Corporate Structure & Agency Problems: A 1-Week Deep Dive

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Toronto (Canada)



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Why This Course

In today's complex business environment, the design of corporate structures and the management of agency problems have become central to organizational effectiveness, accountability, and long-term sustainability. As businesses grow and stakeholder interests become more diverse, conflicts can emerge between shareholders, management, boards, and other parties. Understanding these dynamics is essential for strengthening governance, reducing risk, and improving strategic decision-making.

This intensive 1-week course delves into the complexities of corporate structures and agency problems, providing a comprehensive understanding of governance challenges in modern organizations. Participants will explore various business entities, analyze agency conflicts, and learn effective strategies to mitigate risks and optimize decision-making processes.

What You'll Learn and Practice

By joining this program, you will:

- Understand the intricacies of different corporate structures and their implications.
- Identify and analyze agency problems within various business entities.
- Develop strategies to address conflicts between shareholders, management, and other stakeholders.
- Evaluate and implement effective corporate governance mechanisms.
- Apply best practices in decision-making and risk management.

The Program Flow

Day 1: Foundations of Corporate Structure

- Overview of business organization types.
- Legal and financial implications of different structures.
- Agency theory and its relevance in corporate finance.
- Introduction to corporate governance principles.

Day 2: Agency Problems in Various Business Entities

- Sole proprietorships and partnerships.
- Limited Liability Companies LLCs.
- Corporations and shareholder-management dynamics.
- Nonprofit organizations and their unique challenges.



Day 3: Shareholder Rights and Conflicts

- Majority vs. minority shareholder issues.
- Institutional investors and their influence.
- Shareholder activism and its impact.
- Strategies for protecting minority interests.

Day 4: Management and Board Responsibilities

- Role of the board of directors.
- Executive compensation and incentive alignment.
- Decision-making processes and information flow.
- Risk management and internal controls.

Day 5: Implementing Effective Governance Solutions

- Corporate governance best practices.
- Regulatory frameworks and compliance.
- Ethics and corporate social responsibility.
- Case studies and practical application.

Individual Impact

- Strengthen your ability to identify and address agency conflicts in different business contexts.
- Enhance your understanding of corporate structures and governance challenges.
- Build stronger decision-making skills for managing stakeholder interests and organizational risk.
- Gain practical tools for applying governance mechanisms more effectively.

Work Impact

- Improve governance practices across different types of business entities.
- Strengthen alignment between shareholders, management, and other stakeholders.
- Reduce organizational risk through better controls, oversight, and decision-making.
- Support more effective implementation of governance frameworks and compliance practices.

Training Methodology

This program integrates governance principles, strategic analysis, and practical application to ensure real-world relevance and professional impact. Learning methods include:

- Real-world case studies on corporate structures and governance challenges.
- Practical exercises in identifying and resolving agency conflicts.
- Interactive workshops on shareholder rights, board responsibilities, and risk management.
- Group discussions on governance frameworks, ethics, and compliance issues.
- Frameworks and tools for improving governance effectiveness and stakeholder alignment.



Beyond the Course

Upon completion, participants will be better equipped to understand how corporate structures influence governance outcomes and how agency problems can be addressed through sound policies, controls, and decision-making practices. They will return ready to:

- Analyze corporate structures with greater clarity and strategic insight.
- Identify and manage agency conflicts more effectively.
- Apply stronger governance mechanisms across organizational settings.
- Support better risk management and stakeholder alignment in modern businesses.

