

School of Accounting and Commercial Law

**MMPA 517 SPECIAL TOPIC:
REGULATION AND THE PROFESSION**

Trimester One 2012

COURSE OUTLINE

Names and Contact Details	Office	Telephone
<i>Course Coordinator & Lecturer</i> Lisa Marriott Lisa.Marriott@vuw.ac.nz Office Hours: TBA	RH 603	463 5938
<i>Lecturer</i> Philip Colquhoun Philip.Colquhoun@vuw.ac.nz Office Hours: TBA	RH 715	463 5776
<i>Lecturer</i> Trish Keeper Trish.Keeper@vuw.ac.nz Office Hours: TBA	RH 617	463 5203
<i>Course Administrator</i> Pinky Shah Pinky.Shah@vuw.ac.nz Office hours: Monday-Friday, 8.30am-5pm	RH 728	463 6921

Trimester Dates

From Monday 5 March to Monday 18 June 2012.

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 2012. 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 are scheduled on Wednesdays from 12.40pm – 3.30pm in RWW 129. On Wednesday April 4th, the lecture will start at 1.30 in RWW 129, with the last hour of the lecture (3.40 – 4.30) taking place in RWW 315.

There will be no lecture on Wednesday 25 April as this is a public holiday. Instead there will be a lecture on Wednesday 13th June.

Students are expected to attend all lectures. Classes involve a mixture of lecture material, tutorial discussion, group work, and guest speakers.

Course Content

This inter-disciplinary course draws together, and further develops, a range of topics covered in prior courses including financial accounting, taxation, corporate law and financial management. In order to effectively build on knowledge gained in these previous courses, this course includes specific regulatory topics from three disciplines: accounting, taxation and corporate law.

The course focuses on the influences of regulation on the profession. The overarching theme of the course is the drivers of regulatory change and the emphasis of the course is on understanding why decisions are made to regulate, or not regulate, particular components of the accounting and legal profession. As well as building on existing knowledge, new themes are introduced throughout the course.

The schedule of topics that will be covered in this course are outlined in the following table.

Week	Topic	Lecturer
1	Introduction and background to regulation and the profession	PC
2	Models of accounting profession regulation, including professional codes of ethics.	PC
3	Security market regulation and standard setting.	PC
4	Financial adviser regulation and audit regulation.	PC
5	Current issues in capital market disclosures, including the <i>Financial Markets Conduct Bill</i> , and Ministry of Economic Development progress on KiwiSaver period disclosure requirements.	LM
6	Accounting for employee benefits, including NZ IAS 19 and NZ IAS 26.	LM
7	Regulation of taxation, including legislation and penalty regimes	LM
8	Current issues in taxation regulation	LM
9	International developments in corporate governance regulation	TK
10	Rules based or principle based codes: Where does New Zealand sit and issues of convergence and divergence	TK
11	Current issues in corporate governance regulation	TK
12	Regulation of the insolvency profession: NZ's current regime and proposals for change	TK

Course Learning Objectives

This course provides an in-depth investigation of regulation and the profession, together with an analysis of contemporary issues affecting the profession resulting from proposed or ongoing regulatory changes. The overall objective of the course is to enable students to:

1. Assess the impact of regulation on the profession;
2. Explain the drivers behind a selection of recent regulatory changes;
3. Analyse current issues relating to the regulation of accounting, including structural changes in the accounting standard setting process;
4. Evaluate the impact of regulatory change on managerial decision-making within the context of accounting disclosures for financial markets;
5. Assess ongoing developments relating to tax legislation;
6. Explain and critique issues relating to the regulation of insolvency practitioners; and,
7. Evaluate comparative jurisdictional approaches to corporate governance.

Course Delivery

The course is delivered in one three-hour lecture a week. The course lecturers will assign readings and out-of-class work that is expected to be completed. A thorough understanding of all assigned material is essential. The lecture will involve a range of activities from group work to tutorials and lectures. Course lecturers will post material on Blackboard. It is suggested that students regularly check Blackboard for updates, announcements and materials.

Expected Workload

As MMPA 517 is a 15-point paper, it is expected that students will work for 150 hours across the course. Lectures account for 36 hours of this time. Accordingly, students are expected to allocate approximately ten hours per week during the teaching weeks (outside of class) to lecture preparation, lecture review, readings, and assignments.

Group Work

No assessed group work is required in this course.

Readings

There is no required text for this course. Readings will be provided by each lecturer at the commencement of each topic. Readings will include academic journal articles and government discussion documents.

Materials and Equipment

Relevant teaching materials, extra readings, assignments, etc. will be provided for students on an ongoing basis, primarily on Blackboard.

Assessment Requirements

There are three assessment items in this course:

	<i>% of final grade</i>	<i>Learning Objectives Assessed</i>	<i>Expected Length</i>	<i>Due Date</i>
Assignment 1	30%	Assignment one assesses learning objectives 1, 3 and 4	2,500 words	Mon 23 April, 2.00pm
Assignment 2	35%	Assignment two assesses learning objectives 1, 2, 4 and 5	2,500 words	Mon 28 May, 2.00pm
Assignment 3	35%	Assignment three assesses learning objectives 1, 2, 6 and 7	2,500 words	Mon 18 June, 2.00pm

To pass the course, students must obtain 50% across the course assessment.

Quality Assurance Note

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.

Penalties

No assignment will be accepted for assessment purposes after the deadline, unless accompanied by certification by a doctor or similar. However, as it is a mandatory course requirement that a reasonable attempt is made on these assessment items, late items must be submitted to enable an assessment of whether the mandatory course requirement has been met.

Mandatory Course Requirements

In addition to obtaining an overall course mark of 50% or more, students must complete three assignments to meet the mandatory course requirements for MMPA 517. The three assignments must be completed to a satisfactory standard, where the assessor considers that you have made a reasonable effort to offer cogent answers.

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

Additional information will be conveyed by Blackboard or by email to all class members. You should be able to connect to Blackboard at <http://blackboard.vuw.ac.nz>.

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 important 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/tpa/>

MMPA 517 COURSE PROGRAMME

Week	Beginning	Topic	Lecturer
1	5 Mar	Background to regulation and the profession	PC
2	12 Mar	Models of accounting profession regulation, including professional codes of ethics.	PC
3	19 Mar	Security market regulation and standard setting.	PC
4	26 Mar	Financial adviser regulation and audit regulation.	PC
5	2 Apr*	Current issues in capital market disclosures, including the <i>Financial Markets Conduct Bill</i> , and Ministry of Economic Development progress on KiwiSaver period disclosure requirements.	LM
<i>Mid-Trimester Break 6 April – 22 April**</i>			
6	30 Apr	Accounting for employee benefits, including NZ IAS 19 and NZ IAS 26.	LM
7	7 May	Regulation of taxation, including legislation and penalty regimes	LM
8	14 May	Regulation of taxation, including legislation and penalty regimes	LM
9	21 May	International developments in corporate governance regulation	TK
10	28 May	Rules based or principle based codes: Where does New Zealand sit and issues of convergence and divergence	TK
11	4 Jun	Current issues in corporate governance regulation	TK
12	11 Jun	Regulation of the insolvency profession: NZ's current regime and proposals for change	TK

Staff: PC = Philip Colquhoun; LM = Lisa Marriott; TK = Trish Keeper

*The lecture this week will start at 1.40pm. There will also be a room change for the last hour – from RWW 129 to RWW 315 (from 3.40 to 4.30).

**Wednesday 25th April is a public holiday, there will be no lecture this week and instead there will be a lecture on 11th June.