Corporate Social Responsibility & Accountability in Rural & Indigenous Contexts

Course Information

Title: Corporate Social Responsibility & Accountability in Rural & Indigenous Contexts
Number: RD 671
Credits: 3 credits
Prerequisites: Graduate standing or permission of instructor
Recommended: RD 625

Monsma, Equal Rights, Governance, & the Environment, Integrating Environmental Justice Principals in Corporate Social Responsibility (p. 301)

Mungiu-Pippidi, A., The Quest for Good Governance: How Societies Develop Control of Corruption, 2015, Cambridge University Press (2015), ISBN 978-1-107-53457-5

Corporate Social Responsibility & Accountability in Rural & Indigenous Contexts

Course Description

RD F671 Corporate Social Responsibility & Accountability in Rural & Indigenous Contexts
3 Credits
Offered Spring Odd numbered years
Examination of the concept of corporate social responsibility (CSR) – a view of the corporation and its role in society that assumes a responsibility among firms to pursue goals in addition to profit maximization – and how CSR is played out in rural Alaska and other Indigenous contexts. Uses comparative case studies of international, national and rural Alaska organizational, economic, and societal issues with a special emphasis on transnational corporations, ANCSA corporations, tribal enterprises, and other businesses in rural Alaska and in other Indigenous contexts.
Prerequisites: Graduate standing; RD 625 recommended; or permission of instructor. (3+0)

Course Goals (general)

The goal of this course is to develop an understanding of the social issues facing modern corporations and how modern corporations in a globalized wired world are a part of the social and natural environments in which they operate and that in order to be successful in the medium and long run, then must be seen a legitimate and as offering value, including sculpting and evolving a sustainable business model where the business is both responsive and responsible. Students will examine the principles of CSR as applied to a variety of local, state, national, and international corporations.

Student Learning Outcomes (more specific)

Students will be able to:

- Define CSR and the major arguments surrounding it;
- Recognize the importance of a multi-stakeholder perspective;
- Discuss and critique the debates around who should be responsible (the firm, the stakeholders, and/or the consumers), to understand how firms integrate CSR into their strategic planning and day-to-day operations;
- Understand and evaluate the plan for how senior management might integrate CSR principles and engage dialogue with key stakeholders;
- Examine how CSR applies to transnational corporations, ANCSA corporations, tribal enterprises, and businesses in rural Alaska and other Indigenous contexts.
- Analyze the relationship between corporate social responsibility and traditional corporate roles.

- Develop recommendations to implement CSR within a particular corporation or economic sector.

Instructional Methods

The teaching techniques will include lecture, case study, student led small group discussion, use of Blackboard, and audio/video conferencing.

Course Calendar

	Topics	Readings	Assignments & Due Dates
Week 1			
Day 1	Introductions & Overview	Kivalina v. ExxonMobil Corporation, et al. (pp. TBD)	
Day 2	Defining CSR (core definitions & arguments)	C&W, Chapter 1 – What is CSR? (pp. 3-43) Plus selected Student Discussion Leader readings: C&V, Chapter 5, ANCSA: The Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act (pp. 165-198) Chafee, Business Organizations & Tribal Self-Determination: A Critical Re-examination of the Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act (pp. 101-155)	