



Empowering Tomorrow's Boardroom Leaders

**CORPORATE DIRECTOR
ACADEMY**

Elevate Your Journey to Boardroom Success



Corporate Directorship Course

We're boldly positioning corporate leaders to claim their seat at the boardroom table.

- Actionable tools, frameworks, and strategies for real-world application.
- Focused on the power and influence of robust governance practices.
- Cultivating leaders who drive transformative change in corporate governance.
- Offering a nurturing and supportive learning atmosphere.
- 85.7% of members recommend this course to their network.

In Strategic
Partnership with



Elevate Your Journey to Boardroom Success | 2



It has opened my eyes to my strengths and weaknesses. The resources that he suggested will make me unstoppable!

Kimberly Jackson ★★★★★



The course demystifies the corporate board's inner workings and hidden mechanisms. The focus on building relationships and your brand anchors an effective search and recruitment strategy. The course provides an effective framework for understanding corporate boards and a proven roadmap for preparing to serve as a board director.

Bryan Foston ★★★★★



The Corporate Board Director course was absolutely phenomenal. The content was high quality and very useful. The monthly sessions were very inspiring and have prepared me for the journey to become a Corporate Board Director. I highly recommend this course.

Karen D. Horry ★★★★★



As an aspiring corporate director, I highly recommend this course for everyone who is serious about pursuing a corporate board position. Not only did I enjoy the flexibility of the self-paced course, but I also appreciated being able to take the course and attend the virtual live sessions from a country outside of the U.S., Learning from real-life experiences. Dr. Soaries shared in each module has helped me become corporate director-ready. I'm glad I invested in myself by signing up and completing the online course.

Sharon M. Biggs, Ed.D. ★★★★★

Corporate Director at a glance:

Once our members complete the course, they are corporate board-ready.
Over 25% of graduates have landed board interviews.

[ENQUIRE NOW](#)

In Strategic
Partnership with



Format
Self-paced, online



Program duration
12 months



Modules
15 modules



Assessments
14 knowledge check
quizzes & 15 assignments



Contact hours
10 hours



Accessibility
Available on any device



Quarterly Q&As



Fees
\$5,000



Coaching
Executive & Resume

Seven reasons to become a member

01.

Boardroom Readiness: Preparing members to make a meaningful impact as corporate directors

02.

Strategic Pathway: A structured pathway designed to propel members toward boardroom success, offering a clear trajectory and guidance on achieving corporate director goals

03.

Supportive Community: Engage with a supportive and vibrant community that shares insights, experiences, and advice, creating a conducive environment for growth and learning.

04.

Networking Opportunities: Connect with a diverse community of peers, professionals, and board members, fostering valuable connections that can lead to board opportunities and collaborations.

05.

Expert Mentorship: Gain invaluable insights from industry leaders and experienced mentors who guide and mentor members through the complexities of the boardroom landscape.

06.

Comprehensive Education: Access an extensive curriculum covering every aspect of corporate directorship, providing a thorough understanding of governance, leadership, and boardroom dynamics.

07.

Learning Culture: The Corporate Director Academy fosters a culture of continuous learning, providing updates, insights, and resources, ensuring members remain informed and adaptable in the ever-evolving landscape of corporate governance

Your learning experience

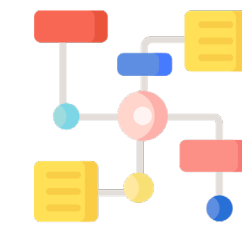
There are 15 modules in the Corporate Director Academy course. Each chapter is broken down into modules taught by our faculty.



Get real-world insights from corporate governance case studies.



Assess your knowledge after each module with quizzes.



Acquire pragmatic governance frameworks for effective practices.



Engage in discussions and network with fellow leaders.



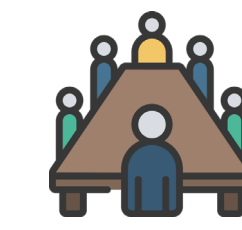
Receive continuous support and guidance from our approachable Support Team.



Access tools, templates, and guides for assessments.



Achieve your corporate governance certificate through 15 online assignments.



Initiate the application of your corporate governance training within the boardroom setting.

Our team of experts:

You'll receive instruction from top-tier business and corporate governance professionals committed to nurturing the next wave of corporate leaders to drive positive impact and advancement globally.



Dr. DeForest B. Soaries, Jr.



