

**City University of Hong Kong
Course Syllabus**

**offered by Department of Accountancy
with effect from Semester A 2019/20**

Part I Course Overview

Course Title: Corporate Governance

Course Code: FB5690

Course Duration: 1 Semester

Credit Units: 3

Level: P5

Medium of Instruction: English

Medium of Assessment: English

Prerequisites:
(Course Code and Title) Nil

Precursors:
(Course Code and Title) Nil

Equivalent Courses:
(Course Code and Title) AC5690 Corporate Governance

Exclusive Courses:
(Course Code and Title) Nil

Part II Course Details

1. Abstract

This course aims to:

Enable students to integrate ethics into how effective corporate governance should be structured and operated within the modern corporate setting, having regard to legal arrangements and social economic theories.

2. Course Intended Learning Outcomes (CILOs)

(CILOs state what the student is expected to be able to do at the end of the course according to a given standard of performance.)

No.	CILOs	Weighting (if applicable)	Discovery-enriched curriculum related learning outcomes (please tick where appropriate)		
			A1	A2	A3
1.	Identify the determinants of corporate governance mechanisms including legal, internal and social responsibility factors.	25%	✓	✓	
2.	Construct an effective corporate governance framework applicable to different legal systems & corporate structures.	25%	✓	✓	
3.	Solve corporate governance issues using the framework & theories developed in the course & with regard to ethical issues.	25%		✓	✓
4.	Provide direction to the Board of Directors with regard to the setting up or improvement of a corporate governance mechanism.	25%		✓	✓
		100%			

A1: Attitude

Develop an attitude of discovery/innovation/creativity, as demonstrated by students possessing a strong sense of curiosity, asking questions actively, challenging assumptions or engaging in inquiry together with teachers.

A2: Ability

Develop the ability/skill needed to discover/innovate/create, as demonstrated by students possessing critical thinking skills to assess ideas, acquiring research skills, synthesizing knowledge across disciplines or applying academic knowledge to self-life problems.

A3: Accomplishments

Demonstrate accomplishment of discovery/innovation/creativity through producing /constructing creative works/new artefacts, effective solutions to real-life problems or new processes.

3. Teaching and Learning Activities (TLAs)

(TLAs designed to facilitate students' achievement of the CILOs.)

TLA	Brief Description	CILO No.				Hours/week (if applicable)
		1	2	3	4	
Interactive lectures*	To impart key knowledge regarding the nature of corporations, information asymmetry, agency theory, ethics and corporate governance structures. To set the agenda and questions for class discussions.	✓	✓			
Group case analysis and presentations*	Students will work in groups: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> to select a listed company for their analysis; to identify strengths and weaknesses in corporate governance of the company and discuss related ethical issues; suggest ways to strengthen corporate governance. 			✓		
Written report*	Small group written report on an assigned case-based real world corporate governance problem. Students summarise their findings in a written report.				✓	

*DEC TLA element

4. Assessment Tasks/Activities (ATs)

(ATs are designed to assess how well the students achieve the CILOs.)

Assessment Tasks/Activities	CILO No.				Weighting	Remarks
	1	2	3	4		
Continuous Assessment: 100%						
<u>Mid-term examination</u> [#] Student are required to explain key determinants of effective corporate governance structures and how each determinant can reduce agency costs.	✓	✓			40%	
<u>Group project and presentation</u> [#] Students are divided into groups (3-5 students) and each group is required to identify corporate governance problems and			✓	✓	45%	

suggest possible solutions in a written report. In addition, each group is required to make a presentation.								
<u>Participation</u> [#] Students are required to contribute to in-class discussions or case solutions.	✓	✓					15%	
							100%	

DEC AT element

5. Assessment Rubrics

(Grading of student achievements is based on student performance in assessment tasks/activities with the following rubrics.)

	Assessment Task	Criterion	Excellent (A+, A, A-)	Good (B+, B, B-)	Fair (C+, C, C-)	Marginal (D)	Failure (F)
1.	Mid-term examination	Ability to explain key determinants of effective corporate governance structures and how each determinant can reduce agency costs.	High	Significant	Moderate	Basic	Not even reaching marginal levels
2.	Group project and presentation	Ability to identify corporate governance problems and suggest possible solutions	High	Significant	Moderate	Basic	Not even reaching marginal levels
3.	Participation	Ability to contribute to in-class discussions	High	Significant	Moderate	Basic	Not even reaching marginal levels

Part III Other Information (more details can be provided separately in the teaching plan)

1. Keyword Syllabus

(An indication of the key topics of the course.)

Introduction to Corporate Governance Related Social Economic Theories. Introduction to Development of Corporate Governance. Corporate Governance Environment. Internal Corporate Governance Factors. Company Secretary and Corporate Administrator. Intellectual Copyright, Patent and Asset Protection.

2. Reading List

2.1 Compulsory Readings

(Compulsory readings can include books, book chapters, or journal/magazine articles. There are also collections of e-books, e-journals available from the CityU Library.)

1.	Larcker, D., and Tayan, B., <i>Corporate governance matters: A closer look at organizational choices and their consequences</i> , 2nd edition, Pearson Education.
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2.2 Additional Readings

(Additional references for students to learn to expand their knowledge about the subject.)

1.	Kim, K. & Nofsinger J., <i>Corporate Governance</i> , 3rd edition, Pearson – Prentice Hall.
2.	Weston, J. Siu J. & Johnson B., <i>Takeovers, Restructuring, & Corporate Governance</i> , 4th edition, Prentice Hall.
3.	Goergen, M., <i>International Corporate Governance</i> , 1st edition, Pearson Education.