The mission of the Graduate Institute of Finance and Banking is to explore and advance theories and models in financial research to cultivate competitive professionals with ethical integrity, innovative capabilities and international perspective to meet business and social needs in the global economy.

Graduate Program Learning Goals (goals covered by this course are indicated):

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<th>Graduates should be able to communicate effectively verbally and in writing.</th>
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<td>Graduates should solve strategic problems with a creative and innovative approach.</td>
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<td>Graduates should demonstrate leadership skills demanded of a person in authority.</td>
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<td>Graduates should possess a global economic and management perspective.</td>
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<td>Graduates should possess the necessary skills and values demanded of a true professional.</td>
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Instructor
Dr. Yenn-Ru Chen
Phone: +886-6-2757575 ext 53425
Email: yrchen@mail.ncku.edu.tw
Office: 63306
Office hour: 1-2 pm on Mon and Tue, or by appointment

Course Description
This course intends to familiarize students the concepts of corporate governance and how a company’s governance mechanisms affect its operation and its performance. This course would discuss such topics as corporation, shareholders/ownership, the board of directors, management performance, and international governance. Students are expected to understand the topics via intensive class discussion and research projects.

This class will be partially conducted through cases and paper discussions, some in quick reviews and some in details. A few lectures on the general issues of corporate governance will be given by the instructor in the beginning of the semester, followed by the paper discussions. Paper discussion will be initiated by faculty and students, and all students are expected to read class materials before class meetings.

Textbook
1. Selected cases and journal articles (listed separately)
2. Corporate Governance, by Kim, Nofsinger, and Mohr, Pearson, 3rd edition
Grading Policy (strictly enforced)

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<th>Participation &amp; Case Discussion 20%</th>
<th>Mid-term Exam 10%</th>
<th>Paper Reading/Discussion 20%</th>
<th>Case Study 25%</th>
<th>Case Project/Research Proposal 25%</th>
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<td>COMMU</td>
<td>Oral Communication</td>
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<td>Written Communication</td>
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<td>Presentation</td>
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<td>CPSI</td>
<td>Creativity and Innovation</td>
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<td>Problem Solving</td>
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<td>Analytical Skills</td>
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<td>Global Awareness</td>
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<td>VSP</td>
<td>Values, Skills &amp; Profess.</td>
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Participation

- Students are required to read the assigned text chapters before the class meeting.
- The class meeting will be conducted in a series of discussion. A list of questions for each chapter will be provided in the second week.
- The participation of each student will be recorded. Students who raise hands at least once per week can expect to earn 90% of the total participation grade. You can decide how often you should participate in class meetings. However, students who answer questions or participate less than three times will fail this course.

Participation for Case Discussion (individual)

- Intensive class participation is the most essential component to ensure the quality of case studies. The more you participate in class discussion, the more you learn from the course.
- To be able to join the participation, students must read the assigned cases and prepare the case questions BEFORE class meetings.
  - Key to Success: 3P’s (Preparation, Presence, Participation)
- Please pay attention to the following rules: (by Prof SF Chen in Ivy College of Business, U. of W. Ontario)
  - Listening and talking
  - Listening is the foundation to learning
  - Not just about airtime, content matters
  - Hand-up first
  - No hand-up before the question is finished
  - Hand-up all the time will not be called
  - Don’t read prepared note
  - Don’t go back to earlier remarks (unless they are relevant)
  - Don’t repeat or paraphrase
  - One person talking at one time
  - No private conversation
Case Study (group)

- The case study will be conducted on the group basis for two students in one group. There will be 3-4 cases in this semester. All groups have to analyze all cases and prepare for presenting their insights and suggested solutions. For each case, one to two groups will be randomly chosen to present their analyses in front of the class and debate with other groups for about 30 minutes per group.
- **Power-point presentations** are required. One week after the case study, the presenting groups have to separately submit a [short written report](#), which should demonstrate all analyses to the final recommendations/decisions.
- Case questions will be provided in advance. Instead of answering the questions one-by-one, students should incorporate these questions onto the case analyses.
- Please submit the power-point file and the written report to the shared Dropbox folder **one day before the submission date**.
- To ensure the quality of discussion, all students are required to ask questions after each presentation.

Paper Discussion

- Paper list will be given in the second week and article reading will be assigned.
- In each topic, we will discuss papers, some in quick reviews and some in details. Paper discussion will be initiated by faculty and students, and all students are expected to read class materials before class meetings.
- Doctoral students should prepare a document of discussion for each paper containing: (1) the research motivation and how it fits with the theory and existing empirical findings at the time, (2) the tested hypothesis, (3) the data and methodology, (4) the main findings, (5) comparison with prior papers, and (6) possible future research.
- Each master student needs to prepare a document of discussion (the same contents as listed above) for at least one paper discussed in one class meeting. If one student chooses the first paper, then his/her partner has to choose the second paper. Please be sure that partners share the documents of discussion with each other after finishing the writing, and that both read the documents before the class meetings in order to participate.
- All documents should be submitted to the designed class page at least one day before the class meetings; submission via email is NOT acceptable.

Term Project—Individual Research Proposal

- Master students are free to choose either group project or individual research proposal, but doctoral students are limited to individual research proposal.
- Students should present their research ideas on the 13th week. Before presentation, students need to upload a page of research idea to the webpage. All students are required to comment on others’ ideas.
- At the end of the semester, an oral presentation and a written report are required. Your proposal should include (1) a statement of the research objectives, (2) a review of related literature, (3) a
description of the features that a reasonable model of the situation should display, (4) a
description of the necessary data and the required statistical analysis, and (5) expected outcomes.

- The idea presentation date is December 6th, 2012, and the final presentation is January 3rd, 2012.
The submission date for the research proposal is January 10th.

**Term Project—Case Project (group)**

- Each group needs to write a library-based case, the topic of which should be related to the topics
covered in this semester.
- Please identify the case event before the mid-November, and present the story and the research
  method to the class on December 6th, 2011. After then, students should not change the firm(s)
  and case story.
- At the end of the semester (January 10, 2012), one presentation and a written report are required.
The contents on the presentation should be adequate and precise. The written report should
serve the readers being able to fully understand the contents of the project. In short, the written
report CANNOT be just a word file of presentation slides.
- Either in presentation or written report, what really matters are the analytical insights and
  interpretation, not the numerical calculation itself. That is, students should construct their
analysis based on reasonable setting and interpret their results logically. Be sure to demonstrate
all innovative efforts.
- One day before the presentation, all groups need to upload power point files to the designated
course page. In addition, a hard copy is needed on the presentation day. Similarly, written
report should be submitted in both forms of file upload and hard copy.

**Other Requirements**

- Students are expected to attend classes on time. Any late attending or early leaving will affect
  your participation grade.
- It is very possible to distribute some materials in class meetings. If you miss any class, you will
  not be given any make-up lecture and the class materials. You are responsible to make up
everything by yourself.
- Cellular phone and pager are supposed to be turned off or at least be in “vibrate” mode during
class meetings.