



Module Specification

Governance and Sustainability

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Part 1: Information

Module title: Governance and Sustainability

Module code: UMEDKP-15-2

Level: Level 5

For implementation from: 2026-27

UWE credit rating: 15

ECTS credit rating: 7.5

College: College of Business and Law

School: CBL Bristol Business School

Partner institutions: None

Field: Economics

Module type: Module

Pre-requisites: None

Excluded combinations: Governance, Regulation and Risk Management in Banking 2026-27

Co-requisites: None

Continuing professional development: No

Professional, statutory or regulatory body requirements: None

Part 2: Description

Overview: This module provides a comprehensive examination of governance structures, ethical issues and sustainability considerations within the financial system. Students will develop understanding for the governance structure of financial institutions, investigating their roles, obligations, and contributions to the broader landscape of global economic sustainability. The module emphasises critical analysis and practical insights into regulatory frameworks, risk management

practices, and ethical considerations in finance. Through case studies and discussions, students will assess the challenges and opportunities for fostering sustainability within the financial sector, considering environmental, social, and governance (ESG) factors. By the end of the course, students will gain critical understanding of how governance practices and sustainability principles intersect in shaping the resilience and long-term viability of the financial system.

Features: Not applicable

Educational aims: This module's Educational Aims are:

Equip students with a comprehensive understanding of the governance structures, ethical issues and sustainability factors influencing the financial system.

Develop students' ability to critically analyse the roles, responsibilities, and impacts of financial institutions on global economic sustainability.

To encourage students to engage with current debates and emerging trends in sustainable finance through small groups, contributing to informed discussions and informed decision-making.

Download and analyse data governance and sustainability measures individually and in small groups.

Critical discussion of relevant literature.

Outline syllabus: An indicative outline of topics and themes on this module includes:

Corporate governance in banks– the way in which banks are directed and controlled, risk assessment and management, broader corporate social responsibilities.

Ethical Considerations in banking and Finance– individual and institutional behavioural drivers, cultural and situational influences on ethical decision making.

The importance, rationale and function of the regulator in banking, including the concepts of principles-based and rules-based regulation.

Sustainable banking and Finance and (ESG) Environmental, Social, and Governance Integration- Examining the role of financial institutions in achieving

sustainability.

Future Trends and Emerging Issues in Governance and Sustainability.

Part 3: Teaching and learning methods

Teaching and learning methods: Formal contact between lecturers and students will be through lectures and workshops each week. The lectures will deliver material and set work to prepare for the workshops and in the workshops the students will undertake practical work based on this preparation. Students will be encouraged to discuss concepts and present their ideas and views. They will be expected to act independently in planning and undertaking tasks, in reflecting on their own learning and in seeking and making use of feedback from tutors and each other.

In addition staff will be available during the semester during their office hours for face-to-face meetings. Queries and extended discussions with staff can also be approached virtually through e-mail and/or (VLE) Virtual Learning Environment discussion board.

The module will use the 3Ps (Prepare, Participate and Practise) to enable students to maximise their learning opportunities.

Preparation steps:

Extensive use for weekly guided independent study work. Students are asked to prepare read materials. Some tutorials will focus on downloading and analysing datasets.

Participation steps:

Incorporate various active learning strategies such as group discussions, mini group presentations, role-playing exercises. These activities can help students apply theoretical concepts to real-world scenarios using datasets.

Practise steps:

Knowledge to analyse governance and sustainability measures in relation to critical examination of relevant literature.

Problem-Solving Exercises: Students are presented in tutorials with complex economic problems or scenarios and guidance will be available to them through the process of solving them.

Module Learning outcomes: On successful completion of this module students will achieve the following learning outcomes.

MO1 Discuss governance structures and regulatory frameworks within the financial system, including their roles, responsibilities and their impact on financial stability and sustainability.

MO2 Critically analyse the integration of environmental, social, and governance (ESG) factors and ethics into financial decision making including their wider financial sector implications.

Hours to be allocated: 150

Contact hours:

Independent study/self-guided study = 114 hours

Face-to-face learning = 36 hours

Total = 0

Reading list: The reading list for this module can be accessed at [readinglists.uwe.ac.uk](https://uwe.rl.talis.com/modules/umedkp-15-2.html) via the following link <https://uwe.rl.talis.com/modules/umedkp-15-2.html>

Part 4: Assessment

Assessment strategy: Individual Report max 1,500 words 100%

A 1,500 word research essay in which you will independently research and explore in greater depth, current issues in governance and sustainability in banking. This provides an opportunity to construct a reasoned and evidenced academic argument and prepares you for the extended writing assessments required for final year Level

6 studies.

Students will have opportunity to receive formative feedback through in-class discussions and analysis of case studies.

Assessment tasks:

Written Assignment (First Sit)

Description: Individual assignment (1500 words).

Weighting: 100 %

Final assessment: Yes

Group work: No

Learning outcomes tested: MO1, MO2

Written Assignment (Resit)

Description: Individual assignment (1500 words).

Weighting: 100 %

Final assessment: Yes

Group work: No

Learning outcomes tested: MO1, MO2

Part 5: Contributes towards

This module contributes towards the following programmes of study:

Banking and Finance {Foundation} [Frenchay] - Withdrawn BSc (Hons) 2024-25

Banking and Finance {Foundation}[Frenchay] BSc (Hons) 2024-25

Banking and Finance [NEU] BSc (Hons) 2025-26

Banking and Finance [UFM] BSc (Hons) 2025-26

Banking and Finance {Dual} [Taylors] BA (Hons) 2025-26

Banking and Finance [Frenchay] BSc (Hons) 2025-26

Banking and Finance [Frenchay] BSc (Hons) 2025-26

Banking and Finance [NEU] BSc (Hons) 2025-26

Banking and Finance [UFM] BSc (Hons) 2025-26