

MODULE DESCRIPTOR

MODULE TITLE	INTERNATIONAL CORPORATE GOVERNANCE		
MODULE CODE	LA4938 [L7]	CREDIT VALUE	10 ECTS
SCHOOL	SCHOOL OF LAW		

MODULE AIMS

This module aims to give students an understanding of corporate governance issues, focusing initially upon the system in place within the United Kingdom and then exploring various governance systems across the world. The module will address the following: distribution of power with companies, methods of regulating governance, auditors and internal control, the meaning and importance of good governance, the interaction of corporate social responsibility and of human rights issues to a corporation and its governance. It aims to develop students understanding of corporate governance across various jurisdictions and also provide an analysis of the wider moral and policy considerations underpinning today's corporate governance laws

MODULE CONTENT

1. This module will focus initially on the system of corporate governance found in the United Kingdom because of the pre-eminence of the development of that system and its influence globally.
2. The changing approach to international corporate governance issues and the rules and principles that regulate corporate behaviour will be examined.
3. Among the key corporate governance issues examined are:
 - the development of various governance codes,
 - directors and their boards,
 - director's remuneration,
 - regulatory responses to corporate scandals,
 - professional 'gatekeepers',
 - corporate governance failure,
 - current debates on tightening corporate governance, and the issue of convergence.

INTENDED LEARNING OUTCOMES

On successful completion of this module a student will be able to:

Critically evaluate the effectiveness of the current corporate governance regime found in the United Kingdom
Critically evaluate the fundamental concepts, principles, theories and philosophies behind the 'good governance' movement
Explain and analyse the legal and governmental aspects of corporate governance and assess the impact of legal regulation on the functioning of the business corporation.
Compare and contrast the various corporate governance systems found in the global business arena and discuss in depth the notorious international corporate governance failures and the remedial actions they inspired
Research, critically evaluate and present well-structured arguments in written and oral work.

TEACHING METHODS

Preparation for the workshops will involve extensive research and reading, to consider and critically analyse the set topics and the discussion questions, set in advance, arising from those topics. Students are expected to prepare answers to the discussion questions and present these to, and discuss with, the workshop tutor and workshop group members. In addition to the skills of analysis and research, students are expected to develop and apply skills of analytical discussion, oral expression and writing. Students will engage with other students and staff in online activities, and synchronous and asynchronous workshops, to consider and critically analyse particular sources and engage in discussion leading to development of these skills.

The workshops also give students the opportunity to synthesise in a more dynamic way the independent learning already undertaken and apply principles from various themes covered in the workshop activity sheets.

One workshop may be run online, two weeks before the module starts, to introduce students to module themes and principles in advance of the campus-sessions. The final workshop will take place two-weeks before the submission deadline for coursework and run as a revision session.

ASSESSMENT METHODS

This module is assessed through an essay (75%) and a presentation/online activity/essay plan (25%).