

SCHOOL OF GOVERNMENT

FCOM 111 GOVERNMENT, LAW AND BUSINESS

Trimester 2, 2016

COURSE OUTLINE

Prescription

This course sets the context for the Bachelor of Commerce (BCom) degree acquainting students with the legal and governmental environment within which New Zealand businesses operate.

Course Learning Objectives

Victoria University of Wellington prepares its graduates to be scholars who:

- have a specialised understanding of their chosen field(s) of study;
- exhibit well-developed skills in critical and creative thinking;
- communicate complex ideas effectively and accurately in a range of contexts;
- demonstrate intellectual autonomy through independence of thought, openness to ideas and information and a capacity to manage their own learning;
- demonstrate intellectual integrity and understand the ethics of scholarship.

To complement these graduate attributes, Learning Goals have also been developed for the BCom degree, of which FCOM 111 is one of the core courses.

BCom Learning Goals

The Learning Goals for the BCom are:

Learning Goal 1	Graduates will demonstrate application of critical and creative thinking skills to practical and theoretical problems;
Learning Goal 2	Graduates will be effective communicators;
Learning Goal 3	Graduates will have a global and multicultural perspective;
Learning Goal 4	Graduates will recognise, support and display leadership;
Learning Goal 5	Graduates will develop specific knowledge and skills in at least one business, economics or public policy area.

Taken together the intention is that the core of the BCom degree will enable you to meet these learning goals.

Course Learning Objectives

At the end of FCOM 111 students will be able to:

1. Demonstrate an understanding of the key elements of New Zealand's constitutional and political arrangements and articulate their impact on the New Zealand commercial environment;
2. Demonstrate an awareness of the nature of the law and the law-making process, and the general operation of the legal system to meet the changing needs of government, business and society;
3. Demonstrate an understanding of the public policy process and explain how civil society actors and business engages with the policy process to exercise influence;
4. Analyse New Zealand's links with the rest of the world in terms of trade, sustainability, financial institutions and governance.

BCom Learning Goals and Course Learning Objectives and Assessment Mix

The teaching and learning objectives will be assessed using the following instruments:

Teaching and learning objective	Assessment instrument
CLO 1, 3, 4 LG 1, 2, 3, 5	1500 word essay due by noon on Wednesday 17 August 2016 (Government Essay)
CLO 1, 2 LG 1, 2, 5	Legal Test: Tuesday 13 September 2016 at 6:00 p.m.
CLO 1, 2, 3, 4 LG 1, 2, 3, 4, 5	Weekly tutorial worksheets (6) – due weekly.
CLO 1, 2, 3, 4 LG 1, 2, 3, 4, 5	Final Course Examination – Date TBA Examination period – Friday 21 October 2016 – Saturday 12 November 2016 (inclusive)

Course Content

Lecture Outline and Schedule

Week/Date	Lecture	Lecturer
<u>Week One</u> 11/7/2016	Course Introduction Academic skills	Russell Harding
14/7/2016	Academic skills (cont) Library Presentation	Russell Harding Thomas Martin

Week/Date	Lecture	Lecturer
<u>Week Two</u> 18/7/2016	Constitution and Te Tiriti o Waitangi	Russell Harding
21/7/2016	Central Planning and Democracy	Russell Harding
<u>Week Three</u> 25/7/2016	Government Policy-Making	Russell Harding
28/7/2016	Policy and Market	Russell Harding
<u>Week Four</u> 1/8/2016	Law and Society	Jonathan Barrett
4/8/2016	Legal Systems and Types of Law	Jonathan Barrett
<u>Week Five</u> 8/8/2016	The Rule of Law	Jonathan Barrett
11/8/2016	Categories of Law	Jonathan Barrett
<u>Week Six</u> 15/8/2016	Categories of Law	Jonathan Barrett
18/8/2016	How Parliament Makes Law	Jonathan Barrett
22/8/2016 – 4/9/2016	MID TRIMESTER BREAK	
<u>Week Seven</u> 5/9/2016	How Judges Make Law	Jonathan Barrett
8/9/2016	Judicial Review	Jonathan Barrett
<u>Week Eight</u> 12/9/2016	Sources of Rights	Jonathan Barrett
15/9/2016	Rights in New Zealand	Jonathan Barrett
<u>Week Nine</u> 19/9/2016	Conflicting Rights	Jonathan Barrett
22/5/2016	Law and Rights in an Organisational Context	Jonathan Barrett
<u>Week Ten</u> 26/9/2016	Globalisation	Russell Harding
29/9/2016	Ethics, Integrity and Business	Michael Macaulay
<u>Week Eleven</u> 3/10/2016	Climate Change	Jonathan Boston
6/10/2016	Government and Markets – Monetary Policy	Russell Harding
<u>Week Twelve</u> 10/10/2016	Government, Law and Business Wrap-Up	Russell Harding
13/10/2016	Exam Briefing, Where to from here?	Russell Harding

Attendance at lectures is essential to gain full benefit from the course. Interaction with lecturers and students in class is a crucial to developing critical competencies.

