UNSW Business School
Past Honours students and theses

Note – the topics and students below are just an example of previous study. For more information, please contact the relevant Honours Program Coordinator.

Accounting, Audit and Taxation

Management Accounting thesis projects
- Examining Board Processes and Mechanisms: A Management Control Perspective
- The evolution of trust and control in non-performing outsourcing relationships
- The effect of supplier choice and information sharing behaviour on trust, controls and collaboration in the start-up phase of buyer-supplier relationships
- The Effect of Mood and Incentives on Negotiators’ Judgements about Negotiated Transfer Prices

Financial accounting thesis projects
- The Importance of Human Capital Disclosures: Evidence from the English Premier League
- Earnings Decomposition and Market Efficiency
- CEO Departures and Market Uncertainty
- The Price of Ambiguity and Information Asymmetry
- On the Timeliness of Earnings: An Empirical and Theoretical Investigation
- The Pricing of Earnings and its Components

Auditing Thesis Projects
- Audit Quality in Initial Audit Engagements
- Audit Seasonality and Audit Services
- The Stickiness of Non-Audit Service Fees
- Mandatory audit firm rotation and audit quality

Economics

Nalini Agarwal
Supervisor: Kevin Fox
Thesis Title: Dissecting Labour Shares using BLADE: An Empirical Investigation into the trend of drivers and Australian labour shares

Elif B Bahar
Supervisor: Federico Masera
Thesis Title: The Decaying American Dream: Violent Crime, Neighbourhoods and Intergenerational Mobility in the United States

**Rhea Banerjee**
Supervisor: Gonzalo Castex, Pei-Cheng Yu
Thesis Title: The Pursuit of Entrepreneurship: Can Universal Basic Income Play a Role? A Dynamic Model of Occupational Choice

**Andrew Barich**
Supervisor: Denzil Fiebig, Hasin Yousaf
Thesis Title: Bulk Billing and GP Satisfaction: A Study Using the MABEL Survey

**Natasha Bradshaw**
Supervisor: Evgenia Dechter, Tess Stafford
Thesis Title: Paid Parental Leave and the Division of Household Labour Time Use, Wages and Attitudes of Australian Couples

**Jack Buckley**
Supervisor: Gabriele Gratton, Pauline Grosjean
Thesis Title: Why Values Matter: The Persistence and Resurgence of the Far-Right in France

**Max Formato**
Supervisor: Glenn Otto
Thesis Title: Australian Macro-Financial Connectedness: A study of Dynamics and Determinants

**Anny Francis**
Supervisor: David Gunawan, Robert Kohn
Thesis Title: A Variational Bayes Approach to Copula Estimation

**Nicholas Fransen**
Supervisor: Sarah Walker, Michele de Nadai
Thesis Title: "We Didn’t Start the Fire": The Impact of a Kenyan Logging Ban on Deforestation

**Mitchell Kazmierczak**
Supervisor: Isabelle Dobrescu, Alberto Motta
Thesis Title: Badges: A Randomised Controlled Trial

**Carol Kong**
Supervisor: Arpita Chatterjee, Nalini Prasad
Thesis Title: The Effects of Monetary Policy on the Australian Housing Market: A New Approach

**Kate Mulready**
Supervisor: Sarah Walker, Scott French
Thesis Title: Does Voluntourism Improve Educational Outcomes? Evidence from Indonesia

**Jonathan Nathan**
Supervisor: Denzil Fiebig, Richard Holden
Thesis Title: A Super Sleight of Hand: Attribute Non-Attendance in Superannuation

**Patrick Parrish**
Supervisor: Seojeon Lee, Fanghua Li
Thesis Title: Let’s Talk About Sex, Baby: Investigating Sex Specific Difference in the Impact of Unemployment on Fertility

**Harvey Thompson**
Supervisor: Juan Carlos Carbajal, Keiichi Kawai
Thesis Title: Pay to Win: Micro-Transactions in Video-Games

**Robert Tiong**
Supervisor: Kevin Fox, Shengyu Li
Thesis Title: Treating Competition Right: Decomposing Treatment and Selection in the Competition-Productivity Relationship

**Gary Wang**
Supervisor: Gonzalo Castex, Pei-Cheng Yu
Thesis Title: Empty Nest: Optimal Dynamic Taxation with College Savings

**Brendan Wilson**
Supervisor: Keiichi Kawai, Richard Holden
Thesis Title: How Much is My Home Worth? The Value of Online Market Value and Estimates

**Aaron Wong**
Supervisor: Glenn Otto
Thesis Title: Stuck in Traffic (Data): Analysing the Spatial Structure of Sydney with Travel Time Data

**Jim Xu**
Supervisor: Hongyi Li, Shengyu Li
Thesis Title: Zoned Out of the Market: How Zoning Restrictions Increase House Prices in Sydney

**Nicholas Bolevich**
Supervisor: Denzil Fiebig
Thesis Title: Social Capital and Mental Health; An Empirical Study of the Buffering Effect

**Stephen Burgess**
Supervisor: Evgenia Dechter
Thesis Title: Best Interest at Heart? Modelling Determinants and Estimating Consequences of Early School Enrolment

**Nicola Cole**
Supervisor: Andreas Ortmann, Pei-Cheng Yu
Thesis Title: Have Australia Free Trade Agreements Increased the New Goods Margin?

