MGT-550-01W, Corporate Governance and Sustainability

COURSE SYLLABUS: Fall 2025

INSTRUCTOR INFORMATION

Instructor: Dr. Sammy Wyatt, Ph.D., MBA, CFE, CHC, CCEP, EnCE
Office Location: Virtual As Needed
Office Hours: Virtual As Needed
Office Phone: 318-572-3983
Office Fax: None
University Email Address: Samuel.Wyatt@tamuc.edu
Preferred Form of Communication: Email Address
Communication Response Time: Normally with 24 hrs.

COURSE INFORMATION

Materials – Textbooks, Readings, Supplementary Readings

Textbook(s) Required –
Gutterman, A. S. (2020). Sustainability and Corporate Governance: A Guide to Law and Practice. Routledge. https://www.vitalsource.com/products/sustainability-and-corporate-governance-alan-s-gutterman-v9781000284096

Software Required – Microsoft Apps.
Optional Texts and/or Materials

Course Description
The class presents an in-depth examination of the issues related to corporate governance in an ethical society. General theories of governance provide a foundation for an examination of the role governance decisions play in promoting the long-run sustainability of the community in which the firm operates. Global comparative analysis will help identify best practices in internal and external governance mechanisms.

COURSE OBJECTIVES:
1. Knowledge objectives of this course includes:

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A. Understanding the purpose of studying corporate governance.
B. Preparing the students for leadership roles in firms as entrepreneurs, executives and directors.
C. Recognizing an ethical dilemma and comprehend various approaches to ethical decision making within the context of corporate governance.
D. Providing students with an overview of how corporate governance fit into strategic decision making.
E. Application of student knowledge to real-world organizational situations.

Student Learning Outcomes:
1. Explaining the relationships between different bodies of corporate governance such as executives, directors and owners.
2. Understanding the importance of executives and directors as sources of sustainable competitive advantage.
3. Demonstration of ethical decision making as future strategic decision makers
4. Being able to explain how corporate governance impacts strategic decision making.
5. Demonstrate an understanding the importance of sustainability in today's business world

COURSE REQUIREMENTS

Minimal Technical Skills Needed

Instructional Methods Lecture, case studies, discussions

Student Responsibilities or Tips for Success in the Course
1. Access the online course daily.
2. Read the course materials.
3. Participate in the course discussions.
4. Dedicate the appropriate amount of time to properly prepare for assessments.
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GRADING

GRADING FORMAT

The course grading scale is: 100- 90% A; 89-80% B; 79-70% C; 69-60% D; below 60% F. Students have one week to query a grade once posted; no adjustments will be made after one week. Grades are based on a total of 2880 points from the following items:

Module Quizzes	15 Quizzes, 30 pts. Each	450	pts
Discussion Questions	30 Discussion Questions with two responses, 30 pts. Each	900	pts
Introduction Discussion	1 Discussion Question, with 2 Responses, 30 pts. Each	30	pts
APA Papers	15 APA papers, 100 pts. per paper	1500	pts
Total Course Points Possible		2880	pts

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Assessments

1. Weekly quizzes.
2. Discussion Boards.
3. Papers reviewing topics and/or assignments.

MEANS OF ASSESSMENT

Module Quizzes: Timed module quizzes occur weekly. Module quizzes may contain multiple-choice and true/false questions; each quiz is worth 30 points. These quizzes assess student knowledge regarding module readings, audio lectures, and required videos. **Outside assistance of any kind and copying/sharing questions in any format are strictly prohibited and will be considered a violation of the TAMUC Code, and copyright law.** See the Class Schedule for quiz dates.

Discussion Questions: Students are required to complete two discussion questions for each module (up to 30 pts. each). The initial discussion question responses will be due on Thursday of each week. The two responses are due by Sunday night. Then, every student will be required to post two follow-up statements/questions to other students' initial postings. The follow-up statements/questions can be to the same student or two different students. **Each initial posting is to be a minimum of 300 words and follow-up postings is to be a minimum of 200 words. Please include the properly APA formatted citations for any sources utilized for your discussion questions.**

Rubric for Discussion Questions:
- Initial Posting – Up to a Maximum of 20 Points
- Follow-Up Postings – Up to a Maximum of 5 points each (Max. of 2 receive credit.)

