

# Argosy University

## COURSE SYLLABUS

B7680

*Accounting and Corporate Governance*

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### Course description:

Corporate governance is the process used by management to administer the resources entrusted to it by its stockholders. The accounting process measures and reports management's financial representations within the context of generally accepted accounting principles, thus, adding creditability to management's financial assertions. This course will study this complex relationship between corporate management and accounting.

### Course Pre-requisites:

### Required Textbooks:

**IMPORTANT: You are not required to purchase the textbook for this course. Your textbook will be available as an electronic book within your fully online or blended course on the eCollege platform.**

Lipman, F.D., & Lipman, L.K. (2006). *Corporate governance best practices: Strategies for public, private, and not-for-profit organizations*. John Wiley & Sons, Inc.

**Course length:** 7.5 Weeks

**Contact Hours:** 45 Hours

**Credit Value:** 3.0

### Program Outcomes:

#### 1. Research

- 1.1. **Performing** – Design, conduct, and justify applied research in a business context using appropriate methodology
- 1.2. **Understanding** – Evaluate and apply existing theory and research to current business practice

#### 2. Communication

- 2.1. **Oral** – Present orally, complex business information that is concise, clear, organized, and well supported in a professional manner appropriate to the business context
- 2.2. **Written** – Present in writing, complex business information that is concise, clear, organized, and well supported in a professional manner appropriate to the business context using required format

3. **Critical Thinking/Problem Solving**
  - 3.1. **Critical thinking** – Evaluate relevance of established theory to current business practice and identify gaps in current literature
  - 3.2. **Problem Solving/Decision Making** – Given a business situation, diagnose the underlying causes of the situation, evaluate possible solutions, in relation to underlying business theory and determine and defend appropriate course of action
  - 3.3. **Information Literacy** - Conduct an exhaustive literature search from a variety of sources, evaluate the credibility of the sources, and apply that information to create new knowledge
4. **Team**
  - 4.1. **Leadership** - Conduct an exhaustive literature search from a variety of sources, evaluate the credibility of the sources, and apply that information to create new knowledge
  - 4.2. **Collaboration** - Given a case study or business situation collect, assimilate, and disseminate the views of stakeholders
5. **Ethics**
  - 5.1. **Ethics** - Given a case study or business situations, evaluate the ethical dimensions of decision situations and personal, social, and corporate responsibility not absolved by market forces
6. **Diversity**
  - 6.1. **Diversity** - Given a case study or business situation, evaluate the multicultural dimensions of decision situations and multicultural solutions to business situations
7. **Analysis**
  - 7.1 **Financial Analysis** – Evaluate results of accounting analyses including audit, financial, and risk analyses to determine appropriate business strategies
8. **Systems**
  - 8.1. **Systems** – Evaluate effectiveness of comprehensive accounting systems in meeting the goals of an organization

**Course Objectives:**

1. Analyze the history, development and purpose of corporate governance models. (1.1, 1.2, 2.1, 2.2, 2.3, 3.1, 3.2, 4.1, 5.1, 6.1, 7.1, 8.1)
2. Construct an operational and structural framework based on the summary of corporate governance models and best practices. (1.1, 1.2, 2.1, 2.2, 2.3, 3.1, 3.2)
3. Analyze the best practices in accounting corporate governance. (1.2, 2.1, 2.2, 2.3, 3.1, 3.2, 4.1, 5.1, 6.1, 6.2)
4. Evaluate the various management frameworks that impact accounting in corporate governance. (1.1, 2.1, 2.2, 2.3, 3.1, 3.2, 4.1, 5.1, 6.1, 6.2)
5. Examine the management of a diverse interest environment and analyze its effect on corporate governance. (1.1, 2.1, 2.2, 2.3, 3.1, 3.2, 4.1, 5.1, 6.1, 6.2)
6. Assess corporate governance roles in various types of organizations and entities. (1.1, 2.1, 2.2, 2.3, 3.1, 3.2, 4.1, 5.1, 7.1, 8.1)

