USC

Course Outline

Code: BUS320
Title: Corporate Governance and Social Responsibility

School:	Business
Teaching Session:	Semester 2
Year:	2019
Course Coordinator:	Oscar Imaz-Mairal
Course Moderator:	Professor Karen Becker

Please go to the USC website for up to date information on the teaching sessions and campuses where this course is usually offered.

1.   What is this course about?

1.1   Description

This course is designed to develop your understanding of the underlying links in today's business environment between concepts of corporate governance, ethics and organisational sustainability. Your capacity to critically analyse ethical issues that arise in business life will be enhanced by knowledge related to ethics and transparency in corporate governance, and how these issues impact on policy formulation and implementation as well as stakeholders interests and rights. Current international approaches recently adopted to establish corporate citizenship best practice are related to ethical processes that affect organisations.

1.2   Field trips, WIL placements or activities required by professional accreditation

N/A

2.   What level is this course?

300 level Graduate - Independent application of graduate knowledge and skills. Meets AQF and professional requirements. May require pre-requisites and developing level knowledge/skills. Normally taken in the 3rd or 4th year of an undergraduate program.

3.   What is the unit value of this course?

12 units

4.   How does this course contribute to my learning?

Specific Learning Outcomes On successful completion of this course, you should be able to:	Assessment tasks You will be assessed on the learning outcomes in task/s:	Graduate Qualities or Professional Standards mapping Completing these tasks successfully will contribute to:
Using appropriate analytical techniques to identify and solve a business problem.	3	Creative and critical thinkers.
Use discipline knowledge to identify relevant industry and corporate governance issues and make recommendations.	3	Career-ready Empowered
Present research findings using industry document and reporting standards.	3	Written Communication Empowered
Demonstrate effective team and group work practice.	1	Collaboration Engaged
Apply a framework for examining ethical dilemmas in specific business cases. Identify a business decision's potential impacts on environmental sustainability.	1, 2 and 3	Community-consciousness Sustainability-focused
Demonstrate an awareness and appreciation of the need to take a socially responsible and sustainable approach to business decisions	3	Community-consciousness Sustainability-focused
Demonstrate an appreciation of the need to embrace and respect diversity and foster inclusivity in a business context	3	Cultural Awareness

5.   Am I eligible to enrol in this course?

Refer to the USC Glossary of terms for definitions of "pre-requisites, co-requisites and anti-requisites".

5.1   Enrolment restrictions

Nil

5.2   Pre-requisites

Nil

5.3   Co-requisites

Nil

5.4   Anti-requisites

Nil

5.5   Specific assumed prior knowledge and skills (where applicable)

It would be advisable for students to have general management and strategic management knowledge or be in their final year of undergraduate studies.

6.   How am I going to be assessed?

6.1   Grading scale

Standard – High Distinction (HD), Distinction (DN), Credit (CR), Pass (PS), Fail (FL)

6.2 Details of early feedback on progress

Formative feedback provided on a weekly basis during tutorials. Tutorial discussions of "business, ethics, and society" issues aid the development of ethical imagination and critical ability; these skills are then tested with summative tasks, and the resulting feedback will guide students with the completion of a final case study.

6.3 Assessment tasks

Task No.	Assessment Product	Individual or Group	Weighting %	What is the duration / length?	When should I submit?	Where should I submit it?
1	Examination	Individual	25%	Lecture duration	Week 7	In Class
2	Case Study	Group	25%	15 minutes	Presentations during weeks 10 and 11 and 12	In Class
3	Case Study	Individual	50%	3,000 words	Week 13, Friday	Online Assignment Submission with Plagiarism check
			100%			

Assessment 1: Mid-semester examination

Goal:	The purpose of this Task is to assist you to demonstrate your understanding of the key concepts and theories in corporate governance and social responsibility as well as ethical dilemmas.
Product:	Examination
Format:	Individual Closed book
Criteria:	• Capacity to outline ethical issues involved in business • Capacity to distinguish between theories of ethics, sustainability and concepts of corporate governance • Comparison and contrasting of diverse approaches to ethics and corporate governance • Description of the relationships between ethics, cooperation, and competitive behaviour • Application of ethical reasoning to achieve appropriate corporate governance and social responsibility outcomes