**George Prassas**
Supervisor: Gigi Foster, Richard Holden, Pauline Grosjean
Thesis Title: Unexpected Bias in Cricket Umpire Decision Making

**Jack Skelley**
Supervisor: Sarah Walker, Scott French
Thesis Title: This Little Village Went to Market: Roads, Trade Frictions, and Market Access in India

**Adam Solomon**
Supervisor: Richard Holden
Thesis Title: Strategy and Fundraising in Sequential Majoritarian Elections

**Tristan Truuvert**
Supervisor: Christopher Gibbs
Thesis Title: Low Interest Rates and Financial Crisis; An Historical Analysis from 1870 to 2013

**Sarah Davies**
Supervisor: Gutam Bose, Sarah Walker
Thesis Title: Social Norms and Female Labour Force Participation in India

**Binal Dodhia**
Supervisor: Gabriele Gratton, Alberto Motta, Sarah Walker
Thesis Title: Understanding Ex-Ante and Ex-Post Corruption: Evidence from Kenyan Public Transport Sector

**Simon Graham**
Supervisor: Gigi Foster, Tess Stafford
Thesis Title: Disambiguating Ambiguity: An Experimental Analysis of Attitudes to the Unknown
Isabel Hartstein  
Supervisor: James Morley, Glenn Otto  
Thesis Title: Credit Ration and the Real Economy: A Time Series Analysis Using US Data

Barath Kirubakaran  
Supervisor: Christopher Gibbs, Nalini Prasad  
Thesis Title: Understanding the Cash Flow Channel, Heterogenous Effects Across Australian Households

Beatrix Leung  
Supervisor: Denzil Fiebig, Hongyi Li  
Thesis Title: Complexities of the Firm Innovation System: Assessing Complementarities within Organisational Innovation

Helena Luo  
Supervisor: Andreas Ortmann, Evgenia Dechter  
Thesis Title: The Effect of Personality Traits on Productivity

William Weatherburn  
Supervisor: Glenn Otto, Pei-Cheng Yu  
Thesis Title: An Empirical Analysis of Disaggregated Australian Service Exports

Kelvin Guo  
Supervisor: Glenn Otto  
Thesis Title: The Role of House Prices in the Monetary Transmission Mechanism within Australia

Damoon Sadeghian  
Supervisor: Pauline Grosjean, Sarah Walker  
Thesis Title: The 19th Century ‘Squattocracy’ and Contemporary Inequality

Tuong Bao Tran Nguyen  
Supervisor: Evgenia Dechter  
Thesis Title: The Impact of Child Care Policies on Maternal Labour Force Participation and Hours of Work in Australia

Tsz Ho Dawin Heung (Jeff)  
Supervisor: Valentyn Panchenko, Robert Kohn  
Thesis Title: Improving the Australian Macro-Economic Forecasts

Calvin Yue He  
Supervisor: Richard Holden, Mariano Kulish, James Morley  
Thesis Title: Sovereign Default Risk and the Fiscal Spending Multiplier

Aidan Wood  
Supervisor: Sang-Wook (Stanley) Cho  
Thesis Title: The Environmental Impact of Trade Liberalisation in Developing Countries: A General Equilibrium Approach

Kai Zen  
Supervisor: Gigi Foster  
Thesis Title: The Impact of Selective High Schools on Student Achievement

Rohan Garga  
Supervisor: Gautam Bose, Peter Kriesler  
Thesis Title: Trust & Institutional Confidence in the Aftermath of Disaster

Cecelia Chang  
Supervisor: Anton Kolotilin, Hodaka Morita  
Thesis Title: Punishing Corporate Crime: An Economic Analysis

Justin Tang
Supervisor: Juan Carlos Carbajal, Hongyi Li  
Thesis Title: Toll Booths on the Internet – Adblocking and Online Media

Sebastien Printant  
Supervisor: Christopher Gibbs, Nalini Prasad  
Thesis Title: The Sensitivity of Australian Yields and the AUD/USD Exchange Rate to Macroeconomic News Surprises

Aaryn Lally  
Supervisor: Glenn Otto, Kevin Fox  
Thesis Title: Hedonic Pricing and the User Cost of Housing in the Netherlands

Vanty Tang  
Supervisor: Arpita Chatterjee  
Thesis Title: Effects of Chinese Import Competition on Local Labour Markets in Australia

Timothy Tze-Hymn Lo  
Supervisor: Valentyn Panchenko  
Thesis Title: Asset Pricing Model with Adaptive Learning and Heterogeneity

Nathan Walsh  
Supervisor: Tess Stafford  
Thesis Title: Residential Electricity Usage: How do Households Respond to Dynamic Peak Pricing Events?

