

**Module:** Corporate Governance and Accountability

**Allocation of Marks:** 30% Continual Assessment  
70% Final Examination

### **Intended Module Learning Outcomes**

On successful completion of this module, the learner will be able to:

1. Outline and discuss the law of agency, and distinguish between principal and agent and their rights and duties
2. Define Corporate Governance and evaluate its role and function in the effective management and control of organisations and the resources for which they are accountable
3. Compare and contrast the various mechanisms for the enforcement of Corporate Governance.
4. Identify, assess and evaluate the risks associated with a particular company and justify an appropriate strategy for mitigating and controlling the risks
5. Identify and evaluate different approaches to Corporate Social Responsibility and ethical decision making.
6. Demonstrate the application of professional values and judgement through an ethical framework that is in the best interests of business, society and the environment, and in compliance with relevant laws and regulations.

### **Module Objectives**

This module examines in detail the subject of Corporate Governance. The module assesses the importance of identifying, assessing, controlling and mitigating risk within the context of Corporate Governance. Learners also evaluate the objectives and importance of internal control systems. Learners gain an appreciation of corporate social responsibility and the risk it can create to an organisation. Learners gain an insight into ethical decision making.

### **Module Curriculum**

#### **Governance and responsibility**

- The scope of governance
- Agency relationships and theories
- The board of directors
- Board committees
- Different approaches to Corporate Governance
- Corporate Governance and Corporate Social Responsibility
- Governance: reporting and disclosure

#### **Identifying and assessing risk**

- Risk and its impact on organisations
- The risk management process
- The role of internal audit and board committees in the risk management process
- Categories of risk
- Identification, assessment and measurement of risk

**Controlling risk**

- Targeting and monitoring risk
- Methods of controlling and reducing risk
- Risk avoidance, retention and modelling

**Professional values and ethics**

- Consequentialism and Kantian Contractualism
- Different approaches to ethics and social responsibility
- Professions and the public interest
- Conflicts of interest and the consequences of unethical behaviour
- Ethical characteristics of professionalism
- Social and environmental issues in the conduct of business and of ethical behaviour