

Scuola di Giurisprudenza
Università di Padova

Wake Forest University
School of Law



VISITING PROFESSOR **ALAN R. PALMITER** (WFU SCHOOL OF LAW)
THE LAW OF THE «SUSTAINABLE» CORPORATIONS

CORSO OPZIONALE IN LINGUA VEICOLARE

PALAZZO BO, AULA VIGINI, 3 MARZO – 29 APRILE 2020

L'insegnamento fa parte del Progetto per il Miglioramento della Didattica del DPCD (A.A. 2019-2020)

THE LAW OF THE «SUSTAINABLE» CORPORATIONS

WHAT? An elective course on Comparative Company Law

WHO? ...You ...and... Visiting Professor Alan Palmiter (Wake Forest University School of Law, NC, USA);

WHERE? Aula Vigini, Scuola di Giurisprudenza, Università di Padova;

WHEN? 3 March–29 April, 2020: Tuesdays, Wednesdays, Thursdays
10.30-12.30;

WHY? *Next slide, please*

HERE ARE FEW GOOD REASONS TO STEP OUT FROM
YOUR «CONFORT ZONE» AND DIVE INTO A NEW
LEARNING EXPERIENCE!

WHY should you choose to attend this course?

This seminar course.....

- a)will change your view of «Company Law»,
- b)will change your current experience of learning Law at the
University,
- c)will help you in getting ready for the tremendous changes our
global society will continue to face!
- d) ...and *it's short* (you will be through by the end of April!)

WHO WILL TAKE PART TO THIS COURSE?



Professor Alan Palmiter (Wake Forest University School of Law, NC, USA)

<https://law.wfu.edu/faculty/profile/palmitar/>

Prof. Palmiter already taught a Comparative Company Law course at our Law School few years ago; he is an internationally renowned expert of Business Law.....

.....AND.....

YOU!

(you need to speak English and to have passed the exam of *Istituzioni di Diritto Privato II*);

WHY SHOULD YOU CHOOSE TO ATTEND THIS COURSE?

SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS



This seminar course.....will help you in getting ready for the tremendous changes our global society will continue to face!

These are the challenging 17 sustainability goals UN Countries are expected to accomplish by 2030.

But what about large companies?

Today, the Modern Corporation is placed at the *intersection* of all these goals, as its size, its multinational reach, its «natural» ability to raise large amount of capitals, to influence political power, to remunerate investments, to hire labor force, to invest in cutting edge research and innovative technology and to compete in the globalized markets makes it the **principal actor of the current human evolution;**

WHY SHOULD YOU CHOOSE TO ATTEND THIS COURSE?

This seminar course..... will change your view of traditional «Company Law»:

- The course looks at the corporation's current design: its externalization of social costs (limited liability); the short-termism of corporate decision-making, the “group think” culture of corporate leadership, and corporate personhood (legal personality).
- It then considers some current responses to these *non-sustainable* attributes: **planet** (environmental liabilities), **people** (voluntary CSR movement), and **profits** (institutional shareholder activism).
- The course concludes by considering some *paradigm shifts*: revamped disclosure, new business forms, the corporation as integrated system, the corporation as moral agent, and re-conceptualizations of corporate leadership;



WHY SHOULD YOU CHOOSE TO ATTEND THIS COURSE?

Increase your awareness of current global changes that will inevitably affect your future as a citizen of the World

At the end of this course you will be able to critically detect the «sustainable» principles of the modern enterprise that takes the legal form of a «company» and to contrast them with the «non-sustainable» rules in the light of the tremendous changes globalization of the economy brought about.



WHY SHOULD YOU CHOOSE TO ATTEND THIS COURSE?

This course will change your view of traditional «Company Law»

The course offers you a chance to explore the *modern corporation*, its essential design, the current efforts to re-design the corporation in the light of the “sustainability” principles, and new corporate paradigms.

The course is organized into five Units:

Unit 1 (two weeks): Introduces the basics of company law;

Unit 2 (one week): Describes the non-sustainability of the corporation’s current design;

Unit 3 (two weeks): Analyzes trends (triple bottom line: *planet, people, profits*) to temper this non-sustainability;

Unit 4 (one week): Identifies proposals to refashion the corporation;

Unit 5 (one/two week): Offers ways of rethinking the nature of the corporation;

Thus, over the course of eight weeks, you will be exposed to some deep contemporary problems involving the modern corporation, in a comparative perspective, as well as some tentative solutions.

WHY SHOULD YOU CHOOSE TO ATTEND THIS COURSE?

This seminar course will change your current experience of learning Law at the University:

- **Classes are “interactive”**: basic knowledge is acquired by reading materials assigned for each class and discussions will always be triggered by cases or excerpts of articles and or tables of data about “*sustainability*”; students will answer quizzes at the end of each Unit
- **Students work in groups on weekly basis**, submit reflection papers for each Unit, and **write a paper at the end of the term** on a “corporate sustainability” topic of their choice;



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WHY? A seminar course that will change (a) your view of «Company Law», (b) your current experience of learning Law at the University, and (c) that will help you in getting ready for the tremendous changes our global society will continue to face! (d) it is a “short” (condensed) course: you will be through by the end of April 2020

Need more info about this course?

YouTube course intro video by professor Palmiter: <https://youtu.be/Wu63lNVNjys>

and you can contact me via email: m.bianchini@unipd.it