



MODULE SPECIFICATION

Part 1: Information			
Module Title	Corporate Governance and Corporate Social Responsibility		
Module Code	UJGUPP-15-M	Level	M
For implementation from	September 2018		
UWE Credit Rating	15	ECTS Credit Rating	7.5
Faculty	Business and Law	Field	Law Postgraduate
Department	Law		
Contributes towards	LLM in Commercial Law LLM in Environmental Law and Sustainable Development LLM in International Banking and Finance Law LLM in International Law LLM in International Trade and Economic Law		
Module type:	Standard		
Pre-requisites	<i>None</i>		
Excluded Combinations	<i>None</i>		
Co- requisites	<i>None</i>		
Module Entry requirements	<i>N/A</i>		

Part 2: Description	
<p>The module will address corporate governance issues and explore the impact of corporate activity on society at large. This will encompass commercial enterprises, the media, international agencies and charities (NGOs). In recent years, the discussion on corporate governance has been widened by the concept of corporate social responsibility (CSR). In that regard, it has become part of global corporations' mission statements to advertise their CSR policies and although it can be argued that adopting such policies may be motivated by PR strategies CSR may also have implications for their behaviour and impact on their overall performance. In fact, global corporations increasingly are driven, by both external and internal actors, to adopt socially, environmentally and ethically responsible policies to reflect their sphere of influence – not least because of media attention. In this context, their role in and contribution to armed conflicts is to be highlighted. This leads us to explore the global impact of MNCs and their growing responsibilities and, considering their potential influence on government policies, to discover in how far MNCs are actually subject to legal rules as international players.</p> <p>All discussions are set in an international and comparative context. The following is an indicative list of topics which will be explored in the seminars. The emphasis may shift where there is a shift in relative importance. The list has been drawn broadly enough so that developments in the area can be taken into account.</p> <p>Corporate Governance: exploration and examination of the concept of corporate governance; in how far, if at all, are corporations accountable to 'interested communities' and what can codes, such as the 'Combined Code', offer?</p>	

Widening the Concept of Corporate Governance: exploration of the concept of corporate citizenship and who the stakeholders are; where does corporate social responsibility factor in; what is ‘good governance’?

Business and Ethics: discussion of whether ethical behaviour has a positive correlation with corporate performance? Can CSR be measured? And how is corporate leadership determined and effected?

Business and Armed Conflict: How, and by whom, are conflicts fuelled and sustained? Exploration of issues such as jurisdiction, responsibility and accountability.

Stakeholder Involvement in Developing CSR: addressing the question whether there is the power to improve within and what the social impact of business is. Development of rules and their application

An “International Law for Corporations”? Explores whether there are binding International Laws Regulating the Conduct of MNCs and, if so, how is compliance monitored and are they applied and enforced?

Workshop activities may include presentations by staff or students, seminar discussions, group discussions, group exercises, case studies, online discussion groups, use of other media such as film or video.

- For each workshop the students will be expected to have developed a general ‘mastery’ of the subject under consideration, from the reading list provided, and from undertaking further independent research.
- Where appropriate students will be directed to seminars, such as those organised by the Centre for Legal Research.
- In addition, contact time may also take a synchronous virtual form rather than face-to-face, through the use of email, email discussion groups, virtual learning environments (VLEs) and other technology-aided means. It can also take place in a work-based setting.

Part 3: Assessment

The module will be assessed by a series of online tests based on Study Units – 5 in total each worth 20%, of which the best 3 results will count 60% towards Component B – and a 10 minute oral presentation with 5 minutes of Q&A which will count 40% towards Component A.

The online tests will allow students to test their level of knowledge and understanding per Study Unit covered, with more immediate feedback and will allow tutors to pinpoint potential issues earlier, addressing them in an ongoing manner and providing more targeted feedback. The tests will be designed with levels of difficulty in mind, randomising the questions from a pool, and will also consist of a range of question types, which may include short answer questions, matching questions, open-ended questions and other forms of question-setting.

The presentation as the “assessment under controlled conditions” will give students the opportunity to be assessed on their presentation skills, the level of knowledge and understanding displayed and their ability to research, independently, into the assessment topic.

Formative assessment opportunities will be provided in workshops throughout the module.

Learning outcomes will be assessed by oral presentation and a series of online tests. Assessment questions will be set by tutors. Both assessments require students to undertake independent research building on material covered in the workshop sessions.

