Course outline:
This course covers current issues in corporate finance and corporate governance, with an emphasis on empirical work published recently in leading finance and economics journals. Many of the assigned papers evaluate the relation between governance and shareholder value using a variety of different research strategies. The course will explore in depth the impact of recent regulatory reforms in corporate governance and disclosure, including the availability of new data sources for academic research. We will analyze the strengths and weakness of the papers on the reading list, attempting to gain insight into the authors’ choices about how to identify research questions, select appropriate methodologies, and formulate publication strategies. The course should help students identify opportunities for further advanced work in governance, compensation, and related fields.

The course will take place over three days, at the University of Zurich (room TBA):
- Day 1: May 14, 2-6 pm.
- Day 2: May 21, 2-6 pm.
- Day 3: May 26, 2-4 pm.

It will cover the following five topics:

I. How important is corporate governance? (Day 1)


II. Governance in Family Business Groups (Day 1)


III. Insider Trading and Its Interaction with Compensation (Day 2)


IV. Stock Options - Timing and Backdating (Day 2)


V. Recent Executive Compensation Topics (Day 3)