Finance
The effect of the ban on short selling on market efficiency and volatility
Cross-listed stocks: Which market processes firm-specific news?
Corporate social responsibility, market competition and firm productivity
The role of corporate governance in the reduction of risk: Evidence from the global financial crisis
Importance of financial and macroeconomic variables in predicting exchange rates
How do key Australian equity indices respond to overnight movements in the S&P 500 index?
Could investing in ETFs lead to a market bubble?
Reverse mortgage as an instrument for Australian families’ optimal use of housing wealth
Learning with High-Cardinality Categorical Features in Actuarial Applications
Evaluating the Australian Government’s Pension Loans Scheme
Mitigating Information Quality Tensions in Digital Citizen Science Platforms: An Action Design Research Approach

Information Systems and Technology Management
Tye, M  
Supervisor: Leong, C and Khoo, Y H  
Thesis Title: Digital Grassroots in activism: Social Media in Malaysia’s Bersih Movement for Electoral Reform

Lai, L. S.  
Supervisor: Choi, B. C.  
Thesis Title: No Privacy Surprises in Mobile Apps: Managing Privacy Expectation through Annotated Security Information in App Stores

Wang, B.
Supervisor: Lim, E T K and Van Toorn, C
Thesis title: Designing Digital Entrepreneurial Crowdfunding Platforms for Persuasion and its social implications

Gu, H
Supervisor: D’Ambra, J and Stephens, K
Thesis title: Organisation Culture and Business Process Management Success

Hua, W
Supervisor: Leong, C and Jie, Y

Luu, V
Supervisor: Land, L and Chin, W. W.
Thesis title: Safeguarding Against Romance Scams- Using Protection Motivation Theory

Harun, R
Supervisor: Choi, B. C. and Yu, J
Thesis title: Searching for Angels: Identifying Effective Characteristics of Successful Crowdfunding Campaigns

Carbonie, A
Supervisor: Guo, Z and Cahalane, M
Thesis title: Positive Personal Development through eSports

Kim, H
Supervisor: Tan, F; Leong, C; Kim, D. D.; Ondrus, J and Tan, B
Thesis title: Value co-creation in Digital Content Ecosystems: A Study of Hallyu

Peng, J. J.
Supervisor: Guo, Z and Cahalane, M
Thesis title: Online Game User Experience

Sargeant, C
Supervisor: Thorogood, A; Jourkhadar, G and Cecez-Kecmanovic, D
Thesis title: Digital Capabilities: Getting Ahead of the Curve

Islam, S
Supervisor: Cahalane, M and Finnegan P
Thesis title: Making Physical Activity a Habit: Using Gamified Physical Activity Trackers to Sustain Behaviour

McEwan, M
Supervisor: Shi, Y and Van Toorn, C
Thesis title: Business Analytics (BA)-powered transformation for environmental and social sustainability in organisations: A dynamic capabilities perspective

Butalan, C
Supervisor: Tan, F and Chan, C
Thesis title: Bridging the Sustainability Leadership Chasm: A Case Study of the Sustainability Advantage Program of the NSW Government, Australia,

Munns, B. J.
Supervisor: Van Toorn, C., Finnegan, P., Kalgovas, B. J., & Benlian, A.
Thesis title: Sustaining Digital Transformation: The imperative to innovate continuously in the Australian financial services sector

Kwong, C
Supervisor: Thorogood, A and Van Toorn, C
Thesis title: Banks responding to FinTechs in the Digital Era
Hwang, D
Supervisor: Thorogood, A and Van Toorn, C
Thesis title: The FinTech Perspective on Banks: Collaboration, Challenges and Recommendations

Marketing
Examining Online Brand Community Engagement: A Functional Approach
Exploring Complementarity Incongruence: The Influence of Context and Artificial Intelligence-based Product Recommendations on Willingness to Pay

Risk and Actuarial Studies

Katie Sun
Bachelor of Actuarial Studies (Honours)
Thesis Title: Evaluating the Australian Governments Pensions Loans Scheme (University Medal)

Melantha Wang
Bachelor of Actuarial Studies (Honours)
Thesis Title: Learning with High-Cardinality Categorical Features in Actuarial Applications

Scott Shao
Bachelor of Actuarial Studies (Honours)
Thesis Title: Reverse Mortgage as an Instrument for Australian Families' Optimal Use of Housing Wealth