

ACCOUNTING 4300
FEDERAL INCOME TAXATION
SPRING 2013
SYLLABUS AND COURSE OUTLINE

INSTRUCTOR: Peggy Jimenez, CPA

OFFICE: BLB 357C

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EMAIL: Peggy.Jimenez@unt.edu. I generally respond to e-mails within 24 hours Monday-Friday.

OFFICE HOURS: After class and by appointment.

REQUIRED MATERIALS:

Murphy. Concepts in Federal Taxation. 2013 edition published by Cengage Learning.

COURSE OBJECTIVES: This course is designed to introduce students to the Federal tax system while providing them with a skill set that will enable them to apply the appropriate tax law concepts to various tax situations. After completion of this course, students should maintain knowledge or skills related to:

- The Federal tax system including the different types of taxes and various tax compliance practices and procedures
- Tax research: including proper use and citation of the Internal Revenue Code and Regulations
- Concepts of Income and Deductions
- Business taxation: including tax years, acceptable tax accounting methods, book/tax differences, depreciation/amortization methods, and self-employment income and taxation.
- Taxation of property transactions: including calculation of capital gains/losses, and calculation of business property transactions including those under sections 1231, 1244, 1245, and 1250.
- NOL, AMT, AET and other business credits
- Choice of organizational form

COURSE POINT DISTRIBUTION:

	Points
Homework	70
Quizzes(8 @ 10 points each)	80
Exams (3 @ 100 pts each)	300
Tax Return Project	50
Attendance and participation	25
Total	525

As a general rule the percentage of points to achieve a certain letter grade will be as follows:

90% or more	= A	70% - 79% = C	less than 60% = F
80% - 89%	= B	60% - 69% = D	

IMPORTANT GRADING NOTES:

- A. Any work you submit will be graded and will count in accordance with the grading scheme. No other work can be substituted for the required work.
- B. **I do not discuss or disclose any grade information over the phone or by email. Please visit me during office hours to discuss grades.**
- C. Once graded, I will post exam grades to Blackboard Vista as promptly as possible.

HOMEWORK: Homework will be assigned throughout the course. I will go over selected homework problems in class. At random times, homework will be picked up for grading. Only the homework that is picked up and graded will be included in the final grade. I will not tell you in advance whether I will pick up homework on a particular day. You cannot substitute another homework for one that is picked up for grading. If you fail to turn in homework on the day it is picked up, the grade for that homework will be zero. It is best if you are prepared with all assigned homework so that you do not lose any homework points.

QUIZZES: Unless told otherwise, there will be a quiz at the beginning of every class. The quiz will cover material covered the previous week in class and in the textbook readings. Students must be present in class to take the quiz. The eight best quiz grades will count towards your final grade.

EXAMS: There will be four exams including a comprehensive final in this course. Your final grade will be based on your best three exam scores.

TAX RETURN PROJECT: A complete tax return will be due Thursday April 18th. You may work on this project independently or in groups of no more than 3. If you choose to work in a group you must notify me of your group by the date announced in class. Any collaboration on the project outside of the specified group will be considered cheating. Use of a solution to the problem obtained from any other source (internet, friend, etc.) will also be considered cheating.

MISSED ASSIGNMENTS: You will receive a zero for any assignment turned in late. Exceptions will only be made for university excused absences. If you expect to be absent for a university excused absence you must submit any assignments in advance. If your absence is unexpected, assignments must be submitted by the next class period.

MISSED ASSESSMENTS (EXAMS, QUIZZES, ETC.): You will receive a zero for any missed assessment. Exceptions will only be made for university excused absences. You must notify me before the absence or as soon as possible (within 24 hours) after the absence for any accommodation to be considered.

PROFESSIONALISM: I expect professional behavior from you in class and in all your communications with me. For example, homework that is submitted should be typed or neatly

(and legibly) handwritten on a regular paper with proper margins and numbered correctly. If the homework is more than a page, they should be stapled together in the top left corner. Your name should appear on the front. Homework that is untidy or sloppy will not be accepted for grading. NO EXCUSES. The same rule applies for quizzes and projects. Your e-mail communications with me should also be professional and include an appropriate subject line. Please do not e-mail me via blackboard; instead, e-mail me at peggy.jimenez@unt.edu.

YOUR EMAIL ADDRESS: Please make certain to update your email address within Blackboard Vista. **YOU MUST CHECK THIS EMAIL ADDRESS FREQUENTLY!** I send important emails including exam locations through Blackboard and you are responsible for any information that is sent through this medium. The fact that you did not read your email from me will not excuse any missed exams or assignments. There is a way to forward your Blackboard email to your preferred email. Please forward it if necessary.

YOUR UNT PASSWORD:

Please make certain that you set the options within the UNT computer system so that you are alerted when it is time to change your password. Otherwise you may be disallowed from using the UNT system, but you won't know why. Set the system so that you will be alerted to change your password.

BLACKBOARD LEARN: We will use Blackboard Learn in this class. You can reach the Blackboard Learn site at www.ecampus.unt.edu. Once on the site please log in with your UNT Username and Password. That will take you to your personal page that lists all of the classes for which you are registered that are using Blackboard Learn. Periodically throughout the semester I will post your individual scores to Blackboard Learn. I will also post class announcements and other materials to, and send emails through, Blackboard. We will be using this system extensively during the semester. If you have had no previous experience with the system, you should take advantage of the available training resources early in the semester.

