



## Course and Examination Fact Sheet: Autumn Semester 2022

### 7,381: Public Corporate Governance

ECTS credits: 4

#### Overview examination/s

(binding regulations see below)

Decentral - Presentation (in groups - all given the same grades) (30%)

Examination time: term time

Decentral - Written examination (with defined exam duration) (70%, 90 mins.)

Examination time: term time

#### Attached courses

Timetable -- Language -- Lecturer

[7,381,1.00 Public Corporate Governance](#) -- Englisch -- [Schedler Kuno](#)

#### Course information

#### Course prerequisites

No specific prerequisites apply to this course.

#### Learning objectives

In this course, students advance their knowledge of public corporate governance, meaning the governance of state-owned enterprises (SOEs), at international level.

SOEs are companies in which the government, at different levels (e.g., central/federal, state/regional or local), exercises control through full, majority or minority ownership. SOEs provide a large part of the basic services to a country's population, with particular reference to electricity and gas, transportation, telecommunications and other utilities services, as well as banking and other financial services. SOEs are hybrid organisations as they are not only market-oriented, but also politically influenced. This complex institutional environment places high demands on the corporate governance of SOEs.

At the end of this course, students will be able to:

- Analyse the institutional framework, goals and policy role of SOEs in different countries;
- Describe challenges and solutions for corporate governance of SOEs, review international best practices and compare corporate governance concepts for SOEs across geographies;
- Apply the concepts of public corporate governance to gain insights into the functioning of different SOEs, and understand their relations with governments and other relevant stakeholders.

#### Course content

This course deals with the key principles and guidelines of corporate governance of SOEs. Using case studies, we will delve into the practical concepts of corporate governance of SOEs with the aim of enabling students to distinguish good from bad practices. The case studies discussed in class are typically of practical relevance for students in the field of international affairs, public management and governance.

Key contents presented during the lectures include:

- SOEs' role and diffusion in different countries
- SOEs as hybrid companies and key trade-offs involved
- Ownership function of the State
- Political influence on SOEs



- Outsourcing of tasks to SOEs, performance agreement and public procurement guidelines
- Strategic management of SOEs and the role of board of directors
- Performance of SOEs, transparency, accountability and controlling

## Course structure and indications of the learning and teaching design

This course takes place every fortnight and is based on lectures, discussions and group work.

Students are expected to attend all sessions of lectures and participate actively in discussions. In particular, during each session, students will be given time to discuss and summarise their learnings in the form of a "how to"-checklist covering the topics presented in the course. This will, hopefully, allow for a hands-on practical take-away of this course. Attendance of lectures is therefore essential for successful completion of the course.

Group work is a vital addition to the lectures, as it provides opportunities for students to deepen knowledge and apply the concepts of public corporate governance to gain insights into the functioning of different SOEs at international level.

## Course literature

No textbook is required for this course.

The course will be based on the following compendia of guidelines and practices:

- OECD (2015): OECD Guidelines on Corporate Governance of state-Owned Enterprises.
- OECD (2021): Ownership and governance of state-owned enterprises. A compendium of national practices.
- World Bank (2018): Corporate Governance of State-Owned Enterprises: A Toolkit.

A digital reader with additional required materials and cases for discussion will be made available on StudyNet.

## Additional course information

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## Examination information

### Examination sub part/s

#### 1. Examination sub part (1/2)

##### Examination time and form

Decentral - Presentation (in groups - all given the same grades) (30%)

Examination time: term time

##### Remark

Group project with one in-class presentation

##### Examination-aid rule

Presentations

In presentations, aids for visual presentation can be used. These aids can be specified or restricted by the lecturers.

##### Supplementary aids

No supplementary aids.

##### Examination languages

Question language: English

Answer language: English

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#### 2. Examination sub part (2/2)



## Examination time and form

Decentral - Written examination (with defined exam duration) (70%, 90 mins.)

Examination time: term time

## Remark

Final in-class individual written exam

## Examination-aid rule

Extended Closed Book

The use of aids is limited; any additional aids permitted are exhaustively listed under "Supplementary aids". Basically, the following is applicable:

- At such examinations, all the pocket calculators of the Texas Instruments TI-30 series and mono- or bilingual dictionaries (no subject-specific dictionaries) without hand-written notes are admissible. Any other pocket calculator models and any electronic dictionaries are inadmissible.
- In addition, any type of communication, as well as any electronic devices that can be programmed and are capable of communication such as notebooks, tablets, mobile telephones and others, are inadmissible.
- Students are themselves responsible for the procurement of examination aids.

## Supplementary aids

No supplementary aids.

## Examination languages

Question language: English

Answer language: English

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## Examination content

**Group presentation:** Students are divided in small groups (2-3 participants) and expected to apply the concepts of public corporate governance to analyse a relevant contemporary case involving SOEs in a selected industry and country. This group assignment is weighted 30% of the final course grade.

**Individual written exam:** At the end of the term, students complete a written exam containing open questions to verify the achievement of the learning goals on an individual basis. The exam takes place during the last session of the course. The exam is weighted 70% of the final course grade.

## Examination relevant literature

Examination is based on the compendia and digital reading materials made available through StudyNet at the beginning of the semester. Additional material will be uploaded before the respective session.



## Please note

Please note that only this fact sheet and the examination schedule published at the time of bidding are binding and takes precedence over other information, such as information on StudyNet (Canvas), on lecturers' websites and information in lectures etc.

Any references and links to third-party content within the fact sheet are only of a supplementary, informative nature and lie outside the area of responsibility of the University of St.Gallen.

Documents and materials are only relevant for central examinations if they are available by the end of the lecture period (CW51) at the latest. In the case of centrally organised mid-term examinations, the documents and materials up to CW 42 are relevant for testing.

Binding nature of the fact sheets:

- Course information as well as examination date (organised centrally/decentrally) and form of examination: from bidding start in CW 34 (Thursday, 25 August 2022);
- Examination information (regulations on aids, examination contents, examination literature) for decentralised examinations: in CW 42 (Monday, 17 October 2022);
- Examination information (regulations on aids, examination contents, examination literature) for centrally organised mid-term examinations: in CW 42 (Monday, 17 October 2022);
- Examination information (regulations on aids, examination contents, examination literature) for centrally organised examinations: two weeks before the end of the registration period in CW 45 (Monday, 7 November 2022).