



**CORPORATE AND ACADEMIC SERVICES**




**MODULE SPECIFICATION**

Part 1: Basic Data					
Module Title	Governance and Accountability				
Module Code	UMADHV-15-2	Level	2	Version	1
UWE Credit Rating	15	ECTS Credit Rating	7.5	WBL module?	No
Owning Faculty	BBS, FBL	Field	Accounting and Finance		
Department	AEF	Module Type	Standard		
Contributes towards	BA(Hons) Accounting and Finance; BA(Hons) Business Management with Accounting and Finance;				
Pre-requisites	None	Co- requisites	None		
Excluded Combinations	None	Module Entry requirements	n/a		
First CAP Approval Date	3 February 2015	Valid from	September 2015		
Revision CAP Approval Date		Revised with effect from			

<b>Review Date</b>	September 2021
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Part 2: Learning and Teaching	
Learning Outcomes	<p>On successful completion of this module, students will be able to:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Understand the nature of corporate governance, be able to discuss a range of definitions and evaluate several theoretical frameworks of corporate governance; (<i>Component A, B</i>)</li> <li>2. Appreciate the links between company performance and corporate governance, and assess the consequences of weak corporate governance, with particular reference to recent systemic financial failures; (<i>Component A, B</i>)</li> <li>3. Assess the role played by risk management in achieving good corporate governance, and understand the accountant's role in the process of risk identification, assessment and management; (<i>Component A, B</i>)</li> </ol>

	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>4. Critically evaluate the role of key players in corporate governance, including regulators, the board of directors, institutional investors; (<i>Component A, B</i>)</li> <li>5. Understand the role of the audit function in achieving good corporate governance, and have an overview of the audit process (<i>Component A, B</i>)</li> <li>6. Compare and contrast systems of and approaches to corporate governance worldwide, and evaluate significant drivers for, and barriers to, convergence of global convergence of corporate governance standards; (<i>Component A, B</i>)</li> <li>7. Evaluate the nature and significance of individual and corporate ethical standards in achieving governance in the best interests of companies, the economy and society as a whole. (<i>Component A, B</i>)</li> </ol>
Syllabus Outline	<p>The module typically will cover:</p> <p><i>Corporate Governance Definitions and Concepts:</i>  Narrow to broad scope  Conceptual frameworks including agency, stakeholder, stewardship, and transaction cost theories  Approaches to corporate governance: rules vs principles</p> <p><i>Key players:</i>  The role of Boards, including the Chairman and INEDS, and executive pay  The role of Institutional Investors, including shareholder activism  The role of Transparency, including the function of regulators, the audit triangle, and governance reporting  The role of audit within corporate governance, including the nature, purpose and scope of statutory audit, audit planning and risk assessment</p> <p><i>Risk Management</i>  Evaluation of the role of risk management in achieving good corporate governance, with particular reference to the failures of the banks  Evaluation of the role of the accountant in risk control and management, including consideration of the needs for and structure of internal control systems  Consideration of corporate approaches to risk identification, assessment and management</p> <p><i>Global Issues</i>  Comparison of major models of corporate governance in use globally  Identification of key drivers towards harmonisation/convergence, including roles of OECD, World Bank and IFC  Evaluation of importance of cultural, legal, political and socio-economic differences as barriers to global convergence</p> <p><i>Ethical Models</i>  Consideration of individual ethical decision making, including major ethical theories</p>