Extra Credit: Extra credit _may_ be posted throughout the course to assist students in learning the presented material and to assist them in preparing for the weekly quiz. The extra credit is completely voluntary and will not count against the student if not taken. Students must complete the weekly discussion questions before they will be granted access to the extra credit. _ALL students must complete all coursework, including the discussion questions and weekly quiz, to retain the extra credit earned during the course._

APA Paper: Students will be required to submit fifteen (15) 5-page papers with a Title page, a references page, and a minimum of 3 narrative pages (APA

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format, 12 point font, single-spaces, with a references page) in discussing a relevant topic for the week's discussions. The students choose the topic. The paper is to be submitted in a MS Word format and is due Sunday nights at 11:59 p.m.

TECHNOLOGY REQUIREMENTS

LMS

All course sections offered by Texas A&M University-Commerce have a corresponding course shell in the myLeo Online Learning Management System (LMS). Below are technical requirements

LMS Requirements:
https://community.brightspace.com/s/article/Brightspace-Platform-Requirements

LMS Browser Support:
https://documentation.brightspace.com/EN/brightspace/requirements/all/browser_support.htm

Zoom Video Conferencing Tool
https://inside.tamuc.edu/campuslife/CampusServices/CITESupportCenter/Zoom_Account.aspx?source=universalmenu

ACCESS AND NAVIGATION

You will need your campus-wide ID (CWID) and password to log into the course. If you do not know your CWID or have forgotten your password, contact the Center for IT Excellence (CITE) at 903.468.6000 or helpdesk@tamuc.edu.

Note: Personal computer and internet connection problems do not excuse the requirement to complete all course work in a timely and satisfactory manner. Each student needs to have a backup method to deal with these inevitable problems. These methods might include the availability of a backup PC at home or work, the temporary use of a computer at a friend's home, the local library, office service companies, Starbucks, a TAMUC campus open computer lab, etc.

COMMUNICATION AND SUPPORT

If you have any questions or are having difficulties with the course material, please contact your Instructor.

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Technical Support

If you are having technical difficulty with any part of Brightspace, please contact Brightspace Technical Support at 1-877-325-7778. Other support options can be found here:

https://community.brightspace.com/support/s/contactsupport

Interaction with Instructor Statement

COURSE AND UNIVERSITY PROCEDURES/POLICIES

Course Specific Procedures/Policies

Syllabus Change Policy

The syllabus is a guide. Circumstances and events, such as student progress, may make it necessary for the instructor to modify the syllabus during the semester. Any changes made to the syllabus will be announced in advance.

University Specific Procedures

Student Conduct

All students enrolled at the University shall follow the tenets of common decency and acceptable behavior conducive to a positive learning environment. The Code of Student Conduct is described in detail in the Student Guidebook. https://inside.tamuc.edu/admissions/registrar/documents/studentGuidebook.pdf.

Students should also consult the Rules of Netiquette for more information regarding how to interact with students in an online forum: https://www.britannica.com/topic/netiquette

TAMUC Attendance

For more information about the attendance policy please visit the Attendance webpage and Procedures 13.99.99.R0.01 http://www.tamuc.edu/admissions/registrar/generalInformation/attendance.aspx

Academic Integrity

Students at Texas A&M University-Commerce are expected to maintain high standards of integrity and honesty in all of their scholastic work. For more details and the definition of academic dishonesty see the following procedures:

Undergraduate Academic Dishonesty 13.99.99.R0.03
Undergraduate Student Academic Dishonesty Form

http://www.tamuc.edu/aboutUs/policiesProceduresStandardsStatements/rulesProcedures/documents/13.99.99.R0.03UndergraduateStudentAcademicDishonestyForm.pdf

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Graduate Students Academic Integrity Policy and Form

[Graduate Student Academic Dishonesty Form](#)

https://inside.tamuc.edu/aboutus/policiesProceduresStandardsStatements/rulesProcedures/13students/graduate/13.99.99.R0.10.pdf