**Weekly Topics & Reading Assignments (All articles are available through the [Argosy University online collection](#))**

<b>Unit</b>	<b>Topics</b>	<b>Reading</b>	<b>Assignments</b>
<b>1</b>	<p>Overview of Accounting Corporate Governance</p> <p>The Fundamental State of Corporate Governance</p> <p>Characteristics of Agency Theory</p>	<p>Lipman, Lipman</p> <p>Chapter 1. Why Is Corporate Governance Important?</p> <p>Chapter 2. Summary of Major Corporate Governance Principles and Best Practices.</p> <p>Chapter 3. Best Practices to Monitor Risk in Different Organizational Departments.</p> <p>Chapter 4. Monitoring and Changing the Corporate Culture.</p>	
<b>2</b>	<p>Overview of Independent Directors in Accounting and Corporate Governance and Their Roles</p> <p>Corporate Governance Best Practices in Micro and Macro Management</p> <p>Agency Theory and Stewardship Theory Comparisons</p>	<p>Lipman, Lipman</p> <p>Chapter 8. Independent Directors and Their Committees.</p> <p>Chapter 5. The Internal Audit Function.</p> <p>Chapter 6. Compensation Committees of Public, Private, and Not-for-Profit Organizations.</p> <p>Chapter 7. Other Committees.</p>	

3	<p>Overview of Accounting IT and Corporate Governance</p> <p>Best Practices in Security, Hardware, Application, &amp; Internet</p> <p>Internal Audit IT Function</p> <p>Corporate Governance and Disaster Recovery Compliance</p>	<p>Lipman, Lipman</p> <p>Chapter 9. IT Content: Best Corporate Governance Practices.</p> <p>Chapter 10. IT Security Best Corporate Governance Practices.</p>	
4	<p>Overview of Public Company Audit Committee</p> <p>Examine the Responsibilities and Roles of the Public Company Audit Committee</p> <p>SEC Rules and Director Liability</p> <p>Characteristics of Environmental Governance Theory</p>	<p>Lipman, Lipman</p> <p>Chapter 11. Who Can Qualify for a Public Company Audit Committee?</p> <p>Chapter 12. Public Company Audit Committee: Personal Liability of Audit Committee Members.</p> <p>Chapter 13. Minimum Responsibilities of Public Company Audit Committees.</p>	
5	<p>Best Practices in Public Company Audit Committee</p> <p>Examine the Responsibility of an Outside Auditor</p> <p>Who is an Independent Board member?</p> <p>Stakeholder Theory and Public Company Auditing in Corporate Governance</p>	<p>Lipman, Lipman</p> <p>Chapter 14. Other Public Company Audit Committee Functions.</p> <p>Chapter 15. 30 Best Practice Considerations for the Public Company Audit Committee.</p> <p>Chapter 16. Who Is an Independent Auditor?</p>	

<p><b>6</b></p>	<p>Overview of Corporate Governance in Private and Not-for-Profit Organizations</p> <p>Benefits in Using Independent Directors or Independent Board of Advisors for Not-for-Profit Orgs</p> <p>Differences in Corporate Governance Among Private, Non-For-Profit and Profit Entities</p>	<p>Lipman, Lipman</p> <p>Chapter 17. Corporate Governance for Family-Owned and Other Private Businesses.</p> <p>Chapter 18. Corporate Governance for Not-for-Profit Organizations.</p>	
<p><b>7</b></p>	<p>Peer Review Article: Researching the Association Between Typical Measures of Corporate Governance and Various Accounting and Economic Outcomes</p> <p>Examine Descriptive Statistics- Mean, Standard Deviation, and Variable Type in Describing Accounting Variables</p> <p>The Use of Principal Component Analysis (PCA) in Corporate Governance</p> <p>The Concept of the Data Sample Using ONE year</p>	<p>Read Peer Review Article: Larcker, D.F., Richardson, S.A., &amp; Tuna, I. (2007). Corporate Governance, Accounting Outcomes, and Organizational Performance. <i>The Accounting Review</i>. 82, 4, 963-1008.</p>	
<p><b>8</b></p>	<p>Success and Failure of Corporate Governance</p> <p>Corporate Governance and Convergence</p> <p>Comparing Agency Theory, Stewardship Theory, &amp; Stakeholder Theory, in View</p>		

	of the Return Valuation of Public Firms in the United States		
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### Grading Criteria

