



COURSE DATA

DATA SUBJECT

Code: 44482

Name: Ethics and corporate social responsibility

Cycle: Master's Degree

ECTS Credits: 4

Academic year: 2026-27

STUDY (S)

Degree	Center	Acad. year	Period
2212 - Master's Degree in Business Management. MBA	Facultat d'Economia	1	Second quarter

SUBJECT-MATTER

Degree	Subject-matter	Character
2212 - Master's Degree in Business Management. MBA	Management skills, ethics and corporate social responsibility	COMPULSORY

COORDINATION

IBORRA JUAN MARIA

SUMMARY

The aim of the course is to improve knowledge of the problems that affect the management function in an economic, social and cultural context in which the integration of the new management approaches and models of responsibility and sustainability requirements constitute a normative requirement in the European Union.

The importance and current relevance of the notions of ethics and responsibility, as well as the meaning and scope of the theoretical, political and social debate on responsible policies, will be analyzed.

PREVIOUS KNOWLEDGE

RELATIONSHIP TO OTHER SUBJECTS OF THE SAME DEGREE

There are no specified enrollment restrictions with other subjects of the curriculum.

OTHER REQUIREMENTS



COMPETENCES / LEARNING OUTCOMES

2212 - Master's Degree in Business Management. MBA

Act in the company's decision-making within the framework of human rights, democratic principles, the principles of equality between women and men, solidarity, environmental protection, universal accessibility and design for all, and the promotion of a culture of peace.

Analyse, synthesise and evaluate information, in a rigorous and critical manner, and be able to identify assumptions, assess evidence, detect false logic or reasoning, identify implicit values, and generalise adequately about problems and situations related to the business world.

Know and identify the principles of action and master plans of corporate social responsibility that allow the implementation of strategies aimed at improving confidence in the company, the relations with its environment, its image, its legitimacy and its social prestige.

Make both individual and collective decisions in professional practice as a company manager.

Prepare, write and publicly present business reports and projects in a clear and coherent manner, defend them with rigour and tolerance and respond satisfactorily to criticisms relating to them.

Seek, select and assess information from the different actors in the environment, both through traditional methods and information and communication technologies, to use it effectively in the face of problems and situations related to business activity.

Students should apply acquired knowledge to solve problems in unfamiliar contexts within their field of study, including multidisciplinary scenarios.

Students should be able to integrate knowledge and address the complexity of making informed judgments based on incomplete or limited information, including reflections on the social and ethical responsibilities associated with the application of their knowledge and judgments.

Students should communicate conclusions and underlying knowledge clearly and unambiguously to both specialized and non-specialized audiences.

Students should demonstrate self-directed learning skills for continued academic growth.

Students should possess and understand foundational knowledge that enables original thinking and research in the field.

DESCRIPTION OF CONTENTS



1. Introduction to CSR

Historical evolution of CSR
CSR definitions and dimensions
CSR perspectives: ethics or aesthetics

2. Ethics in the management function

Ethical codes: utility and limitations
Key areas of interest
Consequences of ethical commitment

3. Corporate governance: good governance and corporate social responsibility

Introduction to corporate governance
Functions of the board of directors
Codes of good corporate governance

4. Stakeholders theory

Definition of interest group
Identification of stakeholders
Prioritization: descriptive criteria and normative criteria
Dialogue and participation with stakeholders

5. Tools for the application of CSR

CSR standards, norms and accreditations
GRI, PMNU and ISO26000



6. New topics in CSR: corporate social irresponsibility & whistleblowing

WORKLOAD

PRESENCIAL ACTIVITIES

Activity	Hours
Tutorials	16,00
Theory	24,00
Total hours	40,00

NON PRESENCIAL ACTIVITIES

Activity	Hours
Attendance at other activities	0,00
Individual or group project	0,00
Independent study and work	20,00
Preparation of lessons	0,00
Preparation for assessment activities	40,00
Resolution of case studies	0,00
Total hours	60,00

TEACHING METHODOLOGY

Participative sessions. Lectures, participative classes, conferences...

