you achieve by the end of your degree (e.g. be able to analyse and research business problems and propose well-justified solutions). Each course contributes to your development of two or more program learning goals/outcomes by providing opportunities for you to practise these skills and to be assessed and receive feedback.

Program Learning Goals for undergraduate and postgraduate students cover the same key areas (application of business knowledge, critical thinking, communication and teamwork, ethical, social and environmental responsibility), which are key goals for all ASB students and essential for success in a globalised world. However, the specific outcomes reflect different expectations for these levels of study.
We strongly advise you to choose a range of courses which assist your development of these skills, e.g., courses assessing written and oral communication skills, and to keep a record of your achievements against the Program Learning Goals as part of your portfolio.

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**ASB Postgraduate Coursework Program Learning Goals and Outcomes**

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   You should be able to identify and apply current knowledge of disciplinary or interdisciplinary theory and professional practice to business in local and global environments.

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   You should be able to:
   
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   b. Produce oral presentations that communicate complex disciplinary ideas and information effectively for the intended audience and purpose.

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   You should be able to participate collaboratively and responsibly in teams, and reflect on your own teamwork, and on the team’s processes and ability to achieve outcomes.

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   You should be able to:
   
   a. Identify and assess ethical, environmental and/or sustainability considerations in business decision-making and practice, and
   
   b. Consider social and cultural implications of business and/or management practice.

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**2 ACADEMIC HONESTY AND PLAGIARISM**

The University regards plagiarism as a form of academic misconduct, and has very strict rules regarding plagiarism. For UNSW policies, penalties, and information to help you avoid plagiarism see: [http://www.lc.unsw.edu.au/plagiarism/index.html](http://www.lc.unsw.edu.au/plagiarism/index.html) as well as the guidelines in the online ELISE and ELISE Plus tutorials for all new UNSW students: [http://info.library.unsw.edu.au/skills/tutorials/InfoSkills/index.htm](http://info.library.unsw.edu.au/skills/tutorials/InfoSkills/index.htm).

To see if you understand plagiarism, do this short quiz: [http://www.lc.unsw.edu.au/plagiarism/plagquiz.html](http://www.lc.unsw.edu.au/plagiarism/plagquiz.html).

For information on how to acknowledge your sources and reference correctly, see: [http://www.lc.unsw.edu.au/onlib/ref.html](http://www.lc.unsw.edu.au/onlib/ref.html).

For the ASB Harvard Referencing Guide, see the ASB Referencing and Plagiarism webpage (ASB > Learning and Teaching > Student services > Referencing and plagiarism).

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**3 STUDENT RESPONSIBILITIES AND CONDUCT**
Students are expected to be familiar with and adhere to university policies in relation to class attendance and general conduct and behaviour, including maintaining a safe, respectful environment; and to understand their obligations in relation to workload, assessment and keeping informed.


3.1 Workload

It is expected that you will spend at least nine to ten hours per week studying this course. This time should be made up of reading, research, working on exercises and problems, online activities and attending classes. In periods where you need to complete assignments or prepare for examinations, the workload may be greater.

Over-commitment has been a cause of failure for many students. You should take the required workload into account when planning how to balance study with employment and other activities.

We strongly encourage you to connect with your Moodle course websites in the first week of semester. Local and international research indicates that students who engage early and often with their course website are more likely to pass their course.

3.2 Attendance

Your regular and punctual attendance at lectures and seminars is expected in this course. University regulations indicate that if students attend less than 80% of scheduled classes they may be refused final assessment.

3.3 General Conduct and Behaviour

You are expected to conduct yourself with consideration and respect for the needs of your fellow students and teaching staff. Conduct which unduly disrupts or interferes with a class, such as ringing or talking on mobile phones, is not acceptable and students may be asked to leave the class. More information on student conduct is available at: https://my.unsw.edu.au/student/atoz/BehaviourOfStudents.html

3.4 Occupational Health and Safety

UNSW Policy requires each person to work safely and responsibly, in order to avoid personal injury and to protect the safety of others. For more information, see http://www.ohs.unsw.edu.au/.
3.5 Keeping Informed

You should take note of all announcements made in lectures, tutorials or on the course website. From time to time, the University will send important announcements to your university e-mail address without providing you with a paper copy. You will be deemed to have received this information. It is also your responsibility to keep the University informed of all changes to your contact details.

4 SPECIAL CONSIDERATION AND SUPPLEMENTARY EXAMINATIONS

You must submit all assignments and attend all examinations scheduled for your course. You should seek assistance early if you suffer illness or misadventure which affects your course progress.