Identify final timetabled piece of assessment (component and element)	Component A	
	A:	B:
% weighting between components A and B (Standard modules only)	40%	60%

First Sit

Component A (controlled conditions)		Element weighting (as % of component)
Description of each element		
1. Oral Presentation and Questions (10 minutes + 5 minutes Q&A)		100%
Component B		Element weighting (as % of component)
Description of each element		
1. Online Test		
2. Online Test		
3. Online Test		
4. Online Test		
5. Online Test		
Only the best three marks will count		100%
Resit (further attendance at taught classes is not required)		
Component A (controlled conditions)		Element weighting (as % of component)
Description of each element		
1. Oral Presentation and Questions (10 minutes + 5 minutes Q&A)		100%
Component B		Element weighting (as % of component)
Description of each element		
1. Written coursework essay (maximum 3000 words)		100%
Part 4: Learning Outcomes & KIS Data		
Learning Outcomes	<p>On successful completion of the module, students are expected to demonstrate:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • the ability to differentiate between the concepts of corporate governance and corporate social responsibility [assessed in components A and B]; • a critical understanding of the relevance of the regulation of MNCs within the wider social, political, economic and legal context and appreciate their influence vice versa [assessed in components A and B]; • a critical understanding of how different legal systems approach the regulation of MNCs and the relationship between those systems and the international legal framework [assessed in components A and B]; • a critical understanding of the current academic and policy issues involved in the regulation of MNCs [assessed in components A and B]; • an ability to locate and understand both international and national legal instruments and mechanisms relevant to corporate governance and corporate social responsibility [assessed in components A and B] • an ability to critically evaluate corporate governance and corporate social responsibility in relation to its wider context, in particular in the context of globalisation, the protection of human rights and sustainable development [assessed in components A and B]; • the ability to assess the effectiveness of corporate governance and self-regulatory regimes [assessed in components A and B]. <p>On completion of this module, students should have the following transferable skills:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ability to present a structured argument at both abstract and concrete levels in the 	

	<p>subject area [assessed in components A and B];</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ability to recognise problems and identify solutions [assessed in components A and B]; • ability to analyse, evaluate and reflect upon complex materials relating to the subject area [assessed in components A and B]; • ability to work in groups; and • ability to undertake independent research [assessed in components A and B]. 																														
<p>Key Information Sets Information (KIS)</p> <p>Contact Hours</p> <p>Total Assessment</p>	<table border="1" data-bbox="518 618 1430 1005"> <thead> <tr> <th colspan="5">Key Information Set - Module data</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td colspan="4"><i>Number of credits for this module</i></td> <td style="border: 2px solid black;">15</td> </tr> <tr> <th>Hours to be allocated</th> <th>Scheduled learning and teaching study hours</th> <th>Independent study hours</th> <th>Placement study hours</th> <th>Allocated Hours</th> </tr> <tr> <td style="text-align: center;">150</td> <td style="text-align: center;">24</td> <td style="text-align: center;">126</td> <td style="text-align: center;">0</td> <td style="text-align: center;">150</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p>The table below indicates as a percentage the total assessment of the module which constitutes a;</p> <p>Written Exam: Unseen or open book written exam Coursework: Written assignment or essay, report, dissertation, portfolio, project or in class test Practical Exam: Oral Assessment and/or presentation, practical skills assessment, practical exam (i.e. an exam determining mastery of a technique)</p> <table border="1" data-bbox="628 1317 1324 1554"> <thead> <tr> <th colspan="2">Total assessment of the module:</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Written exam assessment percentage</td> <td style="text-align: center;">0%</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Coursework assessment percentage</td> <td style="text-align: center;">60%</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Practical exam assessment percentage</td> <td style="text-align: center;">40%</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td style="text-align: center;">100%</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Key Information Set - Module data					<i>Number of credits for this module</i>				15	Hours to be allocated	Scheduled learning and teaching study hours	Independent study hours	Placement study hours	Allocated Hours	150	24	126	0	150	Total assessment of the module:		Written exam assessment percentage	0%	Coursework assessment percentage	60%	Practical exam assessment percentage	40%		100%
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<p>Reading List</p>	<p>The Reading List for this module can be found at https://uwe.rl.talis.com/lists/C052FA1E-C9F0-DC9B-FD87-12EA5EBAFD1B.html.</p>																														

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First CAP Approval Date	QMAC December 2011			
Revision ASQC Approval Date <i>Update this row each time a change goes to ASQC</i>	16 January 2016	Version	2	link to RIA