	Evaluation of the importance of individual ethics for corporate behaviour, and the development corporate ethical codes																		
Contact Hours	Students can expect 3 hours of contact time each week, 36 hours for the module as a whole. Students will attend one whole-group lecture, one 'lectorial' and one workshop session each week.																		
Teaching and Learning Methods	<p><b>Core contact: Lectures &amp; Seminars</b> Lectures will focus on core material, with a particular focus on theory and its application. Most seminars will focus on investigating and practising the lecture material. Students will prepare answers in advance or in the seminar, either working individually or in small groups. Help, explanations and answers will be given in the workshop and/or through Blackboard</p> <p><b>Additional Contact</b> In addition staff will be available during the semester during their office hours (2 hours a week) for face to face meetings. Queries and extended discussions with staff can also be approached virtually through e-mail.</p> <p><b>Other Support (on-line)</b> Extensive use will be made of Blackboard for weekly guided independent study work; to support students' learning; to facilitate interactions between students e.g. for group project work and to provide feedback with quizzes and forums. Students will also be directed towards the University Library online Study Skills resources for the development of skills appropriate to the level and style of the module. In addition a number of e-learning resources will also be used:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• , referencing, evaluation skills and literature reviewing <a href="http://www1.uwe.ac.uk/library/help.aspx">http://www1.uwe.ac.uk/library/help.aspx</a></li> <li>• Learn Higher <a href="http://www.learnhigher.ac.uk/Students.html">http://www.learnhigher.ac.uk/Students.html</a></li> </ul>																		
Key Information Sets Information	<p><b>Key Information Set - Module data</b></p> <table border="1"> <tr> <td colspan="5"><i>Number of credits for this module</i></td> <td>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> <th></th> </tr> <tr> <td>150</td> <td>36</td> <td>114</td> <td>0</td> <td>150</td> <td></td> </tr> </table> <p>The table below indicates as a percentage the total assessment of the module which constitutes a -</p> <p><b>Written Exam:</b> Unseen written exam, open book written exam, In-class test  <b>Coursework:</b> Written assignment or essay, report, dissertation, portfolio, project  <b>Practical Exam:</b> Oral Assessment and/or presentation, practical skills assessment, practical exam</p> <p>Please note that this is the total of various types of assessment and will not necessarily reflect the component and module weightings in the Assessment section of this module description:</p>	<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	36	114	0	150	
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<p>Reading Strategy</p>	<p>All students will be encouraged to make full use of the print and electronic resources available to them through membership of the University. These include a range of electronic journals. Training is provided by the library into how to find the relevant e-journals online. All of the online resources needed for this module can be accessed remotely.</p> <p>Students will be directed and expected to undertake reading throughout the module. However, depending upon specific topics addressed over the course of the module, students will be expected to undertake additional reading for themselves. A list of indicative textbooks and relevant journals is provided below but students are expected to recognise that these may be starting points only and that they should extend their reading as widely as is necessary to demonstrate a comprehensive knowledge. Specific websites will be recommended to keep students up to date with current issues in taxation from both an academic and real world perspective.</p> <p><b>Blackboard</b> – This module is supported by Blackboard, where students will be able to find all necessary module documentation, including guidance on Further Reading within the module handbook/outline. Direct links to information resources will also be provided from within Blackboard.</p> <p><b>UWE Libraries</b> – Engagement with online resources available through the library will be a core requirement of this module. This includes mySkills/iSkills zone, and the Skills4Study resources (see above).</p>																				
<p>Indicative Reading List</p>	<p><b>Core textbook (which students should purchase):</b></p> <p>Solomon, J. (2013) <i>Corporate Governance and Accountability</i> 4<sup>th</sup> ed . Wiley</p> <p><i>Books:</i></p> <p>Dellaportas, S. et al (2005). <i>Ethics, Governance and Accountability</i>. Wiley  Gray, I. And Manson, S. (2011) <i>The Audit Process: Principles, Practice and Cases</i> (5<sup>th</sup> ed.). Cengage Learning: Andover  Lewin, A. (2010) <i>A Student's Guide to Auditing</i>. Kaplan: Wokingham  Mallin, C. (2012) <i>Corporate Governance</i> (4<sup>th</sup> ed). Oxford  Nordberg, D. (2011) <i>Corporate Governance: Principles and Issues</i>. Sage  Tricker, B. (2012). <i>Corporate Governance: Principles, Policies and Practice</i> (2<sup>nd</sup> ed.) Oxford University Press: Oxford</p> <p><i>Journals:</i></p> <p>Corporate Governance  The British Accounting Review  The Accounting Review  Accounting, Auditing and Accountability  Auditing  Journal of Accounting, Auditing and Finance  Journal of International Accounting, Auditing and Taxation  Managerial Auditing Journal</p> <p><i>Websites:</i></p> <p>Combined Code on Corporate Governance (either enter into Google or use <a href="http://www.frc.org.uk/Our-Work/Codes-Standards/Corporate-governance/UK-Corporate-Governance-Code.aspx">http://www.frc.org.uk/Our-Work/Codes-Standards/Corporate-governance/UK-Corporate-Governance-Code.aspx</a>)  Institute of Chartered Accountants in England and Wales  <a href="http://www.icaew.com/en/technical/corporate-governance">http://www.icaew.com/en/technical/corporate-governance</a>  International Corporate Governance Network <a href="https://www.icgn.org/">https://www.icgn.org/</a></p>																				

### Part 3: Assessment

Assessment Strategy	<p><b>Summative Assessment</b>  There are two different assessments for the module. Both are designed to allow students to demonstrate their knowledge and understanding of the module's topics and content.</p> <p><b>Component A:</b>  Consists of an examination (conducted under controlled conditions) which will be 2.hours in length. It will assess students' knowledge of core material and their ability to apply it to given scenarios.</p> <p><b>Component B</b>  Consists of a 2,000 word individual essay on a current topic in corporate governance and accountability. This component allows the student to demonstrate competence in research skills, critical thinking, and writing. The title and topic will be announced at the beginning of the course to enable students time to conduct independent research relating to the topic.</p> <p><b>Formative Assessment:</b>  1. Students will be offered the opportunity to self-evaluate their knowledge and comprehension of the module's core concepts and topics using question banks drawn from various sources.  2. In addition students will be encouraged to reflect on their academic progress through regular attendance at lectures and seminars.</p>
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Identify final assessment component and element	<b>Component A</b>	
% weighting between components A and B (Standard modules only)	<b>A:</b>	<b>B:</b>
	<b>50%</b>	<b>50%</b>
<b>First Sit</b>		
<b>Component A</b> (controlled conditions) <b>Description of each element</b>	<b>Element weighting</b> (as % of component)	
1. Examination (2 hours)	100%	
<b>Component B</b> <b>Description of each element</b>	<b>Element weighting</b> (as % of component)	
1. Individual essay (2,000 words)	100%	

<b>Resit (further attendance at taught classes is not required)</b>		
<b>Component A</b> (controlled conditions) <b>Description of each element</b>	<b>Element weighting</b> (as % of component)	
1. Examination (2 hours)	100%	
<b>Component B</b> <b>Description of each element</b>	<b>Element weighting</b> (as % of component)	
1. Individual essay (2,000 words)	100%	
If a student is permitted a retake of the module under the University Regulations and Procedures, the assessment will be that indicated by the Module Description at the time that retake commences.		