



## **MGT-550-01W, Corporate Governance and Sustainability**

### **COURSE SYLLABUS: Spring 2026**

#### **INSTRUCTOR INFORMATION**

**Instructor:** Dr. John H. Batchelor, Ph.D., MBA

**Office Location:** Virtual As Needed

**Office Hours:** Virtual As Needed

**Office/Mobile Phone:** 850-417-3735

**Office Fax:** None

**University Email Address:** [John.batchelor@etamu.edu](mailto:John.batchelor@etamu.edu)

**Preferred Form of Communication:** Email Address, text, or call

**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.

**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. Any assignments turned in late will receive a 10% point reduction per day late.

Module Quizzes	One per module	34	percent
Discussion Questions	One per module	33	percent
Module Papers	One per module	33	percent
Total Course Points Possible		100	percent

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## Assessments

1. Module quizzes.
2. Module Discussion Boards.
3. Module Papers in APA 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; quizzes are worth 34 percent of the final grade in this class. These quizzes assess student knowledge regarding module readings. **Outside assistance of any kind and copying/sharing questions in any format are strictly prohibited and will be considered a violation of the ETAMU Code, and copyright law.** See the Class Schedule for quiz dates.

**Discussion Questions:** Students are required to complete one discussion question for each module.

**Each posting is to be a minimum of 300 words. Please include the properly APA formatted citations for any sources utilized for your discussion questions.**

**Module Paper in APA:** Students will be required to submit one APA formatted paper for each module. Each paper should be at least five pages of text in APA format with at least three scholarly, peer reviewed journal articles as references. The references must be in APA format. The five-page count required does not include pictures, title page, references, tables, etc., the five pages in the length of actual text, so the actual paper will be much longer than five pages once all this is included.

## 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](https://documentation.brightspace.com/EN/brightspace/requirements/all/browser_support.htm)

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Zoom Video Conferencing Tool

[https://inside.tamuc.edu/campuslife/CampusServices/CITESupportCenter/Zoom\\_Account.aspx?source=universalmenu](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](mailto: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](mailto: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](http://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

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