



Course syllabus

School of Business and Economics

Department of Management

4FE072 Bolagsstyrning, normer och riskanalyser, 30 högskolepoäng

4FE072 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 2014-12-11

Revised 2022-12-09 by School of Business and Economics. Change of department

The course syllabus is valid from spring semester 2023

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, risk management 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
- theoretically and practically relate issues of responsibility 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 and by group assignments. Active participation in mandatory seminars 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

During the implementation of the course or in close connection to the course a course evaluation is to be carried out. Result and analysis of the course evaluation is to be presented as feedback both to the students who have completed the course and to the students who are to participate on the course the next time it is offered. The course evaluation is to be carried out anonymously.

Credit Overlap

The course cannot be included in a degree along with the following course/courses of which the content fully, or partly, corresponds to the content of this course: The course overlaps 4FE007 with 30 credits.

Required Reading and Additional Study Material

Required reading

Collection of articles from scholarly journals, encompassing classics and the frontier of contemporary corporate governance research. About 2750 pages.

Reference literature

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