



*MISSION: To develop a unique business school identity which is distinctive in the marketplace and provides a clear value proposition for students. This will be achieved by embedding the themes of entrepreneurship and innovation, digitalisation and data within our programs and embracing sustainability, work integrated learning and a commitment to social justice.*

## OVERVIEW

<b>Course Description</b>	This course provides an in-depth analysis of FinTech's impact on the financial industry, covering its past, present, and future landscape. We explore challenges and opportunities in the era of digital finance, including FinTech's influence on digital transformation in financial markets. Legal and ethical considerations are emphasised, encompassing regulatory environments and ethical implications of technology in managing financial transactions and data. Communication skills are refined, focusing on effective presentation and report preparation to convey key findings and recommendations to stakeholders. Upon completion, students will have gained a comprehensive understanding of FinTech, innovation and its impact, along with skills to evaluate, navigate challenges, and communicate findings effectively in finance, technology and related fields.
<b>Contact Hours</b>	<b>Workshop:</b> Face to face on campus for two (2) hours per week for 12 weeks starting week 1. <b>Self-Directed Learning:</b> Six (6) hours of online content per term provided for self-directed learning.
<b>Unit Weighting</b>	10 units
<b>Workload</b>	Students are required to spend on average 120-140 hours of effort (contact and non-contact) including assessments per 10-unit course.
<b>Please refer to the course CANVAS site for details of teaching staff for ALL course offerings. The primary contact for courses is the Course Coordinator, whose details are listed on the course CANVAS site.</b>	
<b>Student Consultation</b>	A minimum of one (1) hour of consultation per week. Please see course CANVAS site for details of time and location.
<b>Course Learning Outcomes</b>	<b>On successful completion of this course, students will be able to:</b> <ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. Analyse the past, current and future landscape of financial technology and innovation.</li><li>2. Explain and apply critical thinking to challenges and opportunities of FinTech in the era of digital finance.</li><li>3. Critically analyse and solve problems on the use of FinTech and digital transformation in financial markets including banking models, crowdfunding and other applications in finance.</li><li>4. Assess the legal and ethical considerations in using FinTech in the context of blockchain technologies, machine learning and artificial intelligence.</li><li>5. Effectively communicate findings to stakeholders.</li></ol>

# COURSE OUTLINE

# ASSESSMENTS

This course has 3 assessments. Each assessment is described in more detail in the sections below:

	Assessment Name	Due Date	Involvement	Weighting	Learning Outcomes
1	Group Report*	End of Week 10	Group	20%	1, 2, 3, 4
2	Group Presentation*	Week 11 in Class	Group	10%	1, 2, 3, 5
3	In-Semester Written Assignment and Final Project*	End of Week 12	Individual	70%	1, 2, 3, 4

**Please note:** students are advised that ALL assessments must be submitted in English. Assessments not submitted in English will receive a mark of zero.

Results of individual assessment items and final results, including those provided via the Learning Management System (LMS) are 'unofficial results' until they are confirmed as finalised by the School Assessment Body and the Head of School or delegate. Finalised results are released directly to students on the Fully Graded Date of the relevant Semester/Trimester.

## Time referenced is time in Newcastle NSW

\*This assessment has a compulsory requirement.

<b>Late Submissions</b>	The mark for an assessment item submitted after the designated time on the due date, without an approved extension of time, will be reduced by 10% of the possible maximum mark for that assessment item for each day or part day that the assessment item is late. <b>Note:</b> this applies equally to week and weekend days.
-------------------------	--

### Assessment 1 – Group Report

<b>Assessment Type</b>	Written Assignment
<b>Purpose</b>	Critically evaluate FinTech adoption
<b>Description</b>	Students are required to write a group report on technological advancement in the finance industry from past to present and emerging. Identifying a real-life case, students are thus required to address benefits and challenges faced when adopting new technologies and innovations in the finance industry.
<b>Weighting</b>	20%
<b>Length</b>	2000 words
<b>Due Date</b>	End of Week 10
<b>Submission Method</b>	Online via Canvas
<b>Assessment Criteria</b>	Critical thinking, clear identification, and discussions of FinTech case study based on marking rubric criteria
<b>Return Method</b>	Online via Canvas
<b>Feedback Provided</b>	Yes

### Assessment 2 – Group Presentation

<b>Assessment Type</b>	Presentation
<b>Purpose</b>	Presentation of FinTech adoption
<b>Description</b>	Students present their findings on a case of technological advancement in the finance industry from past to present and emerging, including benefits and challenges faced when adopting new technologies.
<b>Weighting</b>	10%
<b>Length</b>	20 minutes
<b>Due Date</b>	Week 11 in class
<b>Submission Method</b>	NA
<b>Assessment Criteria</b>	Clarity of presentation and contents in accordance with marking rubric
<b>Return Method</b>	Online via Canvas
<b>Feedback Provided</b>	Yes

