

COURSE SYLLABUS

Corporate Governance and Entrepreneurship, 5 credits

Corporate Governance and Entrepreneurship, 5 högskolepoäng

Course Code: J2CGAE	Education Cycle: Second-cycle level
Confirmed: Mar 25, 2026	Disciplinary domain: Social sciences
Valid From: Aug 31, 2026	Subject group: Business Administration
	Specialised in: A1N Second cycle, has only first-cycle course/s as entry requirements
	Main field of study: Business Administration

Intended Learning Outcomes (ILO)

On completion of the course you will be able to:

Knowledge and Understanding

1.1 Demonstrate current, advanced, and specialised knowledge (concepts, theories, frameworks) in the course content, applying and integrating this expertise to solve complex problems.

Skills and Abilities

2.1 Formulate relevant and feasible research questions and design appropriate research frameworks in the course content.

3.1 Produce well-structured, professional materials that demonstrate academic proficiency and adapt style and terminology to the target audience.

Judgement and Approach

5.1 Exercise initiative, creativity, and entrepreneurial mindset to achieve innovative solutions in situations characterised by uncertainty and ambiguity.

Content

Established corporations face mounting pressure to innovate while managing existing operations, yet most struggle to balance entrepreneurial initiatives with traditional governance structures. You need a sophisticated understanding of how corporate governance either enables or constrains entrepreneurial activity within large organisations. This course addresses the critical gap between governance theory and entrepreneurial practice, examining why some corporations successfully foster innovation while others stifle it through misaligned governance mechanisms.

You will examine governance structures specifically through an entrepreneurial lens, analysing board roles in innovation oversight, CEO and top management team relationships in driving corporate ventures, and ownership structures that support or hinder entrepreneurial activities. The curriculum covers corporate venturing strategies, portfolio management approaches, capital structure decisions for innovation funding, and external governance mechanisms, including auditor relationships and market pressures. You will study organisational design choices that create entrepreneurial environments and explore how different governance configurations impact innovative outcomes.

After completing this course, you will be able to evaluate corporate governance systems for their entrepreneurial potential and identify structural barriers to innovation within your organisation. You will be able to design governance frameworks that balance oversight with entrepreneurial venturing success, and assess capital structure strategies for funding innovation initiatives. You will further be able to make

recommendations for organisational change to support entrepreneurial activity while maintaining fiduciary responsibilities and stakeholder accountability.

Connection to Research

Throughout the course, you will be exposed to both the classics and the research frontier in corporate governance and entrepreneurship. The seminars will focus on reading and using academic texts, which are highly relevant to your progress towards a master's level of understanding. The course will also connect you to research performed at JIBS regarding Ownership, Entrepreneurship, and Renewal.

Connection to Practice

In the course, you will try to bridge the theoretical and practical perspectives mainly through guest lectures and group examinations connected to these guest lectures.

Connection to Ethics, Responsibility, Sustainability (ERS)

Ethics, responsibility, and sustainability are central perspectives for understanding contemporary corporate governance and entrepreneurship. As such, you will be introduced to ERS perspectives throughout the course. Especially your coursework with examination will expose you to ethical thinking and demand responsibility.

Type of Instruction

The course is on campus. It will be delivered through a series of seminars, lectures, and guest lectures. Seminars and guest lectures are part of the examination and hence compulsory to attend. You will work both individually and in groups.

Attendance is expected for scheduled on-campus sessions and may be compulsory for some sessions.

Language of instruction is English.

Entry Requirements

The applicant must hold the minimum of a Bachelor's degree (i.e the equivalent of 180 ECTS credits at an accredited university) in Business Administration, Economics, Industrial Engineering and Management, Communications, HR, Sociology, or related discipline. At least 30 ECTS must be in Business Administration. Proof of English proficiency is required.

Examination and Grades

The course is graded A, B, C, D, E, FX or F.

The Individual assignment is assessed through two parts: an individually written essay and active seminar participation (ILOs: 1.1, 2.1), representing 3 credits.

The Group assignment is assessed through active seminar participation including group presentations and seminar discussion (ILOs: 3.1, 5.1), representing 2 credits.

All parts of the compulsory examination in the course must receive a passing grade before a final grade can be set. Grades are set in accordance with JIBS grading policy.

Registration of examination:

Name of the Test	Value	Grading
Individual assignment ¹	3 credits	A/B/C/D/E/FX/F
Group assignment	2 credits	G/U

¹Determines the final grade of the course, which is issued only when all course units have been passed.

Course Evaluation

The course evaluation is important for the continuous improvement of JIBS' courses and degree programmes. The examiner is responsible for ensuring that each course is evaluated, but as a student you are essential in this process. We rely on your input to understand how we can improve. At the outset of a course the student representatives are identified. In the middle of the course there should be an opportunity for the student representatives (or a larger group of students) to share reflections on how the course is progressing. At the end of the course, you will get a course evaluation survey to fill in. The examiner will then host a debrief meeting with the student representatives to discuss improvement opportunities, based on the course evaluation data and comments.

Other Information

As a JIBS student, you are expected to maintain strong academic integrity. You must act within the boundaries of academic rules and expectations relating to all types of teaching and examination.

Copying someone else's work is a particularly serious offence and can lead to disciplinary action. When you use someone else's work without proper citation or transparency about where it came from, you are committing plagiarism. Cutting and pasting without clearly acknowledging the original source is a textbook example of plagiarism.

You must also act responsibly when using Generative AI tools. Acting responsibly includes staying informed about the school's AI-policy, understanding what rules apply in each course, and properly declaring or disclaiming any use of generative AI. You are accountable for all content you submit, including AI-assisted material. Using AI without disclosure or beyond what is allowed in a course is a violation of academic integrity and will be subject to the same academic consequences as other forms of misconduct, which may include failing the assignment, failing the course, or further disciplinary action according to school policy.

The Jönköping University library offers online and in-person support for assisting you in identifying relevant sources, using and referencing literature, and creating texts that meet academic standards and integrity.

Other forms of academic misconduct include (but are not limited to) adding your name to a project you did not contribute to (or allowing someone to add their name), cheating during an examination, helping other students to cheat or submitting other students' work as your own, and using non-allowed electronic equipment during an examination. All such actions may result in disciplinary measures.

Course Literature

Please note that the course literature may be revised up to eight weeks before the start of the course.

The course is article-based, reading list will be made available when the course starts.