Assessment Task 2: Case study analysis presentation

Goal:	This assignment gives you the opportunity to demonstrate professional oral presentation skills while sharing your group's research on the business or corporate governance case study as it relates to social responsibility.
Product:	Case Study
Format:	Group presentation 15 minutes Documentation to the tutor Creative and engaging presentation and creativity encouraged See Blackboard for further instructions.
Criteria:	• Capacity to identify ethical issues • Demonstrated understanding of the importance of relevant frameworks • Capacity to compare and contrast diverse approaches to ethics, CSR and corporate governance • Capacity to apply ethical reasoning and make reasoned judgements • Quality of presentation: Group dynamics, digital media, documentation, professionalism in addressing the audience • Collaboration among group members (peer evaluation report)

Assessment Task 3: Case study analysis

Goal:	The purpose of this assessment is to test the ability to think, write, research and analyse independently an issue of ethical or unethical corporate governance behaviour...
Product:	Case Study
Format:	3,000 words Individual Standard case study report format – see Blackboard for more information. This task is being used for measuring assurance of learning towards Association to Advance Collegiate Schools of Business (AACSB) accreditation. It assesses Program Learning Outcomes 4.1: Social Responsibility (Demonstrate an awareness and appreciation of the need to take a socially responsible and sustainable approach to business decisions) and 5.1: Diversity (Demonstrate an appreciation of the need to embrace and respect diversity and foster inclusivity in a business context)
Criteria:	• Application of knowledge of sustainability frameworks, theories and concepts and responsibilities in a business context. • Application of knowledge of ethical frameworks, theories and concepts and responsibilities in a business context. • Appreciation of the need to take on board diverse stakeholder interests in a business decision making context. • Appreciation of the need to embrace and respect diversity and foster inclusivity in a business context • Application of knowledge of the relevant legislation/standards/codes of conduct /universal principles associated with social responsibility, ethical conduct and sustainable practice in a business context. • Appreciation of indigenous knowledge and implications for conducting business with indigenous Australians • Presentation of research findings using industry document and reporting standards.

7. Directed study hours

The directed study hours listed here are a portion of the workload for this course. A 12-unit course will have total of 150 learning hours which will include directed study hours (including online if required), self-directed learning and completion of assessable tasks. Directed study hours may vary by location. Student workload is calculated at 12.5 learning hours per one unit.

Location:	Directed study hours for location:
On campus	Lecture (2 hours) Tutorial (1 hour)

8. What resources do I need to undertake this course?

Please note that course information, including specific information of recommended readings, learning activities, resources, weekly readings, etc. are available on the course Blackboard site. Please log in as soon as possible.

8.1 Prescribed text(s) or course reader

Please note that you need to have regular access to the resource(s) listed below as they are required:

Author	Year	Title	Publisher
Compiled by Oscar Imaz-Mairal	2018, 3rd edn.	*BUS320 Corporate Governance and Social Responsibility*	Cengage Learning, Melbourne. ISBN: 9780170420426
https://www.cengagebrain.com.au/shop/search/9780170420426			

8.2   Specific requirements

N/A

9.   How are risks managed in this course?

Health and safety risks for this course have been assessed as low.

It is your responsibility as a student to review course material, search online, discuss with lecturers and peers, and understand the health and safety risks associated with your specific course of study. It is also your responsibility to familiarise yourself with the University's general health and safety principles by reviewing the online Health Safety and Wellbeing training module for students, and following the instructions of the University staff.

10.   What administrative information is relevant to this course?

10.1   Assessment: Academic Integrity

Academic integrity is the ethical standard of university participation. It ensures that students graduate as a result of proving they are competent in their discipline. This is integral in maintaining the value of academic qualifications. Each industry has expectations and standards of the skills and knowledge within that discipline and these are reflected in assessment.

Academic integrity means that you do not engage in any activity that is considered to be academic fraud; including plagiarism, collusion or outsourcing any part of any assessment item to any other person. You are expected to be honest and ethical by completing all work yourself and indicating in your work which ideas and information were developed by you and which were taken from others. You cannot provide your assessment work to others. You are also expected to provide evidence of wide and critical reading, usually by using appropriate academic references.

