



北京理工大学国际特色课程

Beijing Institute of Technology Global Courses

FIN9620 - INTERNATIONAL CORPORATE GOVERNANCE AND FINANCIAL DECISIONS

Syllabus

July. 1 - July. 19, 2024

Term Duration: July. 1 - July. 19, 2024

Credit Points: 4

Level: Postgraduate

Instructor Name: TBA

Home Institution: Beijing Institute of Technology

Lecture Hour: 9:00-12:00

Course Description

This course is designed to give students a comprehensive understanding of the concepts and issues relevant to international corporate governance practices. It equips students with the technical skills to prepare financial statements. It investigates internal control mechanisms and external capital market monitoring and pricing aspects of corporate governance. Laws and regulations are also discussed in detail. And with further readings and cases, issues such as performance evaluation, board structure, executive compensation, ownership structure, accounting opacity and fraud, and effective board monitoring are discussed intensively. Thus, this course will benefit students seeking opportunities as an auditor, investment banker, consultant or corporate accountant, and finance officer who can practically apply the skills, experience, and knowledge to their future careers in a global environment.

Course Aims:

On the successful completion of this course, you should be able to:

1. demonstrate a solid understanding of the principles of international corporate governance;
2. be equipped with analytical skills to solve business problems regarding governance functions;
3. obtain a greater insight into the underlying forces that shape corporate governance issues;
4. extract key information from international business cases, develop writing skills and present a written work logically and professionally;
5. identify the challenges in corporate governance and deal with these challenges from an institutional perspective;
6. communicate effectively with each other and work intensively in a group.

Language of Instruction

English

Required Textbook

International Corporate Governance After Sarbanes-Oxley

Author: Paul Ali, Greg N. Gregoriou

Publisher: Wiley

ISBN: 0471775924

Supplementary reading material will be provided by the lecturer.

Course Hours

This course requires 48 hours of contact including 42 hours of lectures and one 6-hour field trip. Lectures are from Monday to Friday.

Prerequisite Course

Students are expected to have taken **Principles of Finance**. It will also help if students know some basic economics and accounting knowledge.

Course Schedule

Week	Day	Chapter	Topic	Assignment/ Notes
Week 1	Day 1	Introduction to Corporate Governance?	General Introduction; Framework of Corporate Governance	Group Discussion: The Balance Between Varying Corporate Entities in Corporate Governance
	Day 2	International Corporate Governance Regulations	Laws; Regulations; International Arrangements	Group Discussion: Regional and Country Experiences of Regulation
	Day 3	Shareholders, Directors and Boards	Boards of Directors; Share Ownership Structure;	Further Reading: Director Independence
	Day 4	Shareholders, Directors and Boards	Board Power Relations Nature of Power; Board Leadership and Composition; Role of the Non-executive Director; Relations with Shareholders	Further Reading: The Separation of Ownership and Control in East Asian Corporations
	Day 5	The Effectiveness of Shareholders' Meetings	The Limitations of Shareholder Activism; The Function of Shareholders' Meetings; The Rise and Fall of Cumulative Voting	Case Study: The Cintas Corp. Shareholder Defamation Lawsuit
Week 2	Day 6	Firm Performance	Descriptive Statistics; Single Equation Estimates; Simultaneous Equation Models; Firm Performance Around the World;	Seminar: Governance Mechanisms
	Day 7	Executive Compensation	Fixed Compensation; Short-term and Long-term Incentive; Compensation Components in Detail	Group Discussion: Did stock compensation cause the banking crisis?
	Day 8	Hostile Takeovers	Poison Pill Defense; Takeover Defenses: Legal Issues	Case Study: Circon Case
	Day 9	Governance Investing	Strategies for Institutional Activism; Governance and Stock Returns	Further Reading: Corporate Governance and Equity Prices
	Day 10	Industrial Visit		
Week 3	Day 11	Corporate Governance Framework in Specific Region	Business Environment and Corporate Governance in Australia; Business Environment-Social and Political Background of China	Group Discussion: What's the Legal and Regulatory Frameworks Affect Corporate Governance in Different Region
	Day 12	Audit, Financial Reporting and Corporate Governance	High-Profile Financial Scandals; The Role of Accounting;	Case Study: Johnson & Johnson
	Day 13	Audit, Financial Reporting and Corporate Governance	Role of Audit Committee; Rules and Standards Relate; to Audit committee Composition; Auditors' Independence;	Group Project and Presentation