Students with Disabilities-- ADA Statement

The Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) is a federal anti-discrimination statute that provides comprehensive civil rights protection for persons with disabilities. Among other things, this legislation requires that all students with disabilities be guaranteed a learning environment that provides for reasonable accommodation of their disabilities. If you have a disability requiring an accommodation, please contact:

Office of Student Disability Resources and Services
Texas A&M University-Commerce
Velma K. Waters Library Rm 162
Phone (903) 886-5150 or (903) 886-5835
Fax (903) 468-8148
Email: studentdisabilityservices@tamuc.edu

Website: [Student Disability Services](#)

https://www.tamuc.edu/student-disability-services/

Nondiscrimination Notice

Texas A&M University-Commerce will comply in the classroom, and in online courses, with all federal and state laws prohibiting discrimination and related retaliation on the basis of race, color, religion, sex, national origin, disability, age, genetic information or veteran status. Further, an environment free from discrimination on the basis of sexual orientation, gender identity, or gender expression will be maintained.

Campus Concealed Carry Statement

Texas Senate Bill - 11 (Government Code 411.2031, et al.) authorizes the carrying of a concealed handgun in Texas A&M University-Commerce buildings only by persons who have been issued and are in possession of a Texas License to Carry a Handgun. Qualified law enforcement officers or those who are otherwise authorized to carry a concealed handgun in the State of Texas are also permitted to do so. Pursuant to Penal Code (PC) 46.035 and A&M-Commerce Rule 34.06.02.R1, license holders may not carry a concealed handgun in restricted locations.
For a list of locations, please refer to the [Carrying Concealed Handguns On Campus](#) document and/or consult your event organizer.
Web url:
http://www.tamuc.edu/aboutUs/policiesProceduresStandardsStatements/rulesProcedures/34SafetyOfEmployeesAndStudents/34.06.02.R1.pdf

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Pursuant to PC 46.035, the open carrying of handguns is prohibited on all A&M-Commerce campuses. Report violations to the University Police Department at 903-886-5868 or 9-1-1.

A&M-Commerce Supports Students' Mental Health

The Counseling Center at A&M-Commerce, located in the Halladay Building, Room 203, offers counseling services, educational programming, and connection to community resources for students. Students have 24/7 access to the Counseling Center's crisis assessment services by calling 903-886-5145. For more information regarding Counseling Center events and confidential services, please visit **www.tamuc.edu/counsel**

Mental Health and Well-Being

The university aims to provide students with essential knowledge and tools to understand and support mental health. As part of our commitment to your well-being, we offer access to Telus Health, a service available 24/7/365 via chat, phone, or webinar. Scan the QR code to download the app and explore the resources available to you for guidance and support whenever you need it.

http://telusproduction.com/app/5108.html

AI use policy

Texas A&M University-Commerce acknowledges that there are legitimate uses of Artificial Intelligence, ChatBots, or other software that has the capacity to generate text, or suggest replacements for text beyond individual words, as determined by the instructor of the course.

Any use of such software must be documented. Any undocumented use of such software constitutes an instance of academic dishonesty (plagiarism).

Individual instructors may disallow entirely the use of such software for individual assignments or for the entire course. Students should be aware of such requirements and follow their instructors 'guidelines. If no instructions are provided the student should assume that the use of such software is disallowed.

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In any case, students are fully responsible for the content of any assignment they submit, regardless of whether they used an AI, in any way. This specifically includes cases in which the AI plagiarized another text or misrepresented sources.
- 13.99.99.R0.03 Undergraduate Academic Dishonesty
- 13.99.99.R0.10 Graduate Student Academic Dishonesty