### Assessment 3 – In-Semester Written Assignment and Final Project

<b>Assessment Type</b>	Written Assignment
<b>Purpose</b>	In-semester project and final project on FinTech
<b>Description</b>	For the in-semester project, student are required to write an essay on the legal and ethical considerations using real-life cases given the rapid advancement in technologies in the finance sector. (20%)

	For the final project, it comprehensively examines students' knowledge of financial technologies and innovations. Students will be required to interpret and answer problem-based questions to demonstrate critical thinking, analytical and problem-solving skills in the context of fintech. (50%)
<b>Weighting</b>	70%
<b>Length</b>	In-semester project - 1500 words Final project – Problem-based questions
<b>Due Date</b>	In-semester project - End of Week 12 Final project – Formal examination period
<b>Submission Method</b>	Online via Canvas
<b>Assessment Criteria</b>	In-semester project - Critical thinking and evaluation of legal and ethical considerations of FinTech adoption following marking criteria. Final project - Comprehensive understanding of financial technologies and innovations to address and answer problem-based questions.
<b>Return Method</b>	In-semester project – Online via Canvas Final project – Not returned
<b>Feedback Provided</b>	In-semester project – Yes Final project - No

## SYLLABUS

### Course Content

**Topics in the course include but are not limited to the following:**

1. Past, current and future landscape of financial technology and innovation;
2. Rising power of technology in new banking business model;
3. Risk and cybersecurity in FinTech;
4. Blockchain technologies;
5. Crowdfunding;
6. Machine learning;
7. Legal and ethical considerations; and
8. Big data and data visualisation.

### Course Materials

**Required Text:**

- 1) **Disruptive Technology in Banking and Finance: An International Perspective on FinTech** (<https://link.springer.com/book/10.1007/978-3-030-81835-7>)
- 2) **The Economics of Fintech** (<https://link.springer.com/book/10.1007/978-981-33-4913-1>)

**ISBN:**

- 1) 978-3-030-81837-1
- 2) 978-981-33-4915-5

Please refer to the course CANVAS site for details of additional recommended texts.

## COMPULSORY REQUIREMENTS

### Course Assessment Requirements

In order to pass this course, each student must complete ALL of the following compulsory requirements:

- Assessment 1 – Group Report
- Assessment 2 – Group Presentation
- Assessment 3 – In-Semester Written Assignment and Final Project

# SCHEDULE

Week	Topic	Class Preparation	Workshop Activities
1	Introduction to Financial Technology	Read - Chapter 1 (King et al., 2021)	
2	FinTech journey – Past, present and future	Read – Chapter 2 (King et al., 2021)	
3	The rising power of technology in the banking industry	Read – Chapter 6 (King et al., 2021)	
4	Risks in FinTech Industry - Cyberattacks	Read – Chapter 14 (Kaji et al., 2021)	
5	P2P or Marketplace Lending	Read – Resources provided on Canvas	
6	CBDC and New Banking Business Model	Read – Chapter 4.3 (King et al., 2021), Chapter 3.7 (Kaji et al., 2021)	
7	Decentralised Finance and Cryptocurrencies	Read – Chapter 4 (King et al., 2021)	
8	Crowdfunding	Read – Resources provided on Canvas	
9	AI and Machine Learning in Finance	Read – Chapter 11 (Kaji et al., 2021)	
10	Robo-advising and Personal Finance and Investment	Read – Chapter 13 (Kaji et al., 2021)	Assessment 1 Group report due
11	Regulation and Governance in FinTech	Read – Chapter 9 (King et al., 2021)	Assessment 2 Group presentation during class
12	Revision		Assessment 3 In-semester written project due

**If a lecture/class is scheduled on a public holiday, a make-up lecture may be announced by the course coordinator on the course CANVAS site.**

# CONTACTS

## School Office

### Newcastle Business School – Callaghan, Newcastle City & Online

NU Space  
409 Hunter Street  
Newcastle  
[nbs.enquiries@newcastle.edu.au](mailto:nbs.enquiries@newcastle.edu.au)  
+61 2 4921 5511

### Newcastle Business School - Ourimbah

BO1.13, Business Offices  
Ourimbah  
[cccbusiness-school@newcastle.edu.au](mailto:cccbusiness-school@newcastle.edu.au)  
+61 2 4349 4453