COURSE STUDY MATERIALS: I expect that you will read the assigned text material prior to attending class. Please plan on devoting regular time to learning the material. It is expected that outside study time for this course will be about 9 hours per week.

CHEATING: Honesty and integrity are very important characteristics of an accountant or any business person. Failure to perform within the bounds of accepted ethical standards is sufficient grounds for your discontinuance in this course with a grade of F and could lead to expulsion from the University. Failure to abide by the university's rules regarding academic honesty will not be tolerated in this course. The term "cheating" includes, but is not limited to, (1) use or provision of any unauthorized assistance in taking quizzes, tests, or examinations; (2) dependence upon the aid of sources beyond those authorized by the instructor in completing homework, writing papers, preparing reports, solving problems, or carrying out other assignments; or (3) the acquisition, without permission, of tests or other academic material belonging to a faculty member or staff of the university. University policy regarding this matter is a part of the UNT Code of Student Conduct and Discipline and can be found in the UNT Policy Manual, Vol. III, No. 18.1.11, and in the Student Handbook. The university's academic

integrity policy can be found at http://policy.unt.edu/sites/default/files/untpolicy/pdf/7-Student_Affairs-Academic_Integrity.pdf

WITHDRAWALS: University policy relative to withdrawals will be followed. The drop policies are important to your academic career, and it is your responsibility to discuss the ramifications of dropping a class with your **advisor**. I do not have sufficient knowledge of your program to advise you of the impact of dropping a class. Be especially cognizant of the last drop day and obtain any appropriate signatures, approvals, etc. in advance of the deadlines. You may obtain information about dropping classes from your academic advisor or the Registrar's office.

Friday 2/22/2013: Last day to drop a course or withdraw from the semester with a grade of W for courses that the student is not passing.

Tuesday 3/26/2013: Last day for a student to drop a course with the consent of the instructor; W or WF may be assigned.

AMERICANS WITH DISABILITIES ACT (ADA): If you are a student who requires accommodations in compliance with the ADA, please consult with me during the first week of the semester. I will provide "reasonable accommodation" to any student with a disability, so as not to discriminate on the basis of that disability. It is your responsibility to inform me of the disability at the beginning of the semester and provide me with documentation authorizing the specific accommodation. UNT's Office of Disability Accommodation (ODA), is responsible for verifying and implementing accommodations to ensure equal opportunity in all programs and activities. You must contact ODA who will instruct you on how to proceed. I recognize that any disclosure by a student of their need for accommodation is extremely sensitive. I assure you that all conversations and other communications will be kept protected and confidential and disclosed only on a need-to-know basis.

STUDENT EVALUATION OF TEACHING EFFECTIVENESS (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 at the end of the semester, providing you a chance to comment on how this class is taught. I am very interested in the feedback I get from students, as I work to continually improve my teaching. 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 forum at UNT. Students engaging in unacceptable behavior will be directed to leave the classroom and the instructor may refer the student to the Center for Student Rights and Responsibilities to consider whether the student's conduct violated the Code of Student Conduct. The university's expectations for student conduct apply to all instructional forums, including university and electronic classrooms, labs, discussion groups, field trips, etc. The Code of Student Conduct can be found at www.unt.edu/csrr.

RELIGIOUS HOLY DAYS: Any student who is absent from classes for the observance of a religious holy day will be allowed to make-up an examination or complete an assignment scheduled for that day within a reasonable time after the absence. Please check your calendars.

Notification must be made in writing and delivered in person no later than the 15th class day of the semester.

This syllabus does not constitute a contract.

Course schedule-Subject to change

Date	Lecture Topic & Readings	Homework Due
Jan. 17	Course Introduction Chapter 1: Federal Income Taxation	
Jan. 24	Quiz Chapter 2: Income Tax Concepts	Chapter 1
Jan. 31	Quiz Chapter 3: Income Sources	Chapter 2
Feb. 7	Quiz Chapter 4: Income Exclusions	Chapter 3
Feb. 14	Midterm 1: Chapters 1, 2, 3, and 4 Chapter 5: Introduction to Business Expenses	Chapter 4
Feb. 21	Quiz Chapter 5: Introduction to Business Expenses	
Feb. 28	Quiz Chapter 6: Business Expenses	Chapter 5
March 7	Midterm 2: Chapters 5 and 6	Chapter 6
March 14	Spring Break-No Class	
March 21	Quiz Chapter 7: Losses-Deductions/Limits	
March 28	Quiz Chapter 8: Taxation of Individuals	Chapter 7
April 4	Quiz Chapter 8: Taxation of Individuals	Chapter 8
April 11	Midterm 3: Chapters 7 and 8 Chapter 9: Acquisition of Property	
April 18	Tax Return Project Due Quiz Chapter 9: Acquisition of Property	Tax Return Project Due
April 25	Quiz Chapter 10: Cost Recovery	Chapter 9
May 2	Quiz Chapter 11: Property Dispositions	Chapter 10
May 9	Comprehensive final exam. 6:30PM	