

University of Nicosia, Cyprus

Course Code	Course Title	ECTS Credits
Acct 437	Corporate Governance	6
Department	Semester	Prerequisites
Accounting	Fall, Spring	Acct 330, Acct 360
Type of Course	Field	Language of Instruction
Required	Accounting	English
Level of Course	Year of Study	Lecturer
Cycle 1	4	Katerina Morphi
Mode of Delivery	Work Placement	Co-Requisites
Face to Face	N / A	None

Objectives of the Course:

The objective of the course is to:

1. Demonstrate the range of definitions of corporate governance and the theories that help to explain corporate governance.
2. Discuss the initiatives introduced in the UK for corporate governance reform and its effectiveness.
3. Explain the important monitoring role played by institutional investors in corporate governance and in encouraging a broader corporate accountability.
4. Discuss the diverse corporate governance systems and discuss the characteristics of insider versus outsider oriented corporate governance systems. Discuss the influence of legal systems and culture on corporate governance.

Learning Outcomes:

After completion of the course students are expected to be able to:

1. Discuss the range of definitions of corporate governance. Appreciate the historical development of corporate governance. Compare and contrast the theories that help to explain corporate governance.
2. Discuss the UK corporate governance reform. Explain the “comply or explain” UK approach to corporate governance. Demonstrate the link between corporate governance and financial performance.
3. Explain the initiatives introduced in the UK in order to improve the effectiveness of boards of directors.

4. Explain the important monitoring role played by institutional investors. Discuss the complex ownership web that is created from institutional investment. Demonstrate ways in which institutional investors are becoming more active in corporate governance and what is the impact of this activism on company performance.
5. Discuss the role played by financial accounting and internal control systems in corporate governance. Explain the importance of audit in relation to corporate governance.
6. Discuss the diversity of corporate governance systems and discuss the characteristics of insider versus outsider oriented corporate governance systems. Demonstrate the influence of legal systems and understand the concept of corporate governance convergence.
7. Discuss the growth of corporate social responsibility and its impact on stakeholders. Demonstrate the importance of a positive relationship between corporate social responsibility and corporate financial performance. Explain the concept of sustainability reporting.
8. Demonstrate the important role that institutional investors play in encouraging greater corporate social responsibility. Discuss the growth of socially responsible investment and its impact on companies.

Course Contents:

1. Defining Corporate Governance
2. Corporate Governance Reform in the UK
3. The Role of Boards in Corporate Governance
4. The Role of Institutional Investors in Corporate Governance
5. The Role of Transparency in Corporate Governance
6. An Introduction to Corporate Governance Systems Worldwide
7. Discharging a broader corporate accountability
8. Socially Responsible Investment.

Learning Activities:

Lectures In-Class Case Studies and Discussions.

Assessment Methods:

Project and Presentation, Mid-Term Exam, Final Exam.

Required Textbooks:

Authors	Title	Publisher	Year	ISBN
Solomon, J. Solomon, A.	Corporate Governance and Accountability	Wiley	2007	

Recommended Textbooks/Reading:

Authors	Title	Publisher	Year	ISBN
DuPlessis, J. J. McConvill, J. Bagaric, M.	Principles of Contemporary Corporate Governance	Wiley	2007	