	Day 14	Prospects and Limits of Corporate Governance	Referential Function; Metrical Function; Communicational Function	Review
	Day 15	Final Exam		

Note: Students will be notified if the schedule of the field trip changes according to the situation.

Grading Policy

Items	Percentage
Attendance	10%
Case Study	20%
Presentation	20%
Final Exam	50%
Total	100%

Attendance: Students are expected to attend all course sessions punctually. Absences will impact the attendance grade. We will have some case studies, topic discussion and group discussion in class and the performance will be considered as partial attendance points or bonus.

Case Study& Presentation: Case study will require students to work in groups. Write a report (at least 1500 words), present it and submit both the report and presentation slides after the presentation. Each group's presentation should last between 20 to 30 minutes in total.

Final Exam: The final exam will be a comprehensive, closed-book assessment that covers the entire course content. The exam will be conducted over a duration of 3 hours.

Academic Honesty

Academic honesty is not only a fundamental part of learning and teaching, but also a core value that this course embraces. Behaviors of academic dishonesty, as outlined hereinafter, are unacceptable and will be penalized:

- a) Plagiarism where students present work for assessment, publication or otherwise that is not their own, without appropriate attribution or reference to the original source. Plagiarism can include:
 - i) paraphrasing or copying published and unpublished work without a reference;

- ii) adopting the ideas or concepts of others, including the structure of an existing analysis without due acknowledgement by way of reference to the original work or source.
- b) Collusion, where students present work as independent work when it has in fact been produced in whole or in part with others unless prior permission for joint or collaborative work has been given by the Course Coordinator. Collusion can include:
 - i) a student inappropriately assisting with or accepting assistance with the production of an assessment task;
 - ii) submitting work which is the same or substantially similar as another student's work for the same assessment task.
- c) Cheating, where a student acts in such a way as to seek to gain unfair advantage or assist another student to do so. Cheating can include:
 - i) submitting falsified, copied or improperly obtained data relating to results of practicum, field trips or other work as if they were genuine; submitting an assessment task with the intention of deceiving or misleading the instructor about the student's contribution to the work;
 - ii) submitting an assessment task written or answered for the student by another person or which the student has copied from another person;
 - iii) submitting the same or a substantially similar piece of work for assessment in two different courses (except in accordance with approved study and assessment schemes);
 - iv) a student falsely indicating that they have been present at an activity where attendance is required;
 - v) completing an assessment task outside the conditions specified for that task.
- d) Cheating in Examinations means engaging in dishonest practice or breaching the rules regarding examinations, which can include:
 - i) communicating in any way during an examination with any person who is not an examination supervisor inside or outside the examination venue;
 - ii) giving or accepting assistance from any person who is not an examination supervisor whilst in the examination venue;
 - iii) reading, copying from or otherwise using another student's work in an examination or knowingly allowing a student to do so;
 - iv) possessing, referring to or having access to any material or device containing information directly or indirectly related to the subject matter under examination, other than that explicitly approved by the Course Coordinator;
 - v) acquiring, or attempting to acquire, possess or distribute examination materials or information without approval;
 - vi) permitting another person to attend an examination on a student's behalf or attending an examination on behalf of another student;
- e) Other dishonest acts including but not limited to:
 - i) altering or falsifying any document or record for the purposes of gaining academic advantage;
 - ii) offering or giving money or any item or service to a University staff member or any other person to gain academic advantage for the student or another person;
 - iii) inventing references.