Tutorials

IMPORTANT

- You **MUST** sign up in the **FIRST** week of lectures.
- All workshops & tutorials start in **Week 2 beginning on Monday 18 July 2016.**

How to sign up:

1. You can start the signup process on **Monday 11 July 2016 at 1:00 p.m.** Signups close **on Wednesday 13 July 2016 at 10:00 a.m.**

Go to the signup website:

1. **Logging in** - Log into <https://student-sa.victoria.ac.nz/>
Further instructions are contained in the myAllocator Student Guide on Blackboard.
2. If you miss the above sign-up dates you must see Russell Harding in MY 210 **before 2:00 p.m. on Thursday 14 July 2016.** After the close of the sign-up period, choice of tutorial times will be limited. To maximise choice of tutorial times, sign up early as detailed above.

Tutorial Content

Date	Content	Readings
Week One 11/7/2016	No Tutorials	
Week Two 18/7/2016	Tutorial One: The Writing Process Why is writing important: The writing process and how to analyse your FCOM essay question.	VBS Writing Skills Workbook – available at your writing session
Week Three 25/7/2016	Tutorial Two: Structure & Academic Integrity How to structure an essay; How to reference and why it is important	VBS Writing Skills Workbook – please bring your booklet to the session
Week Four 1/8/2016	Tutorial Three: Polishing Your Writing Developing the skills of editing and proofing	VBS Writing Skills Workbook – please bring your booklet to the session
Week Five 8/8/2016	Tutorial Four: Constitution and Te Tiriti o Waitangi	Readings will be posted on Blackboard
Week Six 15/8/2016	Tutorial Five: The Rule of Law	Readings will be posted on Blackboard
22/8/2016 – 4/9/2016	MID TRIMESTER BREAK	

Date	Content	Readings
Week Seven 5/9/2016	Tutorial Six: Government Policy-Making	Readings will be posted on Blackboard
Week Eight 12/9/2016	Tutorial Seven: Parliamentary Law	Readings will be posted on Blackboard
Week Nine 19/9/2016	Tutorial Eight: Judicial Review	Readings will be posted on Blackboard
Week Ten 26/9/2016	Tutorial Nine: Conflicting Rights	Readings will be posted on Blackboard
Week Eleven 3/10/2016	Tutorial Ten: Globalisation	Readings will be posted on Blackboard
Week Twelve 10/10/2016	Tutorial Eleven: Final Exam Review	

Trimester Dates

Teaching Period: Monday 11th July – Friday 14th October

Study Period: Monday 17th October – Thursday 20th October

Examination Period: Friday 21st October – Saturday 12th November (inclusive)

Withdrawal from Course

1. Your fees will be refunded if you withdraw from this course on or before **Friday 22nd July 2016**.
2. The standard last date for withdrawal from this course is **Friday 23rd September**. 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 or [online](#).

Names and Contact Details

Dr Russell Harding, Course Coordinator

Room: MY 210, Murphy Building
Faculty of Commerce Kelburn Campus Office
Phone: 463-5686 (if inside VUW, ext. 5686)
Email: russell.harding@vuw.ac.nz
Office Hours: Will be advised in weekly course announcements on Blackboard.

Class Times and Room Numbers

	WHEN	WHERE
CRN 17244	Monday: 9:00 a.m. – 9:50 a.m.	MCLT 103
	Thursday: 9:00 a.m. – 9:50 a.m.	MCLT 103
CRN 17245	Monday 11:00 a.m. – 11:50 a.m.	MCLT 103
	Thursday: 11:00 a.m. – 11:50 a.m.	MCLT 103
CRN 28422	Monday 12:00 noon – 12:50 a.m.	MCLT 103
	Thursday: 12:00 noon – 12:50 a.m.	MCLT 103

Students are expected to be in the lecture theatre promptly for lectures. Because of the size of this class it is important that students be seated before class starts. **Please note that the Occupational Health and Safety Act requires that aisles remain clear.**

Readings

Readings for this course are included on the FCOM 111 Blackboard site in the *Course Materials* folder. Additional material and readings may be distributed at lectures or tutorials or posted on Blackboard.

