MODULE DESCRIPTOR

TITLE	AUDIT AND ASSURANCE			
SI MODULE CODE	44-6937-00L			
CREDITS	20			
LEVEL	6			
JACS CODE	N421 - Auditing of Accounts			
SUBJECT GROUP	FINANCIAL ACCOUNTING & MANAGEMENT ACCOUNTING - SBS			
DEPARTMENT	Finance, Accounting and Business Systems			
MODULE LEADER	Brian Pine			
NOTIONAL STUDY HOURS BY TYPE	Tutor-led	Tutor-directed	Self-directed	Total Hours
	36	72	92	200

MODULE AIM(S)

- Develop students' critical understanding of the nature and purpose of international auditing and of the commercial and regulatory systems within which it operates.

- Provide an understanding of the operation and relevance of information and control systems in modern business including international organisations.

- Develop students' knowledge of international practices, techniques and outcomes of the audit process.

- Enable students to critically evaluate contemporary issues in auditing in international organisations.

MODULE LEARNING OUTCOMES

By engaging successfully with this module a student will be able to

On completion of the module you will be able to:

1. Discuss and critically assess the role of the auditor as an agent of the shareholders of international companies and as a participant in the provision of assurance to shareholders and to those charged with the governance of international companies.
2. Identify and evaluate the dynamics of the audit role, including regulatory, professional, ethical and commercial aspects.
3. Critically explore the operation and effectiveness of organisational and system controls.
4. Demonstrate an ability to apply the processes by which by which the auditor assesses risk, collects and evaluates evidence and reaches an audit conclusion.
5. Critique and discuss the methodology of international audit reporting.
6. Formulate and discuss views on possible future directions of international auditing.

INDICATIVE CONTENT

These are examples of the content of the module

- Assurance engagements
- The history of auditing, including the international perspective
- Auditing postulates concepts
- Agency theory
- Comparative roles of the external and the internal auditor
- Professional ethics including independence and objectivity
- The regulatory framework of international auditing
- The audit process, including risk assessment, planning, collection of evidence and the auditor's report
- Current issues in auditing including corporate governance in international organisations

LEARNING AND TEACHING METHODS

Students will be supported in their learning, to achieve the above outcomes, in the following ways

Lectures

Lectures will be used to introduce the major concepts, principles and theories and practice relevant to each topic. Visual aids, such as PowerPoint, will be used in lecture sessions.

Seminars

Topics covered in lectures will be developed in subsequent seminar sessions. The more applied aspects of the subject will be largely case study based, while the theoretical aspects will be supported by directed reading and seminar session discussion. Topical issues will be introduced, wherever appropriate, supported by contemporary international news or journal articles. The international dimensions of the subject are strongly integrated into the teaching activities, including the use of appropriate case study material.

Students will normally be required to prepare answers to a series of problem and/or essay-based questions in advance of attending each seminar. These questions will be distributed   to ensure adequate preparation time for students.

Virtual Learning Environment (VLE) - Blackboard

The module has a dedicated Blackboard site, which students are expected to access on a regular basis. The Blackboard site is used to communicate information to students outside of contact sessions (via the 'Announcements' page). In addition, the blackboard site includes:

- An electronic (PDF) version of the module handbook
- Links to lecture/PowerPoint slides
- Details regarding assessments
- Additional topical and contemporary information with direct links to external websites.

ASSESSMENT STRATEGY AND METHODS

Assessment will involve one piece of coursework and a written time constrained examination. Coursework will encourage students to investigate, analyse and evaluate current problems in audit and assurance from both a practical and theoretical perspective.

Time will be allocated for staff and students to work through each other's expectations and understanding of the module's summative assessment tasks.

Task No.	TASK DESCRIPTION	SI Code	% Weighting of overall module mark	Word Count / Duration	In-module retrieval available	Percentage Pass Mark or Pass/Fail
1	Individual Coursework	Coursework	40	2000 words	No	
2	Examination	Examination	60	3 hours	No	

ASSESSMENT CRITERIA

This assessment grid relates to all six learning outcomes.

Fail	Pass	2.2	2.1.	First
Poor descriptive approach	Tendency to be descriptive	Sound analysis	Critical and reasoned analysis	Perceptive and insightful analysis
Few issues identified	Some issues identified	Identification of some key issues	Identification of key issues	Identification of key and potential issues
Very weak knowledge of topic	Limited knowledge of topic	Clear knowledge of topic	Good knowledge of topic	Excellent understanding of topic
Absence of or very Poor literature review	Weak literature review	Sound literature review	Critical consideration of literature	Perceptive critique of literature
Absence of concluding commentary	Some attempt to conclude	Competent attempt to conclude	Critical and reasoned conclusion	Perceptive and insightful conclusions

FEEDBACK

Students will receive feedback on their performance in the following ways

Formative Feedback

- Each class will provide students with the opportunity to discuss their answers to the seminar questions with their tutor and fellow students. So, at each session students will have the opportunity to receive formative feedback on their work.
- Formative feedback will also be provided by the module tutor.

Summative Feedback

- Summative feedback will be provided following the submission of the coursework as assignment for his module. Specific, individual feedback will be given by way of feedback sheets and where appropriate - verbally by the module tutor.
- Summative feedback will be available following completion of the examination Students will be provided with written feedback relating to their submissions and will be given the opportunity for individual feedback.

LEARNING RESOURCES (INCLUDING READING LISTS)

The module leader liaises closely with the University Learning Centre to ensure a wide variety of the latest books and articles are available to aid your studies. You will also be able to utilise the online journals database via the learning centre website. The module guide will outline key readings along with utilising the Tails reading list system.

Electronic copies of all teaching materials will be placed on Blackboard along with sample assessments, formative work, web links and additional resources. A discussion board will be available so that you are able to communicate with your fellow students and tutors.

Core Text:

ACCA F8 (Intermediate Level) Audit and Assurance

Principles of External Auditing - Porter, Hatherly, Simon.

SECTION 2 'MODEL A' MODULE (INFORMATION FOR STAFF ONLY)

MODULE DELIVERY AND ASSESSMENT MANAGEMENT INFORMATION

MODULE STATUS - INDICATE IF ANY CHANGES BEING MADE

NEW MODULE	No
EXISTING MODULE - NO CHANGE	No
Title Change	No
Level Change	No
Credit Change	No
Assessment Pattern Change	Yes
Change to Delivery Pattern	No
Date the changes (or new module) will be implemented	01/Sep/2014

MODULE DELIVERY PATTERN

Module Begins	Module Ends
08/Aug/2011	15/Apr/2012
17/Sep/2012	30/May/2013

Is timetabled contact time required for this module?	Yes

Are any staff teaching on this module non-SHU employees?	No

FINAL TASK

According to the Assessment Strategy shown in the Module Descriptor, which task will be the LAST TASK to be taken or handed-in? (Give task number as shown in the Assessment Strategy)	Task No. 2