

School of Accounting and Commercial Law

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

Trimester 3, 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

Monday 19 November 2012 – Thursday 28 February 2013.

Withdrawal from Course

1. Your fees will be refunded if you withdraw from this course on or before 30 November.
2. The standard last date for withdrawal from this course is 25 January.

After the last date stated in #2, 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

Thursdays: 5.40-8.30pm

Venue: GBLT3 (Government Buildings Lecture Theatre 3), Pipitea Campus

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

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.

Group Work

No assessed group work is required in this course. Collaboration on individual assignments is not allowed beyond general discussion as to the nature of the assignment question. Please do not work together to produce any written work and do not loan out your completed assignments.

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 33 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.

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 and analyse the different purposes and tests of civil and criminal sanctions in securities markets law.

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 on page 4 of this course outline.

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

There are four 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	2pm, Thursday 20 December 2012
Assignment 2	30%	Assignment two assesses learning objectives 1, 2, 4 and 5	2,500 words	2pm, Friday 25 January 2013
Assignment 3	30%	Assignment three assesses learning 1, 2, 6 and 7	2,500 words	2pm, Thursday 21 February 2013
Test	10%	The test assesses learning objectives 1 – 5	60 minutes	Thursday 7 February 2013 during the scheduled lecture time

Please refer to the following link on academic integrity and plagiarism:
<http://www.victoria.ac.nz/home/study/plagiarism.aspx>

Your assignment must be your own work. Any alternative sources that you use must be appropriately referenced. Please refer to the academic staff if you are uncertain on appropriate referencing styles.

Penalties

Penalties will apply for assignments received after the deadlines, unless accompanied by certification by a doctor or similar. Penalties of 5% of the total possible mark for the assessment will apply for each 24 hour period the assignment is not submitted.

MMPA 517 COURSE PROGRAMME

Week	Date	Topic	Lecturer
1	22 Nov	Writing and Researching Introduction and background to regulation and the profession	LM PC
2	29 Nov	Models of accounting profession regulation, including professional codes of ethics	PC
3	6 Dec	Regulation of financial reporting	PC
4	13 Dec	Financial adviser regulation and audit regulation	PC
5	20 Dec	Current issues in taxation: regulation of retirement savings including accounting for employee benefits	LM
<i>Mid-Trimester Break (Saturday 22 December 2012 – Sunday 6 January 2013)</i>			
6	10 Jan	Current issues in taxation: penalty regimes	LM
7	17 Jan	Current issues in taxation: environmental taxes, capital gains and losses, and food taxes	LM
8	24 Jan	International developments in corporate governance regulation and where does New Zealand fit?	TK
9	31 Jan	Rules based or principle based codes and current issues in corporate governance regulation	TK
10	7 Feb	Test (60 minutes) Changes in the regulation of securities markets-the differences between criminal and civil sanctions.	TK
11	14 Feb	Regulation of the insolvency profession: NZ's current regime and proposals for change	TK
12	18 Feb	Revision class (note this class is on Monday of this week). The time will be confirmed (in consultation with the class)	LM/TK

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

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 submitted to Turnitin. A copy of submitted materials will be retained 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.

Mandatory Course Requirements

In addition to obtaining an overall course mark of 50 or better, students must:

- Students must pass the test with an overall mark of 50%, and
- Complete three assignments. 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 concerning this course will be provided in lectures and posted on Blackboard: <http://blackboard.vuw.ac.nz>. Urgent notices will be circulated by email.

Link to general information

For general information about course-related matters, go to

<http://www.victoria.ac.nz/vbs/studenthelp/general-course-information>

Note to Students

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 academic audit. The findings may be used to inform changes aimed at improving the quality of VBS programmes. All material used for such processes will be treated as confidential, and the outcome will not affect your grade for the course.
