



Course syllabus

School of Business and Economics

Department of Management Accounting and Logistics

4FE072 Bolagsstyrning, normer och riskanalyser, 30 högskolepoäng
Corporate Governance, 30 credits

Main field of study

Business Administration

Subject Group

Business Administration

Level of classification

Second Level

Progression

A1N

Date of Ratification

Approved by School of Business and Economics 2014-12-11

The course syllabus is valid from autumn semester 2015

Prerequisites

165 credits within the Business Administration and Economics Programme, where the third year courses should be within the financial economy and/or accounting specialization, including 15 credits in Statistics alternatively

General entry requirements for studies on second level, and specific entry requirements: at least 90 credits within the main field of Business Administration or Economics and a minimum of 15 credits in statistics, or equivalent.

Objectives

Upon completion of the course, the student is expected to be able to:

- account for and independently reason about the governance of corporations that takes place by means of owners, boards of directors, bondholders, auditors and institutional arrangements such as regulatory frameworks and capital markets
- describe and analyze how the design of corporate governance varies on an international level
- account for and value dominating theories that are used in research on corporate governance, and apply these for reasoning about corporate governance related problems in ways that shows evidence of understanding of the theories' possibilities and limitations
- independently reason from societal and business ethical perspectives about issues that pertain to corporate governance, such as the limited liability of shareholders or prioritization among stakeholders of corporations
- account for the foundations of collecting information about risks and analyzing risks in companies, and independently reason about a company's problems and

- opportunities in dealing with risk management
- apply risk management for value creation in companies by critically relating to various ways of organizing risk management for various types of companies
- theoretically and practically relate issues of responsibility and development pertaining to risk management to corporate governance and regulation
- plan and execute oral presentation with a pedagogy that is attuned to the audience
- within given time limits, carry out tasks that imply independent analysis and problem solving and report these in written form in ways that shows evidence of academic skills such as application of theory and scientific method

Content

The course covers the following themes:

- introduction: historical background to the corporate legal form, introduction to foundational theories in corporate governance
- international and national corporate governance systems: types of systems, convergence between systems
- norm setting and regulation within corporate governance systems: norms, norm setters and normsetting processes, ethical and social perspectives on corporate governance
- capital owners: the role of shareholders and bondholders in the corporate governance system, types of financial instruments, valuation of these
- boards of directors: the role and function of boards of directors, the significance of the composition, structure and processes of the board, gender aspects on boards
- auditors: the role of the auditors in the corporate governance system, reputation and independence of the auditor, gender perspectives on the auditing industry
- Risk Management: analysis of risk, methods of risk and risk management for companies with different preconditions and risks, aided by integration of theoretical and practical perspectives
- system in balance and balance in systems: integration of previous themes, the interplay between different parts of corporate governance systems

Type of Instruction

The course is taught by means of lectures, seminars and practical exercises. Guest lectures and peer-teaching are parts of the course. Obligatory parts are stated in the schedule.

Examination

The course is assessed with the grades A, B, C, D, E, Fx or F.

Students are assessed by means of individual essays, literature reviews, exams, and by group assignments. The course includes mandatory seminars that are a part of the examination.

The grade A constitutes the highest grade on the scale and the remaining grades follow in descending order where the grade E is the lowest grade on the scale that will result in a pass. The grade F means that the student's performance is assessed as fail.

After each regular examination there will be at least one new examination in close proximity to the date the results of the regular exam were posted. A minimum of five occasions for written exams will be offered in relation to the syllabus to which the student was accepted. Usually three occasions per academic year are offered. Students that fail reports can complement after instructions from the examiner to obtain a pass grade.

Grading criteria for the A–F scale are communicated in writing to the student by the start of the course/module at the latest, as well as how grades on separate elements of

examination are weighed to a final course grade.

Course Evaluation

A written course evaluation is carried out and compiled in a report, which is archived at the faculty. The results and possible measures taken are communicated by the course coordinator and presented to the students the next time the course is given, or in another way deemed suitable by the course coordinator. Other types of course evaluations, for example regular evaluations throughout the course or discussions with students, will be included and encouraged with the aim of ensuring continuous quality development.

Credit Overlap

This course cannot be part of a degree in combination with another course in which the content fully or partly correspond to the content of this course: The course overlaps 4FE007 with 30 credits.

Required Reading and Additional Study Material

Required reading

Power, M. *Organized uncertainty - designing a world of risk management*. Oxford University Press. Latest edition. 232 pages.

Collection of articles from scholarly journals, encompassing classics and the frontier of contemporary corporate governance research. About 2500 pages.

Reference literature

Jansson, A., Jonnergård, K. & Larsson-Olaison, U. *Bolagsstyrning – lokala traditioner under global press* Studentlitteratur. Latest edition. 181 pages.