

Course Outline 2017
GLM 707 – Responsible Business and Sustainability (15 POINTS)
Semester 2 (1173)

Course Prescription

Engages with pressing contemporary topics such as corporate social responsibility, sustainability, ethical business and governance, Māori and indigenous leadership, the stakeholder approach to responsible business, and diversity and inclusiveness in organisations.

Restrictions: MGMT 733, 737

Programme and Course Advice

This course is designed to explore the critical social and economic challenges facing business as we look to the future and to examine the meaning of responsible business action within these contexts.

Learning Outcomes

By the end of the course it is expected that students will be able to:

1. Critically discuss the range of meanings associated with the concept of sustainability and responsible business leadership
2. Identify different types of actors, ideas and institutions that affect the economic, environmental and social sustainability of business operations.
3. Demonstrate a critical understanding of contending arguments about the relationships among business, politics, economic development, society and the physical environment.
4. Apply theoretical arguments about the actors, ideas and institutions that affect sustainable, ethical and responsible perspectives of business to specific contemporary situations and cases.

Content Outline

This course is designed to be responsive to both unfolding events and student interests and as such, the specific themes and issues involved will be determined in response to these. We will however be covering the following core themes:

- Climate change and resource scarcity
- Technological adaptation and innovation
- Social ethics and well-being
- Business, politics and power

- Indigenous perspectives and priorities

Learning and Teaching

The class will meet weekly for three hours and will be discussion-based. Students are expected to cover resources and contribute perspective in rigorous and thoughtful ways. This course is not designed for the passive learner who wishes above all for 'truth' to be presented to them in non-negotiable form and in signing up for the course, it is expected that students will have a mature perspective on the contentious nature of values and ethics. Accordingly, most of our time will be spent in discussion, debate and creative co-learning.

Through a blending of formal theory, collective discussion and personal reflection this class will provide learners with an opportunity to explore key contemporary issues in ways that are meaningful, relevant and personally empowering.

Teaching Staff

The course is co-taught by Dr Ross McDonald and Dr Rachel Wolfgramm. Contact details are as follows:

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Learning Resources

A wide range of mixed media resources will be posted on Canvas tailored to the on-going discussions we are having and the learning needs that these reveal. The resources used will come from a range of resources including documentaries, web-sites, the press and formal academic sources. They will be chosen for maximum rigour and relevance to our unfolding discussions.

Assessment

- Research Essay 30%
- Class Participation 10% (Leading seminar discussion/debate with topical issues)
- Practical Project 30% (Case Analysis plus Presentation)
- In class Test 30%

Final details and dates for these will be formalised in the first few weeks in consultation with the class. Taken together, these assessments will all contribute to achieving the stated goals of the course.

	Essay	Participation	Project	Test
Learning outcomes	1-4	1-4	1-4	1-4

Inclusive Learning

Every class contains a diverse range of individual perspectives, values and abilities and the collaborative nature of learning in this course is designed to build upon this diversity and richness.

Student Feedback

This course is designed to be highly responsive to student interests both in terms of content and process. It is then a format that allows students to have considerable input into the learning dynamics and to help target the flow of learning in ways that are constructive and helpful. A formal evaluation will be conducted at the end of the semester and the feedback used to shape future offerings of this course.