



## **Module Specification**

### Governance and Accountability

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#### **Contents**

<b>Module Specification .....</b>	<b>1</b>
<b>Part 1: Information .....</b>	<b>2</b>
<b>Part 2: Description .....</b>	<b>2</b>
<b>Part 3: Teaching and learning methods .....</b>	<b>4</b>
<b>Part 4: Assessment.....</b>	<b>6</b>
<b>Part 5: Contributes towards .....</b>	<b>8</b>

## Part 1: Information

**Module title:** Governance and Accountability

**Module code:** UMADHV-15-2

**Level:** Level 5

**For implementation from:** 2023-24

**UWE credit rating:** 15

**ECTS credit rating:** 7.5

**Faculty:** Faculty of Business & Law

**Department:** FBL Dept of Accounting Economics & Finance

**Partner institutions:** None

**Delivery locations:** Frenchay Campus, Villa College

**Field:** Accounting and Finance

**Module type:** Module

**Pre-requisites:** None

**Excluded combinations:** None

**Co-requisites:** None

**Continuing professional development:** No

**Professional, statutory or regulatory body requirements:** None

## Part 2: Description

**Overview:** Not applicable

**Features:** Not applicable

**Educational aims:** See Learning Outcomes

**Outline syllabus:** The module typically will cover:

Corporate Governance Definitions and Concepts:

Narrow to broad scope

Conceptual frameworks including agency, stakeholder, stewardship, and transaction cost theories

Approaches to corporate governance: rules vs principles

Key players:

The role of Boards, including the Chairman and INEDS, and executive pay

The role of Institutional Investors, including shareholder activism and contemporary themes including sustainability

The role of Transparency, including the function of regulators, the audit triangle, and governance and sustainability reporting

The role of audit within corporate governance, including the nature, purpose and scope of statutory audit, audit planning and risk assessment

Risk Management:

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 and contemporary issues including sustainability

Global Issues:

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

Ethical Models:

Consideration of individual ethical decision making, including major ethical theories

Evaluation of the importance of individual ethics for corporate behaviour, and the development corporate ethical codes

### **Part 3: Teaching and learning methods**

**Teaching and learning methods:** 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.

Core contact: Lectures and Seminars:

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.

Additional Contact:

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.

Other Support (on-line):

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.

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

**MO1** Understand the nature of corporate governance, be able to discuss a range of definitions and evaluate several theoretical frameworks of corporate governance

**MO2** 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

**MO3** 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 in relation to contemporary business issues

**MO4** Critically evaluate the role of key players in corporate governance, including regulators, the board of directors, institutional investors in relation to sustainability and contemporary business issues

**MO5** Understand the role of the audit function in achieving good corporate governance, and have an overview of the audit process

**MO6** 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

**MO7** 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

**MO8** Work cooperatively in groups, shared decision making and negotiate with others.

**Hours to be allocated:** 150

**Contact hours:**

Independent study/self-guided study = 114 hours

Face-to-face learning = 36 hours

Total = 150

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

## Part 4: Assessment

**Assessment strategy:** Summative Assessment:

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.

Task 1:

Group presentation assessment, 15 minutes, with an individual reflection (500 words). Students will work as a team to research module related concepts in detail, develop teamwork and collaboration skills, deliver a presentation as part of a group and reflect on their individual performance as part of the group. The group presentation requires students to apply the module concepts to real world situations, and the group work develops cooperation skills, allows for discussion of each other's perspectives and understanding of contemporary governance and

accountability practices to facilitate shared decision making and negotiation skills.

Task 2:

Consists of a 2 hour exam. It will assess students' knowledge of core material and their ability to apply it to given scenarios.

Formative Assessment:

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.

In addition students will be encouraged to reflect on their academic progress through regular attendance at lectures and seminars.

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.

### **Assessment components:**

#### **Presentation (First Sit)**

Description: Group presentation of 15 minutes with individual reflection (500 words)  
Students to work as a team to research module concepts in detail, develop teamwork and cooperation skills, deliver a presentation as part of a group, and reflect on their individual performance as part of the group.

Weighting: 50 %

Final assessment: No

Group work: Yes

Learning outcomes tested: MO1, MO2, MO3, MO4, MO5, MO6, MO7, MO8

#### **Examination (First Sit)**

Description: 2 hour Examination (on campus)

Weighting: 50 %

Final assessment: Yes

Group work: No

Learning outcomes tested: MO1, MO2, MO3, MO4, MO5, MO6, MO7

### **Presentation (Resit)**

Description: Individual presentation of 10 minutes with reflection on group work skills (500 words)

Weighting: 50 %

Final assessment: No

Group work: Yes

Learning outcomes tested: MO1, MO2, MO3, MO4, MO5, MO6, MO7, MO8

### **Examination (Resit)**

Description: 2 hour examination on campus

Weighting: 50 %

Final assessment: Yes

Group work: No

Learning outcomes tested: MO1, MO2, MO3, MO4, MO5, MO6, MO7

## **Part 5: Contributes towards**

This module contributes towards the following programmes of study:

Accounting and Finance [Villa] BSc (Hons) 2022-23

Accounting [Frenchay] BSc (Hons) 2022-23

Accounting {Foundation} [Sep][FT][Frenchay][4yrs] BSc (Hons) 2021-22

Accounting {Foundation} [Sep][SW][Frenchay][5yrs] BSc (Hons) 2021-22

Accounting and Finance [Frenchay] BA (Hons) 2022-23

Business Management with Accounting and Finance [Sep][FT][Frenchay][3yrs] BA (Hons) 2022-23

Accounting and Finance [May][FT][Villa][3yrs] BA (Hons) 2022-23



Business Management with Accounting and Finance {Foundation}

[Sep][FT][Frenchay][4yrs] BA (Hons) 2021-22

Business Management with Accounting and Finance {Foundation}

[Sep][SW][Frenchay][5yrs] BA (Hons) 2021-22

Accounting and Finance {Foundation} [Sep][FT][Frenchay][4yrs] BA (Hons) 2021-22

Accounting and Finance {Foundation} [Sep][SW][Frenchay][5yrs] BA (Hons) 2021-22