I. **General Information**  
Course number: ACCT 601  
Title: Corporate Governance & Financial Reporting  
Units: 4 credits  
Prerequisites: Graduate Standing  
Preparer: Dr. Sudha Krishnan  
Date Prepared: February 2012

II. **Catalog Description**  
Introduction to corporate governance, SEC and other reporting requirements of complex accounting policies in the US including exposure to financial accounting research relating to earnings quality and the stock market, current scandals and frauds. Laboratory and/or class computer applications required.

III. **Curriculum Justification**  
The curriculum is designed to teach (1) business functions by covering topics in financial reporting such as proxy documents, annual reports, MD&A, CD&A, corporate governance rules and reporting (2) business ethics by analyzing issues related to current frauds (3) leadership and team skills through the use of cases and (4) Domestic and global environment through the topic of corporate governance regulations in other countries and comparison to US regulations.

IV. **Course Objectives**  
- **Learning goals – Business Functions:** Students will learn about reporting requirements in the US for annual reports and proxy documents, corporate governance rules & regulations.  
- **Learning goals – Ethics:** Students will learn about current frauds, fraudulent financial reporting and SEC AAERs.  
- **Learning goals – Interpersonal, leadership & team skills:** Students will learn to work in teams while solving cases in class.  
- **Learning goals – Domestic and foreign environment:** Students will learn about corporate governance requirements in the US and other countries.

V. **Outline of Subject Matter**  
This is an example of a course schedule that may be changed to accommodate unpredictable variations in the pace of coverage, students’ needs and so on. If changes in the schedule are made, students will be held responsible for these changes as announced in class. The topics listed are typical of such a course. Additional topics can be added into the course based on the instructor’s personal preferences in teaching this course.
Topics

1. Corporate governance & mechanisms
2. Global corporate governance -- US, UK, Germany, OECD
3. SEC reporting – annual reports, quarterly reports, proxy documents, reports by foreign issuers, CD&A, SOX reporting, Corporate governance reporting
4. Updates on frauds – SEC AAERs, complaints, magazine articles

VI. Methods of Instructions (each instructor fills in their own methods used – as an example, see below)

- ACCT 601 is generally taught in sections with not more than 30 students. Class sessions usually feature discussions, cases (groups and individual) and presentations.
- There is no standardized text for all sections of ACCT 601. Some examples of the materials that are used include:
  - Textbook “Corporate Governance & Accountability” by Jill Solomon, Wiley
  - Textbook “Corporate Governance Matters: A Closer Look at Organizational Choices and Their Consequences” by David Larcker & Brian Tayan, Pearson
  - Articles from academic journals related to research on corporate governance.
  - Articles from non-academic magazines such as Fortune, Economist, Business Week etc. on current issues.
  - Online access to corporate financial reporting documents such as annual reports & proxy documents, EDGAR, SEC AAERs etc.
- Each instructor can decide on the structure of their exams and can make it multiple choice exams, exams with detailed essay questions or a combination of both.
- Instructors can use exams, cases, quizzes and other ways of assessing student learning in their classes and can specify such methods of grading in their syllabi.

VII. Instructional Policies

- Policy on Classroom Behavior:
  - All cell phones & other electronic devices (e.g. pagers, PDAs) must be put on vibrate or turned off and not on your desk during class.
  - Students are responsible for what transpired if they miss a class. It is the student’s responsibility to contact the instructor or a classmate to determine what was missed. See “Policy on Make-up Exam and Assignments” below.
  - Talking and other disruptive behavior are not permitted while classes are in session.
  - Students are expected and must do ORIGINAL work for all assignments, including exams. See “Academic Integrity” policy below.
  - It is the student’s responsibility to notify the professor in advance of a need for accommodation of a disability that has been verified by the University.
Standard Course Outline

Corporate Governance & Financial Reporting

- Policy on Make-up Exams and Assignments:
  - The instructor develops his or her own policy.

- Policies on Withdrawal, Late Withdrawals, and Incompletes:
  - The university policy on dropping and withdrawal from classes is set forth in the schedule of classes. Students are obligated to officially withdraw from their courses even though they may not have attended. Late withdrawals require the signature of the instructor, the chairperson and the dean of the college. A student must have a valid and documented reason for a late withdrawal or being assigned an incomplete for the course.

- Academic Integrity:
  - Students in this course will be expected to comply with the California State University, Long Beach Policy on Academic Integrity. Any student suspected of violating this obligation for any reason during the semester will be required to participate in the procedural process, initiated at the instructor level, as outlined in the University Guidelines on Academic Integrity. This may include, but is not limited to, the confiscation of the examination of any individual suspected of violating University Policy. Furthermore, no student may bring any unauthorized materials into an examination, including dictionaries and programmatic calculators. They must turn in their own work. Using someone else’s work as their own is also considered cheating and will be dealt with according to the University guidelines stated above. It’s the students responsibility to drop a course he or she does not plan to attend.

- Campus Computer/Network Usage:
  - Careful and ethical use of computing resources is the responsibility of every user. As a user of these resources, students agree to be subject to the guidelines of the “Policy Governing Access to and Use of CSULB Computing Resources”. These guidelines apply to all computing resources provided by the University; some guidelines are more directly related to time sharing systems, some to microcomputers and local area networks, and some to all systems.

- Disabilities:
  - Disabled Students Services (DSS): Students with disabilities are responsible for notifying their instructor as early as possible of their needs for an accommodation of a verified disability. A student with a disability is urged to consult with Disabled Student Services as soon as possible in order to identify possible accommodations to enhance academic success.