

Fall 2013 Course Syllabus
ACCT 5340 – Oil and Gas Taxation

COBA – University of North Texas
Denton and
Offices of Huselton, Morgan & Maultsby, PC
12221 Merit Drive, Suite 1800, Dallas, TX 75251

Class Times 9/3/13 – 12/10/13 – Tuesdays 6:30 PM to 9:20 PM

Instructor Contact Information

Instructor	Vance Maultsby
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Email Address	vance.maultsby@unt.edu
Office Hours	(by appointment)

Teaching Assistant	Randy Garcia
Phone	
Email Address	

I expect to contact you periodically via email. Check your email to ensure you are up to date on announcements, handouts for class or other information. If any handouts are required, I will post them by noon on the day of class. Please bring any required handouts to class.

Course Prerequisites

ACCT 5300 or ACCT 4300

Course Description

The course focuses on tax problems relative to the oil and gas industry. Topics include acquisition, operation, and disposition of natural resource properties; preproduction expenditures, depletion, depreciation, and ad valorem taxes; tax planning for natural resource investment; and other relevant industry tax topics.

Course Objectives

This course has been designed to provide an in-depth study of key Federal income tax provisions affecting the oil and gas industry, with primary focus on the exploration and production, or "upstream" sector of the industry. The course will cover the conceptual aspects of oil and gas taxation, as well as the practical application of the applicable provisions.

Required Textbook and Resources

Oil and Gas Federal Income Taxation 2013 Edition, by Hennessee and Hennessee - ISBN 978-0-8080-2490-3. Also, students will need access to the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended, the regulations thereunder, opinions of courts with jurisdiction over Federal income tax law, and IRS rulings and procedures (including private letter rulings). Students need to have access to Microsoft Excel and some familiarity therewith, as well as access to the internet.

Statement on Cooperation for Disabled Students

The College of Business Administration complies with the Americans with Disabilities Act in making reasonable accommodations for qualified students with disabilities. If you have special needs addressed by the American with Disabilities Act, notify me and reasonable efforts will be made to accommodate your special needs.

Special Medical Condition

In case of an emergency, a student with known special medical condition should notify me of this medical problem. Information shared with an instructor is protected under the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) regulation.

Statement on Academic Honesty

I expect students to behave ethically and with academic honesty. Plagiarism and cheating will not be tolerated. The term plagiarism includes, but is not limited to, the use, by paraphrase or direct quotation, of another person's work without acknowledgement. Cheating includes, but is not limited to, use of unauthorized assistance in taking exams or research assignments.

I may compare written assignments with TurnItIn.com to check for plagiarism. A student who has knowledge of a fellow student cheating should report that incident; failure to do so is the equivalent of cheating.

All students found guilty of cheating or plagiarism may (at a minimum) receive an F in the course and could be expelled from the university.

Grading System

Your final grade in this course will be determined as follows:

Examination I	25%
Examination II	25%
Examination III (Final Exam)	25%
Quizzes and homework	15%
Class Participation	5%
Group project/case studies	<u>5%</u>
Total	100%

The letter grade will reflect your performance relative to the class and standards expected of graduate students and ***no extra credit or other special assignments will be given to any individual student.*** The grade cutoffs for this course are generally expected to be A: 90%, B: 80%, C: 70%, D: 60% and F: less than 60%.

Class Participation and Preparation

The participation portion of your score is primarily awarded based on successful presentation of homework assignments to the class or successful presentation of answers to complex class problems. Each class problem eligible for credit will be identified as such. There will be enough opportunities for everyone to earn a full class participation and preparation amount.

Quizzes

You should read the chapters and complete assigned homework (see attached course schedule) in advance of scheduled class. Students should be ready to take a short quiz over chapter material in class. **There will be a significant number of quizzes during the semester.**

Homework

Each week I will provide you with reading assignments, discussion questions, exercises and/or problems to be completed by the next class. Successful completion of homework should have a direct correlation with successful completion of the quizzes and performance on examinations.

Examinations

Examinations will be given in class on the dates indicated in the *Tentative Class Schedule* and results will be reviewed in the following class. There will be no makeup exams. If you miss one of the first two exams with an excused absence, (documented medical excuse, etc.) the final examination will be double-weighted in calculating your final grade. You should notify me before a test, if you have a valid reason for not being able to attend, i.e., illness, accident, etc. A missed test will count as a zero (0) unless there is a documented, university accepted, excuse for missing the examination. All examinations will be comprehensive and ***anything discussed in class, whether covered in the text or not, may appear on tests.*** All tests will be retained for one year and then destroyed.

Note: Calculators will be provided, if necessary. No other electronic devices will be allowed during the tests. Any student having an electronic device during a test with capabilities such as photo imaging, text messaging, or internet access will be using unauthorized materials (see the Scholastic Honesty section).

Contacting Instructor

The best way to contact me is use my email address vance.maultsby@unt.edu; I check my email daily. Please place your name on your email. I will not respond to emails from addresses that are not recognizable or emails without names included therein.

W/WF Grading Policy

The accounting department strictly enforces university policy with respect to W/WF grades. Thus, if you drop this course after October 8th, you must have a passing average to receive a W grade.

SETE

The Student Evaluation of Teaching Effectiveness (SETE) is a requirement for all organized classes at UNT. This short survey will be made available to you online at the end of the semester. This will, provide you a chance to provide input about this class. I am very interested in the feedback I get from the students and encourage you to complete the survey. I consider the SETE to be an important part of your participation in this class.

Acceptable Student Behavior

Student behavior that interferes with an instructor's ability to conduct a class or other students' opportunity to learn is unacceptable and disruptive and will not be tolerated in any instructional setting.

Tentative Class Schedule

Week	Date	Topic	Chapter(s)	Suggested Questions/ Exercises/Problems
1	9/3	Course Introduction An Introduction to the Oil and Gas Business An Introduction to Oil and Gas Taxation Economic Interest	1 2	Discuss Syllabus Overview Discussion TBA
2	9/10	Lease and Purchase Arrangements Royalty and Overriding Royalty Minimum Royalties Working Interest	3 4 5 6	TBA
3	9/17	Production Payments Net Profits Arrangements Geophysical Expenses Intangible Drilling and Development Costs	7 8 9 10	TBA
4	9/24	Depletion Deduction - General Allowance or Disallowance of Depletion Property for Depletion Purposes Cost Depletion	12 13 14 15	TBA
5	10/1	Gross Income from the Property Taxable Income from the Property Limitations on Percentage Depletion	16 17 18	
6	10/8	Depletion Review EXAMINATION I		TBA
7	10/15	Unitizations Sharing Arrangements and Carried Interests Dispositions of Interests - Lease (or Sublease) and Sale	19 11 20	TBA
8	10/22	Nontaxable Exchanges Losses and Abandonments Partnerships	21 22 24	TBA
9	10/29	Associations Taxable as Corporations Selected Corporate Issues Alternative Minimum Tax Special Provisions Affecting the Determination of Tax	23 25 26 27	TBA
10	11/5	Depreciation Application of Accounting Methods Oil and Gas International Provisions	29 30 31	TBA
11	11/12	State Taxation EXAMINATION II		TBA
12	11/19	Practical Applications / Case Studies		
13	11/26	Practical Applications / Case Studies		
14	12/3	Practical Application / Case Studies Cumulative Review		TBA
15	12/10	EXAMINATION III		