Participative forms. Analysis and resolution of cases and problems, workshops on analysis tools, presentations... (individually or in group).

Autonomous work. Reading articles and reports, carrying out work (individually or in a group).

Attendance at tutorials.

Independent study.

Written or oral exams.

EVALUATION



The subject is assessed by considering two dimensions of student assessment:

The first corresponds to continuous assessment based on the participation and involvement of students in the teaching-learning process, and will contribute 60% of the final mark. In relation to this evaluation criterion, aspects such as the production of individual reports and teamwork presented orally and in writing, attendance and active participation in the development of the classes as well as the understanding and ability to apply the main concepts, techniques and criteria that are the object of study will be assessed.

The second corresponds to the verification of the degree of comprehension and knowledge of the units taught in the work sessions, by passing the exam at the end of the course, which will contribute 40% of the final mark.

The mark obtained in the continuous evaluation process will be added to that obtained in the written test only if at least 5 out of 10 points are obtained in the mentioned exam. In the case of not passing the exam, the final score will be the weighted sum of the score of that test and the continuous evaluation, up to a maximum of 4.5 points.

Both dimensions are re-assessable.

REFERENCES

- Edward Freeman (1984) Strategic Management. A Stakeholder Approach. Pitman Publishing, Massachussets
- Amartya Sen (1997) Sobre ética y economía, Madrid. Alianza Editorial
- Donna Wood (2010) Measuring Corporate Social Performance: A Review. Internacional Journal of Management Reviews (50-84).
- Porter M. E. and Kramer M. R. (2011). Creating Shared Value, <https://hbr.org/2011/01/the-big-idea-creating-shared-value>, Harvard Business Review, January ¿ February: 1-17.



- Freeman, R.E.; Velamuri, S.R. ; Moriarty, B. (2006) Company Stakeholder Responsibility: a new approach to CSR, Business Roundtable Institute for Corporate Ethics
- Código Unificado de Buen Gobierno Corporativo. Informe Rodriguez. 2020. Comisión Nacional del Mercado de Valores
- Nueno, Pedro. El consejo 2020. Ed Lid
- Frynas, J.G. & Yamahaki, C.(2016): Corporate Social Responsibility: review and roadmap of theoretical perspectives, Business Ethics: A European review, 25 (3): 258-285
- Aguinis, H. & Glavas, A. (2012): What we know and don't know about Corporate Social Responsibility: a review and research agenda, Journal of management, 38 (4): 932-968.
- Riera, M. & Iborra, M. (2017). Corporate social irresponsibility: review and conceptual boundaries. European Journal of Management and Business Economics, 26 (2), 146-162.
- Iborra, M. (2014), ¿Hacia una teoría ética de identificación y relevancia de los grupos de interés: responsabilidad, intencionalidad y previsión, poder y dependencia, urgencia y vulnerabilidad?, Revista GCG, Vol. 8 No. 2, pp. 87-101, doi: 10.3232/GCG.2014.V8.N2.05.
- Carrau, R. 2019. Buen gobierno corporativo para PYMEs, Ed. Tirant lo Blanch.



- Mitchell, R.K.; Agle, B.R.; Wood, D.J. (1997), Toward a theory of stakeholder identification and salience: defining the principle of who and what really counts, *Academy of Management Review*, 22 (4): 859-886.
- Bradley, C.; Hirt, M and Smit, S. 2018. *Strategy beyond the hockey stick*. McKinsey & Co.
- Ley 2/2023, de 20 de febrero, reguladora de la protección de las personas que informen sobre infracciones normativas y de lucha contra la corrupción.
- Iborra, M. & Riera, M. (2023). Corporate social irresponsibility: What we know and what we need to know. *Corporate Social Responsibility and Environmental Management*, 30 1421-1439.