

Syllabus for MSMGT 780 Corporate Social Responsibility

Course Description

Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) and the organization: First and foremost, this course will enable students to understand the rationale behind CSR and sustainability. This course takes students through an evaluation of risks and potential impacts in decision making, enabling them to recognize the links between the success of an organization and the well-being of a community/society. Additionally, methods and standards of integrating CSR throughout an organization, creating metrics and communicating CSR policies internally and externally will be discussed, analyzed and applied. Students will develop an understanding of best practices of CSR in its entire breadth within an organization as well as delve into economic structures designed to foster more responsibility and accountability.

Course Learning Outcomes

- Understand and demonstrate the intrinsic interdependence between Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR), Corporate Governance (CG) and the plethora of issues/approaches facing the world today, first and foremost dealing with aspects of sustainability.
- Understand and demonstrate the underlying differences between CSR in divergent geographic regions of the world. This predominantly relates to institutional theory, agency theory and cultural divergence.
- Understand the roles of governments, corporations, legal systems, societies, individuals and the environment in the context of 'responsibility'.
- Understand, analyze, rationalize (defend) and formulate CSR mandates for companies.

Course Materials

Information on course materials can be found in the [textbook section](#) of the SMGT website.

Course Requirements

Written Assignments

The course has a high standard of writing and research reflective of graduate level study. All written assignments must reflect the best of your abilities; particularly your critical thinking, composition, and research skills. When complete, the documents you

compose should be of **publishable** quality, follow APA guidelines, and use scholarly resources. The expectation is that the quality of your assignments demonstrate the abilities of a graduate student in a high level course.

Discussion Assignments

The discussions will cover a variety of topics we will learn about during the semester and simulate a class discussion. Each of these online class discussions is worth 20 points; 15 points for your response to the questions and 5 points for a substantive comment to another classmate's response. Information discussed and covered in all forums is fair game for exams, as these are meant to be important interactive learning assignments.

Please do not copy your responses from the readings or from each other – you need to put your responses into your own words. Make sure that your comments add value to the discussion – in other words, you will not receive credit if you merely agree or disagree with someone else's comment without sharing your reasoning and adding value to the discussion. Detailed rubrics are given in the course.

Exams

There will be three exams during the semester. Each exam will be composed of multiple-choice, true/false, short answer, or essay type questions. Exams will cover posted lecture notes, cases, textbook reading, video, power point slides and any other class material.

Grading Policy

Item	% of Final Grade
Discussions (5; 20 points each)	10
Quizzes (7)	10
Exams (3; 50 points each)	27
Paper 1 (100 points)	50
Paper 1 Peer Review (100 points)	
Paper 2 (100 points)	
Paper 3 (120 points)	
Field Activity (40 points)	
Participation and Learning Attitude	3
Total Score	100

*Lowest discussion score and lowest quiz score will be dropped from the final grade.

Grading Scale

Percentage	Grade
94% - 100%	A
89% - 93%	A-
84% - 89%	B+
79% - 83%	B
74% - 78%	B-
69% - 73%	C+
64% - 68%	C
59% - 63%	C-
54% - 58%	D+
49% - 53%	D
44% - 48%	D-
43% and below	F