Mandatory course requirements

In addition to obtaining an overall course mark of 50 per cent or better, students **must attend all three of the writing tutorials (Weeks 2, 3, and 4).**

Students whose total course marks are greater than 50 per cent, but who do not fulfil the mandatory course requirement will fail the course. They will not receive a graded result for FCOM 111. Their records will show a “K” (an ungraded fail).

If you believe that exceptional circumstances may prevent you from meeting the mandatory course requirements, contact the Course Coordinator for advice as soon as possible.

If you cannot complete an assignment or sit a test or examination, refer to www.victoria.ac.nz/home/study/exams-and-assessments/aegrotat

Expected Workload

FCOM 111 is a first year, introductory course worth 15 points. A total of 150 hours should be devoted to study over the entire trimester. This gives an average of 12.5 hours per week and includes:

- Lecture and tutorial preparatory reading;
- Lecture attendance;
- Tutorial attendance;
- Assignment research and writing;
- Revision for legal test and final course examination.

Assessment

The Assessment Handbook will apply to all VUW courses. See: <http://www.victoria.ac.nz/documents/policy/staff-policy/assessment-handbook.pdf>.

There are four assessments in this course:

Government Essay (25%);
Legal Test (25%);
Tutorial Worksheets (20%);
Final Course Examination (30%).

ASSESSMENT ONE: GOVERNMENT ESSAY (25%)

What should be included in a written constitution for New Zealand? Give reasons for inclusions and exclusions.

You should utilise the materials and skills you have acquired from the three writing tutorials to ensure your essay meets the standards required of first year academic writing. Information on the APA Referencing system can be found at: http://www.victoria.ac.nz/st_services/slss/studyhub/handouts.aspx and in the FCA Writing Resource booklet.

Due: **Wednesday 17 August 2016 on or before noon** Submission is electronically through Blackboard. Please use Microsoft Word format.

For Late Essays please see page 8.

Word length: 1500 words (maximum)

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 FCom programmes. All material used for such processes will be treated as confidential and the outcome will not affect your grade for the course.

ASSESSMENT TWO: LEGAL TEST (25%)

The Test covers commercial law material from weeks four, five and six.

This is a closed-book test lasting one hour. It will consist of a mixture of short to medium length written answer questions.

The rooms allocated for this test will be posted on Blackboard and advised in lectures and tutorials.

Date: **Tuesday 13 September 2016 starting at 6:00 p.m.**

ASSESSMENT THREE: TUTORIAL WORKSHEETS (20%)

Tutorial Worksheets make up 20 per cent of the overall course grade for FCOM 111.

The best five marked worksheets will be used to calculate this proportion of your FCOM 111 final grade.

The Worksheets will be available for downloading on blackboard.

Completed worksheets are to be submitted through Blackboard by 12:00 noon on Wednesday of the due date on the worksheet. **Note: late worksheets will not be marked – no exceptions. Worksheets not submitted through Blackboard will not be accepted.**

Take care in submitting worksheets. Make sure you have attached the right file (MS Word format) BEFORE hitting the Submit key. Staff and tutors are not available to correct mistakes. Please do not ask.

ASSESSMENT FOUR: THE FINAL COURSE EXAMINATION (30%)

A two hour examination covering material from weeks seven through twelve.

Details and the date of the final exam will be posted on MyVictoria.

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 following period: **Friday 21st October – Saturday 12th November** (inclusive).

Penalties

Late essays will have their total mark reduced by one mark for each day they are overdue unless **PRIOR** permission has been granted. Late essays are to be submitted online as for normal submission. The computer will mark the submissions late. Essays submitted over ten (10) days late will not be marked and you will be awarded 0 per cent.

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.

Student feedback

As a result of student feedback on this course in previous trimesters, some changes in content and timing of material in lectures and tutorials has been made. Student feedback on University courses may be found at: www.cad.vuw.ac.nz/feedback/feedback_display.php.

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

Blackboard is the electronic platform that informs this course. All course materials, course notices and communications and will be placed on Blackboard (<http://www.blackboard.vuw.ac.nz>).

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.