	Corporate Governance and Sustainability (Fall 2025) CLASS SCHEDULE				
Module Dates		**Topics & Readings**	**PPT & Media**	**Module Quizzes/ Knowledge Assessment**	**Assignments**
1	08/25 – 08/31	1. [What is Corporate Sustainability? A Comprehensive Guide](#) 2. [What is the relationship between corporate governance and sustainability?](#)		APA paper in Word doc discussing a topic discussed during the week. 12 font, single space. Due 08/31 11:59 p.m. Module 1 Quiz (Opens 08/29, 1 am; Closes 08/31, 11:59	Discussion Questions 1, 2, and Introduction Discussion - Initial postings due 08/28; 2 Follow-up postings (for each question) due 08/31, 11:59 pm).
2	09/01 - 09/07	1. [HLS Top Ten Corporate Sustainability Priorities for 2025](#) 2. Text Chapter 1: Corporate Governance and Sustainability	Audio Lectures, Videos	APA paper in Word doc discussing a topic discussed during the week. 12 font, single space. Due 09/07 11:59 p.m. Module 2 Quiz (Opens 09/05, 1 am; Closes 09/07, 11:59 pm)	Discussion Questions 3 & 4: Due - Initial posting 09/04; 2 Follow-up postings (for each question) 09/07, 11:59 pm)
3	09/08 - 09/14	1. [How corporate governance can help build a more sustainable world.](#) 2. Text Chapter 2: Sustainability Standards and Instruments	Audio Lectures, Videos	APA paper in Word doc discussing a topic discussed during the week. 12 font, single space. Due 09/14 11:59 p.m. Module 3 Quiz (Opens 09/12, 1 am; Closes, 09/14 11:59 pm)	Discussion Questions 5 & 6: Due - Initial posting 09/11; 2 Follow-up postings (for each question) 09/14, 11:59 pm)
4	09/15 - 09/21	1. [Sustainability and its Integration into Corporate Governance Focusing on Corporate Performance Management and Reporting](#) 2. Text Chapter 3: Board Oversight of Sustainability	Audio Lectures, Videos	APA paper in Word doc discussing a topic discussed during the week. Due 09/21 11:59 p.m. Module 4 Quiz (Opens 09/19, 1 am; Closes 09/21, 11:59 pm)	Discussion Questions 7 & 8: Due - Initial posting 09/18; 2 Follow-up postings (for each question) 09/21, 11:59 pm)

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5	09/22 - 09/28	1. [Top 10 Governance Trends for 2025](#) 2. Text Chapter 4: Governance and Nominating Committee	Audio Lectures, Videos	APA paper in Word doc discussing a topic discussed during the week. Due 09/28 11:59 p.m. Module 5 Quiz (Opens 09/26, 1 am; Closes 09/28, 11:59 pm)	Discussion Questions 9 & 10: Due - Initial posting 09/25; 2 Follow-up postings (for each question) 09/28, 11:59 pm)
6	09/29 – 10/05	1. [The Board's Role in Sustainability](#) 2. Text Chapter 5: Audit Committee	Audio Lectures, Videos	APA paper in Word doc discussing a topic discussed during the week. 12 font, single space. Due 10/05 11:59 p.m. Module 6 Quiz (Opens 10/03, 1 am; Closes 10/05, 11:59 pm)	Discussion Questions 11 & 12: Due - Initial posting 10/03; 2 Follow-up postings (for each question) 10/05, 11:59 pm)
7	10/06 – 10/12	1. [Exploring the Link Between Corporate Governance and Sustainability.](#) 2. Text Chapter 6: Compensation and Organizational Development Committee	Audio Lectures, Videos	APA paper in Word doc discussing a topic discussed during the week. Due 10/12 11:59 p.m. Module 7 Quiz (Opens 10/10, 1 am; Closes 10/12, 11:59 pm)	Discussion Questions 13 & 14: Due - Initial posting 10/09; 2 Follow-up postings (for each question) 10/12, 11:59 pm)
8	10/13 – 10/19	1. [Corporate Governance and Social Responsibility as Strategies for Sustainable Business](#) 2. Text Chapter 7: Corporate Social Responsibility Committee	Audio Lectures, Videos	APA paper in Word doc discussing a topic discussed during the week. 12 font, single space. Due 10/19 11:59 p.m. Module 8 Quiz (Opens 10/17, 1 am; Closes 10/19, 11:59 pm)	Discussion Questions 15 & 16: Due - Initial posting 10/18; 2 Follow-up postings (for each question) 10/19, 11:59 pm)
9	10/20 – 10/26	1. [The Impact of the quality of corporate governance on sustainable development: an analysis based on development level](#) 2. Text Chapter 8: Environmental, Health and Safety Committee	Audio Lectures, Videos	APA paper in Word doc discussing a topic discussed during the week. 12 font, single space. Due 10/26 11:59 p.m. Module 9 Quiz (Opens 10/24, 1 am; Closes 10/26, 11:59 pm)	Discussion Questions 17 & 18: Due - Initial posting 10/23; 2 Follow-up postings (for each question) 10/26, 11:59 pm)