As the visionary founder of the Corporate Director Academy, DeForest B. Soaries Jr. leverages the extensive experience and wisdom he has gained from serving on numerous corporate boards.

Recognized as a respected corporate leader, DeForest brings his unparalleled governance, strategy, and leadership expertise to the forefront of the Academy's mission. With a deep commitment to advancing diversity, inclusivity, and ethical decision-making in boardrooms, he has established the Corporate Director Academy as a transformative platform for empowering aspiring corporate directors.



Donna M. Hughes, JD, ACC



Donna M. Hughes, JD, ACC, is a credentialed executive coach, business owner, former chief human resources officer, and legal executive. She has 25 years of senior leadership experience, including roles in Fortune 500 global organizations and a multibillion-dollar not-for-profit organization, spanning the healthcare, life sciences, and retail sectors.

Throughout her career, Donna has led teams through pivotal moments of massive change, including mergers and acquisitions resulting in double-digit growth, business turnarounds, crises, and winddows.



Kwabena Yamoah, MA, MPA, LPC, NCC



Kwabena Yamoah is a driven, multifaceted individual with unique skill sets as he supports the professional needs of executives. Currently pursuing his Ph.D. at Oregon State University, he brings a distinguished academic background, having completed earlier education with two master's degrees - one each from Northwestern University and Kean University, along with a bachelor's degree from Rutgers University.

With a nearly 20-year federal service career managing over \$500M in appropriated funding, Kwabena partnered and spearheaded the assessment and development of international training.

Our faculty members have worked with and served on



Modules 01 - 15

What you will learn:

Corporate Director Academy will equip you with essential tools for sharper board direction.

On completion, you will gain a deeper insight into board dynamics and enhance your ability to elevate board value. Our modules are foundational pillars fueling your career growth.



- 01 Welcome to the Corporate Director Academy
- 02 Corporate Governance 101
- 03 Corporate Boards Today
- 04 Corporate Need for Diverse Leadership
- 05 Will Becoming a Corporate Director Ever Happen?
- 06 Know What You Have to Offer
- 07 How Boards Select New Members
- 08 Researching Companies
- 09 Choosing Areas of Personal Focus
- 10 Understanding the Commitment
- 11 Managing Interviews
- 12 Honoring Your Brand - Managing Your Reputation
- 13 Understanding Compensation
- 14 Investing in Your Vision of Becoming a Director
- 15 Once You Are A Director

Module 01

Module 1 sets the stage for an enriching learning experience that combines practical wisdom, real-world insights, and the fundamentals of personal growth essential for corporate governance leadership.

Dr. Soaries, a seasoned figure with vast experience in corporate governance, will guide your understanding of the importance of personal development in your pursuit to become a confident and effective corporate director.

In this module, you'll cover

Module 1 Welcome to the Corporate Director Academy

- Intro to Dr. Soaries
- Intro to The Pound Cake Company
- Personal Development

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Module 02

In this module, you will delve into the various categories of corporations and the unique role that a Corporate Director plays concerning the day-to-day management of the corporation.

You will also examine how the areas of expertise gained over your career can be leveraged to make meaningful contributions as a Corporate Director. By exploring the distinction between policy and management, you will understand how the Board of Directors operates and its critical responsibilities in ensuring the corporation's success.

By the end of this module, you will have developed a robust understanding of the critical role that Corporate Directors play in corporate governance and be equipped with the knowledge and skills necessary to begin a successful career as a Corporate Director.

In this module, you'll cover

Module 2 Corporate Governance 101

- What is a corporation?
- How do for-profit and not-for-profit organizations operate?
- Who operates corporation companies?

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Interactive Quiz

Module 03

This module is designed to provide you with an in-depth understanding of the three key areas of Corporate Board Committees. You will explore the different types of Standards that committees must adhere to and the responsibilities associated with these functions, using a wealth of real-world examples to provide a comprehensive overview.

Furthermore, we will examine how to effectively present your skills, experience, and expertise to a board as a potential committee member. This reflective exercise will enable you to critically assess your strengths and how they can be leveraged to contribute meaningfully as a committee member. By the end of Module 3, you will have developed a robust understanding of the critical responsibilities associated with Corporate Board Committees and be equipped with the knowledge and skills necessary to present yourself as a valuable potential committee member.