General Information on Special Consideration:

1. All applications for special consideration must be lodged online through myUNSW within 3 working days of the assessment (Log into myUNSW and go to My Student Profile tab > My Student Services channel > Online Services > Special Consideration). You will then need to submit the originals or certified copies of your completed Professional Authority form (pdf - download here) and other supporting documentation to Student Central. For more information, please study carefully in advance the instructions and conditions at: https://my.unsw.edu.au/student/atoz/SpecialConsideration.html.

2. Please note that documentation may be checked for authenticity and the submission of false documentation will be treated as academic misconduct. The School may ask to see the original or certified copy.

3. Applications will not be accepted by teaching staff. The lecturer-in-charge will be automatically notified when you lodge an online application for special consideration.

4. Decisions and recommendations are only made by lecturers-in-charge (or by the Faculty Panel in the case of UG final exam special considerations), not by tutors.

5. Applying for special consideration does not automatically mean that you will be granted a supplementary exam or other concession.

6. Special consideration requests do not allow lecturers-in-charge to award students additional marks.

Special Consideration and the Final Exam:

Applications for special consideration in relation to the final exam are considered by an ASB Faculty panel to which lecturers-in-charge provide their recommendations for each request. If the Faculty panel grants a special consideration request, this will entitle the student to sit a supplementary examination. No other form of consideration will be granted. The following procedures will apply:
1. Supplementary exams will be scheduled centrally and will be held approximately two weeks after the formal examination period. The dates for ASB supplementary exams for Semester 1, 2014 are:
   15th July – exams for the School of Accounting
   16th July – exams for all Schools except Accounting and Economics
   17th July – exams for the School of Economics
   If a student lodges a special consideration for the final exam, they are stating they will be available on the above dates. **Supplementary exams will not be held at any other time.**

2. Where a student is granted a supplementary examination as a result of a request for special consideration, the student’s original exam (if completed) will be ignored and only the mark achieved in the supplementary examination will count towards the final grade. Failure to attend the supplementary exam will not entitle the student to have the original exam paper marked and may result in a zero mark for the final exam.

If you attend the regular final exam, you are extremely unlikely to be granted a supplementary exam. Hence if you are too ill to perform up to your normal standard in the regular final exam, you are strongly advised not to attend. However, granting of a supplementary exam in such cases is not automatic. You would still need to satisfy the criteria stated above.


5 STUDENT RESOURCES AND SUPPORT

The University and the ASB provide a wide range of support services for students, including:

- **ASB Education Development Unit (EDU)**
  Academic writing, study skills and maths support specifically for ASB students. Services include workshops, online resources, and individual consultations. EDU Office: Room GO7, Ground Floor, ASB Building (opposite Student Centre); Phone: 9385 5584; Email: edu@unsw.edu.au. Visit us on Facebook: [www.facebook.com/educationdevelopmentunit](http://www.facebook.com/educationdevelopmentunit).

- **ASB Student Centre**
  [http://www.asb.unsw.edu.au/requests](http://www.asb.unsw.edu.au/requests)  Advice and direction on all aspects of admission, enrolment and graduation. Ground Floor, West Wing, ASB Building; Phone: 9385 3189

- **Moodle eLearning Support**: For online help using Moodle, follow the links from [www.elearning.unsw.edu.au](http://www.elearning.unsw.edu.au) to [Moodle / Support for Students](http://www.elearning.unsw.edu.au). For technical support, email: itservicecentre@unsw.edu.au; Phone: 9385 1333.

- **UNSW Learning Centre** ([www.lc.unsw.edu.au](http://www.lc.unsw.edu.au))
Academic skills support services, including workshops and resources, for all UNSW students. See website for details.

- **Library training and search support services**
  [http://info.library.unsw.edu.au/web/services/services.html](http://info.library.unsw.edu.au/web/services/services.html)

- **IT Service Centre**: Technical support for problems logging in to websites, downloading documents etc. [https://www.it.unsw.edu.au/students/index.html](https://www.it.unsw.edu.au/students/index.html) UNSW Library Annexe (Ground floor).

- **UNSW Counselling and Psychological Services**
  [http://www.counselling.unsw.edu.au](http://www.counselling.unsw.edu.au) Free, confidential service for problems of a personal or academic nature; and workshops on study issues such as ‘Coping with Stress’ and ‘Procrastination’. Office: Level 2, Quadrangle East Wing; Phone: 9385 5418.

- **Student Equity & Disabilities Unit**
  [http://www.studentequity.unsw.edu.au](http://www.studentequity.unsw.edu.au) Advice regarding equity and diversity issues, and support for students who have a disability or disadvantage that interferes with their learning. Office: Ground Floor, John Goodsell Building; Phone: 9385 4734.