IB9FT-15 Professional Ethics and Assurance

27/28

Department
Warwick Business School
Level
Taught Postgraduate Level
Module leader
Pauline Wu
Credit value
15
Module duration
2 weeks
Assessment
100% coursework
Study location
University of Warwick main campus, Coventry

Description

Introductory description

This module offers an in-depth understanding of professionalism and assurance, focusing on the assurance of both financial and non-financial information, including Environmental, Sustainability, and Governance (ESG) aspects.

Module aims

It briefly covers the practical processes of assurance provision and examines broader topics such as regulation, standardization, professionalism, oversight, and the role of auditing in society from various viewpoints. The module addresses key issues within the profession, such as assurance quality and ethical behaviour, encouraging exploration of academic research in these areas. Additionally, it aims to discuss contemporary challenges and developments impacting the profession, including AI, sustainability standards, and the future of professional ethics and assurance.

Outline syllabus

This is an indicative module outline only to give an indication of the sort of topics that may be covered. Actual sessions held may differ.

Professionalism- Theories of Professions (audit context)
Assurance process and provision
Key concepts relevant to assurance
Theories in audit
Regulatory framework of assurance
Current issues in Audit and assurance practice
Reporting and ESG in assurance

Learning outcomes

By the end of the module, students should be able to:

- Explain and apply concepts of audit and assurance in the contexts of financial reporting and, ESG / sustainability and integrated reporting
- Describe and apply the core principles of professional and corporate codes of ethics
- Demonstrate comprehensive understanding of the current issues in audit and assurance practice and the implications for organisations, practitioners and relevant stakeholders
- Demonstrate comprehensive understanding of the role of audit in society including the audit expectations gap
- Critically analyse differing audit perspectives
- Apply logical reasoning to justify actions by assurance providers in a given situation
- Demonstrate critical thinking in discussing theories relevant to audit and professionalism
- Critically evaluate the regulatory framework of assurance, professionalism, and sustainability

Indicative reading list

Reading lists can be found in Talis

Research element

The module will require research skills in terms of scoping relevant and seminal literature.

Subject specific skills

Understand the accounting discipline's generic research strains
Evaluate the role of Audit & Professionalism in society
Develop a notion of what professionalism entails and it’s application to audit and ESG within the context of the broader public interest
Participate in constructive dialogue as a means of responding to, and learning from, the feedback of others

Transferable skills

Demonstrate effective written communication skills.

Study

Study time

Type	Required
Lectures	9 sessions of 1 hour (6%)
Seminars	9 sessions of 1 hour (6%)
Online learning (independent)	9 sessions of 1 hour (6%)
Private study	49 hours (33%)
Assessment	74 hours (49%)
Total	150 hours

Private study description

Self study to include preparation for assessment and pre-reading for lectures and seminars

Costs

No further costs have been identified for this module.

Assessment

You do not need to pass all assessment components to pass the module.

Assessment group A2

	Weighting	Study time	Eligible for self-certification
Assessment component			
Indivdual Essay	100%	74 hours	Yes (extension)
Reassessment component is the same			

Feedback on assessment

Feedback via My.WBS

Availability

Courses

This module is Core for:

- Year 1 of TIBS-NL00 MSc Accounting and Sustainability