STUDENT AND ACADEMIC SERVICES

MODULE SPECIFICATION

Part 1: Information			
Module Title	Corporate Governance and Corporate Social Responsibility		
Module Code	UJGUPP-15-M	Level	Level 7
For implementation from	2020-21		
UWE Credit Rating	15	ECTS Credit Rating	7.5
Faculty	Faculty of Business & Law	Field	Law Postgraduate (Programmes)
Department	FBL Dept of Law		
Module type:	Standard		
Pre-requisites	None		
Excluded Combinations	None		
Co- requisites	None		
Module Entry requirements	None		

Part 2: Description
Overview: 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.

Educational Aims: See Learning Outcomes.

Outline Syllabus: 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.

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?

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 he Conduct of MNCs and, if so, how is compliance monitored and are they applied and enforced?

Teaching and Learning Methods: 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 of which the best 3 results will count towards Component B – and an oral presentation which will count 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.

First Sit Components	Final Assessment	Element weighting	Description
Presentation - Component A	✓	40 %	Oral presentation (15 minutes)
Online Assignment - Component B		60 %	Students will complete 5 online tests and only best three marks will count

STUDENT AND ACADEMIC SERVICES

Resit Components	Final Assessment	Element weighting	Description
Presentation - Component A	✓	40 %	Oral presentation (15 minutes)
Written Assignment - Component B		60 %	Written coursework essay (maximum 3000 words)

Part 4: Teaching and Learning Methods

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

	Reference
An ability to present a structured argument at both abstract and concrete levels in the subject area	D1
An ability to recognise problems and identify solutions	D2
An ability to analyse, evaluate and reflect upon complex materials relating to the subject area	D3
An ability to undertake independent research	D4
An ability to work in groups	D5
Module Learning Outcomes	**Reference**
The ability to differentiate between the concepts of corporate governance and corporate social responsibility	MO1
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	MO2
A critical understanding of how different legal systems approach the regulation of MNCs and the relationship between those systems and the international legal framework	MO3
A critical understanding of the current academic and policy issues involved in the regulation of MNCs	MO4
An ability to locate and understand both international and national legal instruments and mechanisms relevant to corporate governance and corporate social responsibility	MO5
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	MO6
The ability to assess the effectiveness of corporate governance and self-regulatory regimes	MO7

Contact Hours	**Independent Study Hours:**	
	Independent study/self-guided study	126
	Total Independent Study Hours:	126
	Scheduled Learning and Teaching Hours:	
	Face-to-face learning	24
	Total Scheduled Learning and Teaching Hours:	24
	Hours to be allocated	150
	Allocated Hours	150

STUDENT AND ACADEMIC SERVICES

Reading List	*The reading list for this module can be accessed via the following link:* https://uwe.rl.talis.com/modules/ujgupp-15-m.html

---

Part 5: Contributes Towards

This module contributes towards the following programmes of study:

International Trade and Economic Law [Sep][FT][Frenchay][1yr] LLM 2020-21

International Trade and Economic Law [Jan][FT][Frenchay][1yr] LLM 2020-21

International Trade and Economic Law [Sep][FT][FTU][1yr] LLM 2020-21

International Trade and Economic Law [Sep][FT][HCMCUL][1yr] LLM 2020-21

Commercial Law [Sep][FT][Frenchay][1yr] LLM 2020-21

Commercial Law [Jan][FT][Frenchay][1yr] LLM 2020-21

Environmental Law and Sustainable Development [Sep][FT][Frenchay][1yr] LLM 2020-21

Environmental Law and Sustainable Development [Jan][FT][Frenchay][1yr] LLM 2020-21

International Banking and Finance Law [Sep][FT][Frenchay][1yr] LLM 2020-21

International Banking and Finance Law [Jan][FT][Frenchay][1yr] LLM 2020-21

International Banking and Finance Law [Sep][FT][HCMCUL][1yr] LLM 2020-21

International Trade and Economic Law [Sep][FT][FTU][1yr] LLM 2020-21

International Law [Jan][FT][Frenchay][1yr] LLM 2020-21

International Trade and Economic Law [Sep][FT][FTU][1yr] LLM 2020-21