Course Outline (Higher Education)



School / Faculty: Federation Business School

Course Title: ISSUES IN CORPORATE GOVERNANCE AND ACCOUNTABILITY

Course ID: BULAW6925

Credit Points: 15.00

Prerequisite(s): (BUECO5903 or BULAW5911 or BUMGT5921)

Co-requisite(s): Nil

Exclusion(s): Nil

ASCED Code: 82563D

Grading Scheme: Graded (HD, D, C, etc.)

Program Level:

AQF Level of Program								
	5	6	7	8	9	10		
Level								
Introductory								
Intermediate								
Advanced					V			

Learning Outcomes:

Knowledge:

- **K1.** Conceptualise legal frameworks within which corporations operate
- **K2.** Critically evaluate different structures for corporate governance and their implications
- **K3.** Analyse and assess the contribution of corporate office holders to governance of the corporation
- **K4.** Explain and reflect on issues in relation to such matters as transaction costs, remuneration structures, controllers as agents and responsibilities to stakeholders
- **K5.** Provide solutions to problem scenarios through application of legal principles and rules
- **K6.** Unpack scenarios to identify and formulate problems for solution

Skills:

- **S1.** Determine procedures to effectively manage legal risk and liability
- **S2.** Assume and support theoretical positions via debate with others in groups
- 53. Undertake independent research, and develop oral and written expression skills
- **S4.** Develop and apply critical thinking
- **S5.** Identify, analyse and solve problems

Application of knowledge and skills:

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- **A1.** Evaluate the role of law in shaping governance of companies
- A2. Analyse scenarios to identify and assess governance issues affecting corporations
- **A3.** Collaborate with others to identify and evaluate means of managing legal risk affecting corporations
- **A4.** Develop effective governance strategies in addressing ethical, social, environmental and political expectations and change
- **A5.** Refine writing and research skills and the ability to evaluate legal information

Course Content:

Topics may include:

- The dynamic nature of law in business, and the impact of political and economic forces on corporate regulation
- Corporate controllers as agents of shareholder principals
- Major reforms to corporate law, in particular, reforms concerning disclosure, accountability and supervision which affect company management
- Overview of the role of directors and senior officers within a company and the role of shareholders
- Internal accountability, audit, auditors and controllers
- Remuneration of managers and controllers
- Regulation of corporate management, in particular their legal duties, rights and responsibilities
- Issues relating to insolvent trading and prospectuses
- Enforcement by authorities and shareholders in actions against directors
- Implications of public and private sector reform
- Social and ethical issues regarding corporate responsibility and accountability and their impact on the development of law

Values and Graduate Attributes:

Values:

- **V1.** Law as a positive tool for achieving better management and practice
- **V2.** Behaviour consistent with ethical and legal norms applicable to society

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- **V3.** Recognition that law and practice is influenced by social, economic, political and international considerations
- V4. Individual and collective learning

Graduate Attributes:

FedUni graduate attributes statement. To have graduates with knowledge, skills and competence that enable them to stand out as critical, creative and enquiring learners who are capable, flexible and work ready, and responsible, ethical and engaged citizens.

Attribute	Brief Description	Focus
Knowledge, skills and competence	Provision of tools for on-going critical reflection on process and structures for governance	High
Critical, creative and enquiring learners	Student-centred learning	High
Capable, flexible and work ready	Involvement in group learning and encouraging on-going engagements with stakeholders in the corporate environment	High
Responsible, ethical and engaged citizens	Appreciation that governance is shaped by ethical, environmental and social considerations	High

Learning Task and Assessment:

Learning Outcomes Assessed	Assessment Task	Assessment Type	Weighting
K1, K2, K5, K6 S1, S2, S3, S5 A2, A3, A4, A5	Group Presentation and Report	Oral and Written Assignment	15-25%
K1, K3, K4, K6 S1, S3, S4, S5 A1, A2, A4, A5	Individual Assessment	Written Report	75-85%

Adopted Reference Style:

APA