In this module, you'll cover

Module 3 Corporate Boards Today

- Areas of Corporate Board Committees
- Committee standards

Features

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Interactive Quiz

Module 04

Module 4 focuses on the critical importance of diversity in corporate governance and the different types of corporate committees. In today's world, corporation boards should be led by individuals from a range of backgrounds and experiences to ensure that decision-making is inclusive and considers multiple perspectives.

Additionally, this module emphasizes the significance of legally protected characteristics such as race, gender, and age in ensuring that diversity is truly representative and inclusive.

Finally, the module highlights the power of diverse thinking within oneself and how it can enhance decision-making and problem-solving in the workplace.

In this module, you'll cover

Module 4 Corporate Need for Diverse Leadership

- Importance of diversity in corporate governance
- Different types of corporate committees
- Legally Protected Characteristics

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Interactive Quiz

Module 05

Module 5 addresses the common barriers that individuals face when trying to become a corporate director, and strategies for overcoming these obstacles. The module explores various factors hindering progress, such as lack of network connections, limited access to relevant experience, and unconscious biases within the industry.

The module also offers actionable steps for breaking down these barriers, such as building a strong personal brand, developing a clear and concise value proposition, and actively seeking networking opportunities.

Furthermore, the module highlights the non-verbal signs that can signal a negative reputation when attempting to become a corporate director. By being aware of these signs and taking steps to improve one's reputation, individuals can increase their chances of success in the competitive world of corporate governance.

In this module, you'll cover

Module 5 Will Becoming a Corporate Director Ever Happen?

- Common barriers
- Strategies for overcoming barriers
- Reading signals

Features

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Interactive Quiz

Module 06

Module 6, which focuses on the importance of self-reflection and maximizing one's skill set to advance in the journey towards becoming a corporate director. The module explores various strategies for identifying one's strengths and leveraging them effectively to achieve success in the corporate world.

Through self-assessment tools, case studies, and practical exercises, the module guides learners in identifying their unique strengths and how they can add value to different companies. The module also examines the various types of companies, from regional to start-ups, and how the unique characteristics of each can inform an individual's career goals and skill development.

By emphasizing the importance of self-awareness and continual learning, the module empowers learners to take control of their career paths and make informed decisions about the types of companies and roles that best align with their strengths and goals. Ultimately, this module equips individuals with the tools to maximize their potential and succeed as corporate directors.

In this module, you'll cover

Module 6 Know What You Have to Offer

- Maximizing skill sets
- Leveraging strengths

Features

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Interactive Quiz

Module 07

Module 7, which provides valuable insights and practical guidance on how to identify and pursue board vacancies, along with strategies for maximizing the selection process when presented with opportunities.

Additionally, the module explores best practices for optimizing the board selection process, such as preparing a compelling board resume and leveraging personal networks and professional affiliations. By providing a comprehensive toolkit for pursuing board vacancies and maximizing the selection process, this module empowers learners to take proactive steps toward achieving their career goals as corporate directors.

Overall, Module 7 is an essential resource for anyone seeking to navigate the complex and competitive world of corporate governance and provides a clear path toward success in finding the right board position.

In this module, you'll cover

Module 7 How Boards Select New Members

- Board Vacancies
- Maximizing the selection process
- Board Resume

Features

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Module 08

Throughout module 8, you will learn how to identify key financial metrics, such as revenue growth, profitability, and liquidity ratios, that can help you evaluate a company's performance and identify areas for improvement. You will also explore different methods for assessing a company's market position, competitive advantage, and overall business strategy.

In addition, this module will help you understand how to leverage your unique skill set to contribute to a company's success as a board member.

By the end of this module, you will have the tools and knowledge necessary to research potential board opportunities and confidently articulate how your skills and experience align with the company's needs. Whether you are a seasoned executive or a first-time board member, this module will provide valuable insights and strategies for making informed and impactful decisions in your board role.

In this module, you'll cover

Module 8 Researching Companies

- Financial Metrics
 - Revenue growth
 - Profitability
 - Liquidity Ratios
- Difference between public and private companies
- 10-K vs. 10-Q

Features

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Module 09

Module 9 is designed to help you learn how to identify your industry specialization and how to leverage volunteer work to gain valuable experience and develop skills that are transferable to a corporate board role.

By the end of this module, you will gain an understanding of the different industry focuses when choosing a corporate director role, as well as the skills and experience needed to be an influential board member. Whether you are a seasoned executive or a first-time board member, this module will provide valuable insights and strategies for making informed decisions and taking your board career to the next level.

