

SPRING QUARTER 2022 MGT 550

Thursdays 3:30 to 6:45 pm

WHY TAKE MGT 550?

To be an effective business leader, one must have a solid understanding of the role and responsibilities of Boards of Directors whether you work for one, aspire to board service or are looking for advice and assistance for your start up.

This class explores how effective boards provide competitive advantage and are a key factor in a company's long-term success. We also evaluate when board governance is asleep at the wheel or otherwise fails to execute their core responsibilities.

This course goes beyond the textbook and behind the headlines to bring you the perspectives of business leaders who serve as Independent Directors and /or CEOs of major corporations and emerging companies.

Join us to engage our weekly guest speaker in discussion on the real world of corporate governance. This is a great capstone course as without highly effective, responsible corporate governance, powerful strategy &/or competent functional leadership are much less likely to deliver sustainable success.

COURSE ELEMENTS

We will have 13 compelling guest speakers throughout the Quarter.

Students will be invited to meet with Neal & Eileen for an optional 60 minute "coffee" chat. We appreciate the opportunity to get to know our students. Discussion topics are determined by the student and have included aspects of the class, start-up concepts & advice, career questions, etc.

Each week, the class will discuss a current corporate governance event as detailed in business media.

Beginning the third week, teams of 4 students will present their research into governance issues in 15-minute presentations with 15-minute class discussion & feedback.

Grading for this course is based on 3 open-book quizzes on materials from the text and discussions with our guest speakers; a term paper (8-page limit); class participation; & team presentations.

AFFILIATED PROFESSORS

Neal Dempsey is a highly successful venture capitalist and has served on too many boards to count. A proud Husky, Neal is a long serving member of the Foster School Dean's Advisory Board. neald@uw.edu

Eileen O'Neill Odum is an independent director, board & audit committee chair after a 35-year corporate career. A proud Husky, Eileen is a long serving member of the Foster School Dean's Advisory Board. eodum@uw.edu

COMMENTS FROM 2021 STUDENTS

- "Great speakers. Great instructors. Very well organized."
- "I loved that we had 1:1 meetings with the professors."
- "This was truly an amazing experience. I learned and grew so much through this class. Thank you!"
- "Although any discussion of CEOs and board is naturally privileged, we've had some fantastic conversations around diversity and inclusion and what to consider when we reach that level."
- "In class I learned the foundational knowledge of the importance of these committees and was able to develop empathy for these board members. With this being my first project, my team was very surprised on how much I knew and was able to take ownership of developing recommendations. I often look back on our time last spring, very grateful to have had the opportunity to learn and grow with you both."

PAST YEARS' SPEAKER AFFILIATION EXAMPLES



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