



## Course Syllabus

<b>Course Code</b>	<b>Course Title</b>	<b>ECTS Credits</b>
ACCT-437	Corporate Governance	6
<b>Prerequisites</b>	<b>Department</b>	<b>Semester</b>
ACCT-330, ACCT-360	Accounting	Fall / Spring
<b>Type of Course</b>	<b>Field</b>	<b>Language of Instruction</b>
Required	Accounting	English
<b>Level of Course</b>	<b>Lecturer(s)</b>	<b>Year of Study</b>
1 <sup>st</sup> Cycle	Dr Katerina Morphi	4 <sup>th</sup>
<b>Mode of Delivery</b>	<b>Work Placement</b>	<b>Corequisites</b>
Face to face	N/A	None

### Course Objectives:

The main objectives of the course are to:

- Present the range of definitions of corporate governance and the theories that help to explain corporate governance.
- Present the initiatives introduced in the UK for corporate governance reform and its effectiveness.
- Present the important monitoring role played by institutional investors in corporate governance and in encouraging a broader corporate accountability.
- Present the diverse corporate governance systems and discuss the characteristics of insider versus outsider oriented corporate governance systems. Consider 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. Understand the UK corporate governance reform. Appreciate the “comply or explain” UK approach to corporate governance. Discuss 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. Appreciate the important monitoring role played by institutional investors. Discuss the complex ownership web that is created from institutional investment. Consider ways in which institutional investors are becoming more active in corporate governance and what is the impact of this activism on company performance.
5. Appreciate the role played by financial accounting and internal control systems in corporate governance. Understand the importance of audit in relation to corporate governance.
6. Appreciate the diversity of corporate governance systems and discuss the characteristics of insider versus outsider oriented corporate governance systems. Consider the influence of legal systems and understand the concept of corporate governance convergence.
7. Consider the growth of corporate social responsibility and its impact on stakeholders. Emphasize the importance of a positive relationship between corporate social responsibility and corporate financial performance. Understand the concept of sustainability reporting.
8. Appreciate the important role that institutional investors play in encouraging greater corporate social responsibility. Consider the growth of socially responsible investment and its impact on companies.

**Course Content:**

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 and Teaching Methods:**

Lectures, In-Class Case Studies and Discussions.

**Assessment Methods:**

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

**Required Textbooks / Readings:**

Title	Author(s)	Publisher	Year	ISBN
Corporate Governance and Accountability, 4 <sup>rd</sup> Edition	Jill Solomon.	Wiley	2014	9781118449103

**Recommended Textbooks / Readings:**

Title	Author(s)	Publisher	Year	ISBN
Principles of Contemporary Corporate Governance	DuPlessis, J. J. McConvill, J. Bagaric, M.	Wiley	2007	
Corporate Governance and Accountability	Jill Solomon	John Wiley and Sons Ltd	2007	0470843659