

## Decision Making Under Uncertainty

### Subject outline

This subject examines the use of evidence to support policy and decision-making in the public sector. The course assists students to become more critical users of information and evidence and to develop skills in commissioning research and analysis to inform decision-making.

[George Argyrous](#) is the subject leader for this course. The broad scope and coverage of the subject and assessments will be the same across all ANZSOG jurisdictions. There is nevertheless some local tailoring to draw on the expertise of local lecturers, practitioners and specialists and to facilitate consideration of issues and applications relevant to each jurisdiction.

### Educational format

This course will use a variety of educational formats, including case study teaching, small group discussions, exercises, speaker panels and syndicate presentations. The program involves a lot of participation by students, which in turn means that it is important for students to read and prepare set cases and exercises

### Learning outcomes

Those completing this subject will:

- Be able to accurately use, interpret and draw inferences from information gathered as evidence to support decision-making;
- Be aware of the strengths, weaknesses and suitability of selected quantitative and qualitative methods for gathering evidence;
- Know how to commission information gathering and analysis to support management and policy decision-making;
- Understand how the policy system and organizational context affects the use of evidence and analysis in public decision-making.

### Attendance requirements

Full attendance by participants is expected for all EMPA subjects. Where absence is unavoidable, notification of such both to the subject leader and to [Alyson Skinner](#), ANZSOG Student Administrator, as soon as possible is required.

If a student is absent for more than 20% of class contact time for a subject, the student will be asked to complete additional assessment to cover missed work. In some circumstances, the student may be required to repeat the subject, including all assessable work. Should this occur, the result may be recorded as a fail at the student's university and the student would then be liable for payment of the repeat subject.

A record of attendance will be maintained in this subject and additional work in lieu of attendance, relating to the missed material, will be required in the event of absence for two sessions or more.

Cross-jurisdictional attendance for subjects conducted in multiple locations will normally be permitted only in special circumstances and must be approved beforehand by ANZSOG through the Student Administrator.