

**University of North Texas at Dallas
Spring, 2015
SYLLABUS**

ACCT 4300D-090 Federal Income Taxation 3 Hrs.

Department of Business		Division of Business and Public Leadership
Instructor Name:	Randall Hahn	
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Office Hours:	Tuesday, Thursday, 1:00-2:30,4:00-5:30 PM; Wednesday, 2:00-7:00 PM; by appointment	
Virtual Office Hours:	By appointment	
Classroom Location:	DAL2 241	
Class Meeting Days:	T 7:00-9:50	
Course Catalog Description:	ACCT 4300D. Federal Income Taxation. 3 Hours. A comprehensive introduction to the U.S. federal income tax system. Emphasizes the taxation of individuals but many topics also apply to business entities. Coverage includes technical tax rules and motivations behind these rules, as well as tax planning opportunities and limitations.	
Prerequisites:	ACCT 2010D and ACCT 2020D with grades of C or better.	
Co-requisites:	This course may not be taken more than twice at UNT or at another college or university. Students may not retake this course once they have completed (with a grade of C or better) a course for which this is a prerequisite.	
Required Text:	Federal Income Taxation 2015 (38 th edition), Hoffman et al, Cengage Publishing.	
Access to Learning Resources:	UNT Dallas Library: phone: (972) 780-3625; web: http://www.unt.edu/unt-dallas/library.htm UNT Dallas Bookstore: phone: (972) 780-3652; e-mail: 1012mgr@fheg.follett.com	
Course Goals or Overview:		
	The goal of this course is 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.	
Learning Objectives/Outcomes: At the end of this course, the student will be able to		
1	Be able to understand the Federal tax system including the different types of taxes and various tax compliance practices and procedures.	
2	Demonstrate the ability to perform tax research including the proper use and citation of the Internal Revenue Code and Regulations.	
3	Define key concepts for individual taxation including gross income inclusions and exclusions, deductions for adjusted gross income, itemized deductions and the calculation of individual tax liabilities.	
4	Define key concepts for business taxation including tax years, acceptable tax accounting methods, book vs. tax difference, depreciation/amortization methods, and self-employment income and taxation.	
5	Be able to understand the taxation of business and personal property transactions including the calculation of capital gains/loss, and the calculation of business property transactions (under sections 1231, 1244, 1245, and 1250).	

6	Define entity choice including the different methods used to tax different entities.
7	Demonstrate the ability to prepare federal income tax forms for individuals, including form 1040 and related schedules.

Course Evaluation Methods

Component	Points	%
4 Regular Exams (100 pts ea.)	400	67
12 Chapter Quizzes (Drop lowest 2)	100	17
Attendance/Preparedness	70	11
2 Tax Returns	30	5
TOTAL	600	100

Grade Determination:

A = 540-600 pts; i.e. 90% or better
 B = 480-539 pts; i.e. 80 – 89 %
 C = 420-479 pts; i.e. 70 – 79 %
 D = 360-419 pts; i.e. 60 – 69 %
 F = 0-359 pts

Exams

Exams will be 60%-70% objective and 30%-40% problems/essays. Examinations are “open-book, open-note.” In other words, text and chapter notes may be used. See [Calendar](#) for dates and times. Any required make-ups will be administered during the week prior to the final exam. Exams should be taken as scheduled. No makeup examinations will be allowed except for documented emergencies (See Student Handbook). The final examination will include the text material since the previous exam as well as text material from Chapters 3 and 4.

Quizzes

There will be a quiz after each chapter. Each quiz (12 in total) will be worth 10 points and the student must drop the lowest 2 quizzes. **Quizzes are important in that they help the student review and will be of a nature similar to exam questions.** See [Calendar](#) for dates and times. There are no make-ups for these quizzes.

Attendance/Required Preparation

Attendance and preparedness is expected and required for all classes. Points are allocated for attendance **and preparedness**. Class will be conducted on the assumption that all reading and written assignments have been studied and have been completed to the best of the student's ability prior to the class for which assigned. (Preparation for class by reading the chapters and working the homework problems is essential.)

Attendance/Preparedness will be graded daily. Each day an attendance sheet will be circulated. **STUDENTS ARE TO SIGN THE SHEET ONLY IF PREPARED FOR THE DAY'S ASSIGNMENT. STUDENTS ARE RESPONSIBLE FOR SIGNING THE DAILY ATTENDANCE/PREPAREDNESS SHEET BY THE END OF THE CLASS PERIOD. STUDENTS UNABLE TO GIVE A RECITATION ON CURRENT MATERIAL WHEN CALLED UPON WILL BE CONSIDERED ABSENT FOR THAT DAY.** If you do not wish to be called upon (using one of your available absences- see below), please give me a note to that effect prior to the beginning of class for that day.

POINT SCALE

0-1 Absences 70 points
 2 Absences 60 points
 3 Absences 50 points
 4 Absences 40 points
 5 Absences 30 points
 ≥5 Absences 0 points

Tax Returns:

Two (2) tax returns will be assigned during the semester, to be completed individually or in groups of 2. These groups will be assigned. There will be 1 grade per group. See Detailed Assignments below for date handed out and date due. There is a 10% daily penalty on each if turned in late.

