

ICGN Certificate in Governance, Stewardship and Sustainability

Available as both the ICGN Certificate in Governance, Stewardship and Sustainability, accredited through our partnership with Bryant University, and as individual courses, this blended programme provides the fundamentals across the gamut of issues the investment professional should consider.

These courses are designed for governance and stewardship professionals, who may work with or advise institutional investors (asset managers and asset owners). They will also be valuable to professionals working for companies, service providers, regulators, standard setters and all those looking for a conceptual understanding of what Governance, Stewardship and Sustainability mean in today's corporate landscape and how they are implemented in practice.

Governance Fundamentals: learning objectives

As a result of this course learners will be able to:

- Articulate governance best practices in various markets in the context of best practice principles.
- Evaluate the strengths and weaknesses of different pay structures at companies, depending on local context.
- Describe the reporting frameworks for companies and articulate the effectiveness of safeguards for investor protection.
- Analyse auditor reports and assess the messages they communicate.
- Explain the mechanics of investor rights, including voting, in different markets.
- Analyse the governance qualities and weaknesses of companies from a range of geographies and ownership structures.
- Deploy the fundamental building block governance principles to clearly express arguments for needed change at companies.

Stewardship Fundamentals: learning objectives

As a result of this course learners will be able to:

- Articulate the purpose of stewardship and connect it to fiduciary duty, sustainability and day to day decision making.
- Employ stewardship best practices principles in the design and implementation of a stewardship programme (both for investors and companies).
- Differentiate between differing approaches to ESG investing and analyse the use of ESG data and ratings.
- Develop and implement stewardship programmes that involve a coordinated approach to monitoring, voting and engagement.
- Evaluate the strengths, weaknesses, evidence and ongoing challenges regarding healthy and meaningful stewardship activity.

Sustainability Fundamentals: learning objectives

As a result of this course learners will be able to:

- Explain the history of sustainability and its evolving relationship to capital markets participants (corporates, investors and market intermediaries).
- Articulate high profile examples of business and sustainability failures successes,
- Identify and describe the most significant sustainability-related investor and business challenges (e.g. biodiversity loss, human rights)
- Articulate risk-based methodologies for setting priorities when taking action.
- Describe current leading concepts, strategies (e.g. double materiality, planetary boundaries, rights of nature) and new technologies created to tackle key sustainability challenges.
- Articulate the current 'state of play' on sustainability reporting and initiatives.

For 2024 dates and course fees, please visit: www.icgn.org/gss