### Newcastle Business School - Sydney

55 Elizabeth Street  
Sydney  
[nbs-sydney@newcastle.edu.au](mailto:nbs-sydney@newcastle.edu.au)  
+61 2 82626432

### PSB Academy Enquiries

Log your question or request to the PSB Program Executives at the following website:  
<http://www.psb-academy.edu.sg/eng>  
+65 6390 9000

### Newcastle Australia Institute of Higher Education Pte Ltd

100 Victoria Street #13-01/02  
National Library Building  
Singapore  
[Singapore-StudentCentral@newcastle.edu.au](mailto:Singapore-StudentCentral@newcastle.edu.au)  
+65 6221 3306

# ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

## Grading Scheme

This course is graded as follows:

Range of Marks	Grade	Description
85-100	High Distinction (HD)	Outstanding standard indicating comprehensive knowledge and understanding of the relevant materials; demonstration of an outstanding level of academic achievement; mastery of skills*; and achievement of all assessment objectives.
75-84	Distinction (D)	Excellent standard indicating a very high level of knowledge and understanding of the relevant materials; demonstration of a very high level of academic ability; sound development of skills*; and achievement of all assessment objectives.
65-74	Credit (C)	Good standard indicating a high level of knowledge and understanding of the relevant materials; demonstration of a high level of academic achievement; reasonable development of skills*; and achievement of all learning outcomes.
50-64	Pass (P)	Satisfactory standard indicating an adequate knowledge and understanding of the relevant materials; demonstration of an adequate level of academic achievement; satisfactory development of skills*; and achievement of all learning outcomes.
0-49	Fail (FF)	Failure to satisfactorily achieve learning outcomes. If all compulsory course components are not completed the mark will be zero. A fail grade may also be awarded following disciplinary action.

\*Skills are those identified for the purposes of assessment task(s).

<b>Communication Methods</b>	Communication methods used in this course include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- CANVAS Course Site: Students will receive communications via the posting of content or announcements on the CANVAS course site.</li> <li>- Email: Students will receive communications via their student email account.</li> <li>- Face to Face: Communication will be provided via face to face meetings or supervision.</li> </ul>
<b>Course Evaluation</b>	Each year feedback is sought from students and other stakeholders about the courses offered in the University for the purposes of identifying areas of excellence and potential improvement.
<b>Oral Interviews (Vivas)</b>	As part of the evaluation process of any assessment item in this course an oral examination (viva) may be conducted. The purpose of the oral examination is to verify the authorship of the material submitted in response to the assessment task. The oral examination will be conducted in accordance with the principles set out in the <a href="#">Oral Examination (viva) Procedure</a> . In cases where the oral examination reveals the assessment item may not be the student's own work the case will be dealt with under the <a href="#">Student Conduct Rule</a> .
<b>Academic Misconduct</b>	All students are required to meet the academic integrity standards of the University. These standards reinforce the importance of integrity and honesty in an academic environment. Academic Integrity policies apply to all students of the University in all modes of study and in all locations. For the Student Academic Integrity Policy, refer to <a href="https://policies.newcastle.edu.au/document/view-current.php?id=35">https://policies.newcastle.edu.au/document/view-current.php?id=35</a> .
<b>Adverse Circumstances</b>	The University acknowledges the right of students to seek consideration for the impact of allowable adverse circumstances that may affect their performance in assessment item(s). Applications for special consideration due to adverse circumstances will be made using the online Adverse Circumstances system where: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. the assessment item is a major assessment item; or</li> <li>2. the assessment item is a minor assessment item and the Course Co-ordinator has specified in the Course Outline that students may apply the online Adverse Circumstances system;</li> <li>3. you are requesting a change of placement; or</li> <li>4. the course has a compulsory attendance requirement.</li> </ol> Before applying you must refer to the Adverse Circumstances Affecting Assessment Items Procedure available at: <a href="https://policies.newcastle.edu.au/document/view-current.php?id=236">https://policies.newcastle.edu.au/document/view-current.php?id=236</a>
<b>Important Policy Information</b>	The Help button in the Canvas Navigation menu contains helpful information for using the Learning Management System. Students should familiarise themselves with the policies and procedures at <a href="https://www.newcastle.edu.au/current-students/no-room-for/policies-and-procedures">https://www.newcastle.edu.au/current-students/no-room-for/policies-and-procedures</a> that support a safe and respectful environment at the University.

*This course outline was approved by the Head of School. No alteration of this course outline is permitted without Head of School approval. If a change is approved, students will be notified and an amended course outline will be provided in the same manner as the original.*

© 2024 The University of Newcastle, Australia