

School of Economics and Finance

FINA 414 SPECIAL TOPIC—CORPORATE GOVERNANCE

Trimester One 2012

COURSE OUTLINE

Names and Contact Details

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Trimester Dates

Teaching Period: Monday 5 March – Friday 8 June

Study Period: Monday 11 June – Thursday 14 June

Examination Period: Friday 15 June – Wednesday 4 July (inclusive)

Withdrawal from Course

1. Your fees will be refunded if you withdraw from this course on or before Friday 16 March 2012.
2. The standard last date for withdrawal from this course is Friday 18 May. After this date, students forced to withdraw by circumstances beyond their control must apply for permission on an '*Application for Associate Dean's Permission to Withdraw Late*' including supporting documentation

The application form is available from either of the Faculty's Student Customer Service Desks.

Class Times and Room Numbers

Lectures will be held on Tuesday in room RWW126 from 9:30-11:20am.

Course Content

Material will be drawn from the following list:

- Manager-shareholder conflict
- Monitoring management
 - Board of directors
 - Large shareholders
- Motivating management
 - Managerial ownership
 - Managerial compensation
 - Reputation and the managerial labour market
- Disciplining management
 - Market for external capital
 - Market for corporate control

Course Learning Objectives

By the end of this course, students should be able to:

- demonstrate an understanding of theories of corporate governance based on asymmetric information
- carry out simple empirical tests of these theories
- assess the merits of more complicated empirical tests of these theories
- interpret observed firm and market behaviour in terms of these theories
- communicate the key implications of modern corporate governance theories to a non-specialist audience

Course Delivery

Course delivery takes the form of 12 approximately two-hour long lectures.

Expected Workload

The workload for FINA 414 is intended to be similar to that for other 400-level ECON and FINA courses. The total expected workload is 150 hours, comprising 12-13 hours per week.

Group Work

None.

Readings

There is no set textbook for this course as comprehensive lecture notes will be available from <http://blackboard.vuw.ac.nz/>.

Materials and Equipment

None.

Assessment Requirements

The final grade will be determined by two assignments (each contributing 20%) and a two-hour final exam (covering the whole course and contributing 60%).

The assignment due dates are

- Assignment 1: 9:30am on Tuesday, April 24 (start of lecture 6).
- Assignment 2: 9:30am on Tuesday June 5 (start of lecture 12).

Your assessed work may also be used for quality assurance purposes, such as to assess the level of achievement of learning objectives as required for accreditation and audit purposes. The findings may be used to inform changes aimed at improving the quality of FCA programmes. All material used for such processes will be treated as confidential, and the outcome will not affect your grade for the course.

The following note should be included in every course outline:

Examinations

Students who enrol in courses with examinations are obliged to attend an examination at the University at any time during the formal examination period.

The final examination for this course will be scheduled at some time during the period from Friday 15 June – Wednesday 4 July (inclusive).

Penalties

Assignments handed in late will not be marked. If a satisfactory medical certificate is provided, the weight from the assignment will be shifted onto the other pieces of assessment; otherwise, the assignment score will be recorded as 0.

Material exceeding word limits will not be marked.

Mandatory Course Requirements

A necessary condition for passing the course is that the score on the final exam is at least 50%.

Class Representative

A class representative will be elected in the first class, and that person's name and contact details made available to VUWSA, the Course Coordinator and the class. The class representative provides a communication channel to liaise with the Course Coordinator on behalf of students.

Communication of Additional Information

Course documents and other information will be available on the course website at <http://blackboard.vuw.ac.nz>. Announcements will also be posted there.

Use of Turnitin

Student work provided for assessment in this course may be checked for academic integrity by the electronic search engine <http://www.turnitin.com>. Turnitin is an on-line plagiarism prevention tool which compares submitted work with a very large database of existing material. At the discretion of the Head of School, handwritten work may be copy-typed by the School and subject to checking by Turnitin. Turnitin will retain a copy of submitted materials on behalf of the University for detection of future plagiarism, but access to the full text of submissions will not be made available to any other party.

For the following information follow the links provided:

Academic Integrity and Plagiarism

<http://www.victoria.ac.nz/home/study/plagiarism.aspx>

General University Policies and Statutes

Find key dates, explanations of grades and other useful information at www.victoria.ac.nz/home/study. Find out about academic progress and restricted enrolment at <http://www.victoria.ac.nz/home/study/academic-progress.aspx>. The University's statutes and policies are available at www.victoria.ac.nz/home/about/policy, except qualification statutes, which are available via the Calendar webpage at <http://www.victoria.ac.nz/home/study/calendar.aspx> (See Section C). Further information about the University's academic processes can be found on the website of the Assistant Vice-Chancellor (Academic) at www.victoria.ac.nz/home/about_victoria/avcacademic/default.aspx

AVC (Academic) Website: information including: Conduct, Academic Grievances, Students with Impairments, Student Support

http://www.victoria.ac.nz/home/about_victoria/avcacademic/Publications.aspx

Faculty of Commerce and Administration Offices

<http://www.victoria.ac.nz/fca/studenthelp/>

Te Putahi Atawhai

Maori and Pacific Mentoring Programme

http://www.victoria.ac.nz/st_services/tpa/index.aspx