*Grading Scale  
Grading requirements*

<b>A</b>	100 – 93
<b>A-</b>	92 – 90
<b>B+</b>	89 – 88
<b>B</b>	87 – 83
<b>B-</b>	82 – 80
<b>C+</b>	79 – 78
<b>C</b>	77 – 73
<b>C-</b>	72 – 70
<b>F</b>	69 and below

<i>Weekly Assignments</i>	<i>20%</i>
<i>Peer Review Article/Team Presentation</i>	<i>20%</i>
<i>Weekly Participation/Discussions</i>	<i>40%</i>
<i>Final Paper</i>	<i>20%</i>
	<i>100%</i>

### Library

*All resources in Argosy University’s online collection are available through the Internet. The campus librarian will provide students with links, user IDs, and passwords.*

All resources in Argosy University’s online collection are available through the Internet. Students can access the online collection by logging into the student portal and clicking on the library link. Library Resources: Argosy University’s core online collection features over 48, 889 full-text journals and 23,000 electronic books and other content

covering all academic subject areas including Business & Economics, Career & General Education, Computers, Engineering & Applied Science, Humanities, Science, Medicine & Allied Health, and Social & Behavior Sciences. Many titles are directly accessible through the Online Public Access Catalog at <http://library.argosy.edu>.

In addition to online resources, Argosy University's onsite collections contain a wealth of subject-specific research materials searchable in the Online Public Access Catalog. Catalog searching is easily limited to individual campus collections. Alternatively, students can search combined collections of all Argosy University Libraries. Students are encouraged to seek research and reference assistance from campus librarian.

### **Academic Policies**

Academic Dishonesty/Plagiarism: In an effort to foster a spirit of honesty and integrity during the learning process, Argosy University requires that the submission of all course assignments represent the original work produced by that student. All sources must be documented through normal scholarly references/citations and all work must be submitted using the current edition of the *Publication Manual of the American Psychological Association*. Students are encouraged to purchase this manual and become familiar with its content as well as consult the Argosy University catalog for further information regarding academic dishonesty and plagiarism.

Scholarly writing: The faculty at Argosy University is dedicated to providing a learning environment that supports scholarly and ethical writing, free from academic dishonesty and plagiarism. This includes the proper and appropriate referencing of all sources. You may be asked to submit your course assignments through "Turnitin," ([www.turnitin.com](http://www.turnitin.com)), an online resource established to help educators develop writing/research skills and detect potential cases of academic dishonesty. Turnitin compares submitted papers to billions of pages of content and provides a comparison report to your instructor. This comparison detects papers that share common information and duplicative language.

### **Americans with Disabilities Act Policy**

It is the policy of Argosy University to make reasonable accommodations for qualified students with disabilities, in accordance with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA). If a student with disabilities needs accommodations, the student must notify the Director of Student Services. Procedures for documenting student disability and the development of reasonable accommodations will be provided to the student upon request.

Students will be notified by the Director of Student Services when each request for accommodation is approved or denied in writing via a designated form. To receive accommodation in class, it is the student's responsibility to present the form (at his or her discretion) to the instructor. In an effort to protect student privacy, the Department of Student Services will not discuss the accommodation needs of any student with

instructors. Faculty may not make accommodations for individuals who have not been approved in this manner.

### **The Argosy University Statement Regarding Diversity**

Argosy University prepares students to serve populations with diverse social, ethnic, economic, and educational experiences. Both the academic and training curricula are designed to provide an environment in which students can develop the skills and attitudes essential to working with people from a wide range of backgrounds.