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10	10/27 – 11/02	1. [Understanding the Legal Aspects of Corporate Sustainability Reporting and Its Impact on Corporate Governance Practices](#) 2. Text Chapter 9: Compliance and Risk Management Committee	Audio Lectures, Videos	APA paper in Word doc discussing a topic discussed during the week. Due 11/02 11:59 p.m. Module 10 Quiz (Opens 10/31, 1 am; Closes 11/02, 11:59 pm）	Discussion Questions 19 & 20: Due - Initial posting 10/30; 2 Follow-up postings (for each question) 11/02, 11:59 pm)
11	11/03 – 11/09	1. [Sustainability and its Integration into Corporate Governance Focusing on Corporate Performance Management and Reporting](#) 2. Text Chapter 10: Disclosure and Reporting Committee	Audio Lectures, Videos	APA paper in Word doc discussing a topic discussed during the week. Due 11/09 11:59 p.m. Module 11 Quiz (Opens 11/07, 1 am; Closes 11/09, 11:59 pm)	Discussion Questions 21 & 22: Due - Initial posting 11/06; 2 Follow-up postings (for each question) 11/09, 11:59 pm)
12	11/10 – 11/16	1. [The Impact of Corporate Governance and Sustainability Reporting on Integrated Reporting: A Conceptual Framework](#) 2. Text Chapter 11: Internal Governance Instruments	Audio Lectures, Videos	APA paper in Word doc discussing a topic discussed during the week. Due 11/16 11:59 p.m. Module 12 Quiz (Opens 11/14, 1 am; Closes 11/16, 11:59 pm)	Discussion Questions 23 & 24: Due - Initial posting 11/13; 2 Follow-up postings (for each question) 11/16, 11:59 pm)
13	11/17 – 11/23	1. [Corporate Governance Reform and the Sustainability Imperative](#) 2. Text Chapter 12: Organizing for Sustainability	Audio Lectures, Videos	APA paper in Word doc discussing a topic discussed during the week. Due 11/23 11:59 p.m. Module 13 Quiz (Opens 11/21, 1 am; Closes 11/23, 11:59 pm)	Discussion Questions 25 & 26: Due - Initial posting 11/20; 2 Follow-up postings (for each question) 11/23, 11:59 pm)
14	11/24 – 11/30	1. [Toward an updated corporate governance framework: Fundamentals, disruptions, and future research](#) 2. Text Chapter 13: Social Enterprises	Audio Lectures, Videos	APA paper in Word doc discussing a topic discussed during the week. Due 11/30 11:59 p.m. Module 14 Quiz (Opens 11/11/28, 1 am; Closes 11/30, 11:59 pm)	Discussion Questions 27 & 28: Due - Initial posting 11/27; 2 Follow-up postings (for each question) 11/30, 11:59 pm)

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| 15 | 12/01 – 12/05 | 1. The 3 Pillars of Corporate Sustainability

2. Corporate strategies oriented towards sustainable governance advantages, managerial practices and main challenges | Audio Lectures, Videos | APA paper in Word doc discussing a topic discussed during the week. Due 12/05 11:59 p.m.

Module 15 Quiz (Opens 12/03, 1 am; Closes 12/05, 11:59 pm) | Discussion Questions 29 & 30: Due - Initial posting 12/02; 2 Follow-up postings (for each question) 12/05, 11:59 pm) |

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