In order to minimise incidents of academic fraud, this course may require that some of its assessment tasks, when submitted to Blackboard, are electronically checked through SafeAssign. This software allows for text comparisons to be made between your submitted assessment item and all other work that SafeAssign has access to.

10.2   Assessment: Additional requirements

Eligibility for Supplementary Assessment

Your eligibility for supplementary assessment in a course is dependent of the following conditions applying:

a)   The final mark is in the percentage range 47% to 49.4%

b)   The course is graded using the Standard Grading scale

c)   You have not failed an assessment task in the course due to academic misconduct

10.3   Assessment: Submission penalties

Late submission of assessment tasks will be penalised at the following maximum rate:

- 5% (of the assessment task's identified value) per day for the first two days from the date identified as the due date for the assessment task.
- 10% (of the assessment task's identified value) for the third day
- 20% (of the assessment task's identified value) for the fourth day and subsequent days up to and including seven days from the date identified as the due date for the assessment task.
- A result of zero is awarded for an assessment task submitted after seven days from the date identified as the due date for the assessment task.

Weekdays and weekends are included in the calculation of days late.

To request an extension, you must contact your Course Coordinator and supply the required documentation to negotiate an outcome.

10.4   Study help

In the first instance, you should contact your tutor, then the Course Coordinator. Additional assistance is provided to all students through Academic Skills Advisers. To book an appointment or find a drop-in session go to Student Hub.

Contact Student Central for further assistance: +61 7 5430 2890 or studentcentral@usc.edu.au

10.5   Links to relevant University policy and procedures

For more information on Academic Learning & Teaching categories including:

- Assessment: Courses and Coursework Programs
- Review of Assessment and Final Grades
- Supplementary Assessment
- Administration of Central Examinations
- Deferred Examinations
- Student Academic Misconduct
- Students with a Disability

Visit the USC website:
http://www.usc.edu.au/explore/policies-and-procedures#academic-learning-and-teaching

10.6   General Enquiries

In person:

- **USC Sunshine Coast** - Student Central, Ground Floor, Building C, 90 Sippy Downs Drive, Sippy Downs
- **USC SouthBank** - Student Central, Building A4 (SW1), 52 Merivale Street, South Brisbane
- **USC Gympie** - Student Central, 71 Cartwright Road, Gympie
- **USC Fraser Coast -** Student Central, Student Central, Building A, 161 Old Maryborough Rd, Hervey Bay
- **USC Caboolture -** Student Central, Level 1 Building J, Cnr Manley and Tallon Street, Caboolture

Tel: +61 7 5430 2890

Email: studentcentral@usc.edu.au

Appendix 1   Course content

Week # / Module #	What key concepts/content will I learn?	Directed Study Activities: teaching components
1	Theories of Corporate Governance	Lecture
2	The Business and Society relationship.	Lecture Tutorial
3	Corporate citizenship: Social responsibility, responsiveness and performance.	Lecture Tutorial
4	The Stakeholder approach to business society and ethics.	Lecture Tutorial
5	Ethics 1 –Seeing the moral Dimensions of Business and Normative Theories of Ethics.	Lecture Tutorial
6	Ethics 2- The nature of Capitalism; Justice and Economic distribution.	Lecture Tutorial
7	Mid Semester Exam during the Lecture.	Lecture
8	Corporate Governance: Foundational Issues	Lecture Tutorial

9	Corporate Governance in more detail. The Australian and the International arena.	Lecture Tutorial
10	Corporate Governance. Strategic Management and Corporate Public Affairs	Lecture Tutorial
11	Business Ethics and Technology	Lecture Tutorial
12	Ethical Issues in the Global Arena.	Lecture Tutorial
13	Revision	Lecture

Please note that the course activities may be subject to variation.

__Mid Semester Break:__
30th September 2019-6st October 2019 (Between Week 10 and Week 11)

__Public Holidays__
Queen's Birthday- Monday 7th October (Week11)