In this module, you'll cover

Module 9 Choosing Areas of Personal Focus

- Industry Specialization
- Transferable Skills
- Leveraging Work Experience

Features

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Interactive Quiz

Module 10

Module 10, highlighting the critical importance of committing to a corporate board role. This module will delve into the significant time and energy investment required to be an influential board member and the commitment and dedication necessary to drive organizational performance and create long-term value for stakeholders.

In addition to time commitment, this module will explore the importance of dedicating yourself to continuous learning and development as a board member.

Whether you are a seasoned executive or a first-time board member, this module will provide valuable insights and strategies for maximizing your impact and driving success in your board role.

In this module, you'll cover

Module 10 Understanding the Commitment

- The Critical Importance of Commitment
- Investment in Time
- Continuous Learning and Development

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Module 11

Module 11 delves into the intricacies of the interview process for a corporate board position. If you're vying for a board seat, you must understand how to persuade the interview panel or search firm that you're the perfect candidate for the job. This module will provide the tools and insights to communicate your value proposition, demonstrate your qualifications and experience, and highlight your relatability to a potential corporation.

You'll discover the best ways to showcase your strengths and expertise, how to communicate your vision and strategy for the board, and how to articulate your leadership qualities.

Whether you're a seasoned executive or a rising star, Module 11 will equip you with the skills and confidence to excel in the interview process and secure your place on a corporate board.

In this module, you'll cover

Module 11 Managing Interviews

- The Interview Process
- Interview Panel
- Search Firms

Features

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Course Material

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Module 12

In Module 12, you'll explore the concept of personal branding and how it can be a game-changer in the directorship process.

Through this module, you'll learn how to establish and cultivate your brand and how to be known for your unique skills, expertise, and values. You'll discover the power of people's perceptions and how they can impact your success as a candidate for a board position.

This module will teach you how to develop a brand that distinguishes you from the other candidates and showcases your strengths. Your brand could decide if you are up against a similar candidate.

In this module, you'll cover

Module 12 Honoring Your Brand - Managing Your Reputation

- Personal Branding
- Power of Perception
- Showcasing Strengths

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Course Material

Interactive Quiz

Module 13

Module 13 delves into the various ways you can be compensated for your time as a board member, whether it be for a for-profit or not-for-profit organization. While the allure of receiving stocks and cash may seem enticing, it is essential to understand the limitations and considerations of each form of compensation.

Through this module, you will explore the pros and cons of different types of compensation packages and gain a comprehensive understanding of how they work, the different forms of equity compensation, and the various ways they can be divided up throughout the year.

Module 13 will provide the insights and knowledge you need to make informed decisions about your compensation and set yourself up for success as a board member.

In this module, you'll cover

Module 13 Understanding Compensation

- For-profit vs. Not-for-profit Compensation
- Compensation limitations
- Equity Compensation

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Video Content

Case Study

Course Material

Interactive Quiz

Module 14

Module 14 is all about taking the knowledge and skills you've gained throughout the previous modules and putting them into action to achieve your goal of becoming a corporate director.

By the end of this module, you'll have a comprehensive understanding of the critical investments you need to make to achieve your goal of becoming a corporate director. You'll have the knowledge, skills, and confidence to position yourself as a top candidate and secure a board position that aligns with your values and interests.

In this module, you'll cover

Module 14 Investing in Your Vision of Becoming a Director

- Investing in your goals
- Positioning yourself
- Aligning the knowledge and skills gained

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Video Content

Case Study

Course Material

Interactive Quiz

Module 15

Module 15 delves into DeForest’s “why” for becoming a director, explores the most critical unwritten rules that every director should know, and equips you with the knowledge and skills you need to become a valuable asset to any board.

Whether you are new to the role or seeking to enhance your skills, this module is designed to help you navigate the complex world of corporate governance. By the end of this module, you will have a deeper understanding of what it takes to become a successful board member and how to make a meaningful impact on the companies you serve.

In this module, you’ll cover

Module 15 Once You Are A Director

- Understanding your ‘why’
- Unwritten rules
- Ineffective vs. Effective

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Video Content

Case Study

Course Material

Interactive Quiz

Are you prepared to progress further?

Our dedicated team is here to assist you. Reach out to discover more about our academy, faculty members, program content, our accomplished alums, and, most importantly, how we can help you achieve your governance career aspirations.

Ready to start?

Enquire further

✉ info@corporatedirectoracademy.com

🌐 www.corporatedirectoracademy.com