VITA: If the student chooses to participate in the VITA (Volunteer Income Tax Assistance) program, and completes the required training and attends at a minimum 3 compliance sessions, he/she will substitute the lowest four (4) quiz scores with 10's. In addition, students that participate in VITA will not be required to complete the assigned tax returns and will be assigned 40 points for these projects. Finally, students completing the VITA training and preparation will receive an additional two (2) absences. (It should be noted that participation in the VITA program will also contribute to the success of the student on exams, quizzes, and the remainder of the federal income taxation course.)

Calendar

This schedule is subject to change by the instructor. Any changes to this schedule will be communicated by class announcement as well as posting on Blackboard and Cengage as soon as the change is determined.

Date	Material	Chap	Problems and Other Reqs
Jan 20	Overview of Course; Introduction to Taxation	1	Discussion Questions (BB)
Jan 27	Working with the Tax Law	2	Chapter 1 Quiz; Discussion Questions (BB); Chapter 2 Quiz
Feb 3	Tax Formulation and Tax Determination	3	Discussion Questions (BB); Chapter 3 Quiz
Feb 10	Gross Income: Inclusions	4	Discussion Questions (BB); Chapter 4 Quiz
Feb 17	Exam, Chapters 1-4		
Feb 24	Gross Income: Exclusions	5	Discussion Questions (BB); Chapter 5 Quiz
Mar 3	Deductions and Losses: General	6	Discussion Questions (BB); Chapter 6 Quiz
Mar 10	Deductions and Losses: Business	7	Discussion Questions (BB); Chapter 7 Quiz; Tax Return 1 Assigned
Mar 17	SPRING BREAK!		
Mar 24	Exam, Chapters 5-7		
Mar 31	Depreciation and Cost Recovery Deductions	8	Discussion Questions (BB); Chapter 8 Quiz
Apr 7	Deductions and Losses: Employee and Self-employed	9	Discussion Questions (BB); Chapter 9 Quiz; Tax Return 1 Due; Tax Return 2 assigned
Apr 14	Deductions and Losses: Itemized Deductions	10	Discussion Questions (BB); Chapter 10 Quiz
Apr 21	Exam, Chapters 8-10		
Apr 28	Property Transactions: General	14	Discussion Questions (BB); Tax Return 2 Assigned; Chapter 14 Quiz
May 5	Property Transactions: Capital Gains and Losses	16	Discussion Questions (BB); Chapter 16 Quiz; Tax Return 2 Due
May 12	Final Exam, Chapters 14,16,3,4		

University Policies and Procedures

Students with Disabilities (ADA Compliance):

The University of North Texas Dallas faculty is committed to complying with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA). Students' with documented disabilities are responsible for informing faculty of their needs for reasonable accommodations and providing written authorized documentation (available in the Student Life Office). Grades assigned before an accommodation is provided will not be changed as accommodations are not retroactive. For more information, you may visit the Student Life Office, Suite 200, Building 2 or call Student Life at 972-780-3632.

Student Evaluation of Teaching Effectiveness Policy:

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. Therefore, you will be expected to complete the SETE and provide me a copy of the acknowledgement you receive on completion of the survey (your input is not indicated on the acknowledgement, only that you completed it, so your responses are kept confidential and anonymous). In return for your completion of this survey, you will earn 5 points of extra credit.

Academic Integrity:

Academic integrity is a hallmark of higher education. You are expected to abide by the University's code of Academic Integrity policy. Any person suspected of academic dishonesty (i.e., cheating or plagiarism) will be handled in accordance with the University's policies and procedures. Refer to the Student Code of Academic Integrity at <http://www.unt.edu/unt-dallas/policies/Chapter07StudentAffairs,Education,andFunding/7.002CodeofAcademicIntegrity.pdf> for complete provisions of this code.

Bad Weather Policy:

On those days that present severe weather and driving conditions, a decision may be made to close the campus. In case of inclement weather, call UNT Dallas Campuses main voicemail number (972) 780-3600 or search postings on the campus website www.unt.edu/dallas. Students are encouraged to update their Eagle Alert contact information, so they will receive this information automatically. There will be recorded lessons on Blackboard for those occasions class cannot be held on campus, whether due to bad weather or other requirements.

Diversity/Tolerance Policy:

Students are encouraged to contribute their perspectives and insights to class discussions. However, offensive & inappropriate language (swearing) and remarks offensive to others of particular nationalities, ethnic groups, sexual preferences, religious groups, genders, or other ascribed statuses will not be tolerated. Disruptions which violate the Code of Student Conduct will be referred to the Center for Student Rights and Responsibilities as the instructor deems appropriate.

Other Policies:

- **Use of Blackboard Learn.** Blackboard Learn is an important communication and education tool. You will be expected to be competent in this technology, and to inform the instructor if you need help.
- **Use of Cell Phones & other Electronic Gadgets in the Classroom.** Cell phones are permitted in the classroom, but must be set to "vibrate" or "silent" during class. Answer calls outside, if you must, but cell phone conversations, texting, and similar activities will not be permitted in the classroom.
- **Food & Drink in the Classroom.** You are expected to be responsible adults in this class. Drinks are acceptable in class, so long as there is a means of controlling a spill (such as a cup lid). You are expected to police your own area – it should be clean when you arrive, and you should leave it clean when you leave. **Food is generally a disruptive agent during class, so you should confine yourself to suffering in silence during the class period.**
- **Use of Laptops.** You are encouraged to use laptops, iPads, and similar devices to assist in taking notes and researching topics related to the class. They must not be used for social activities, games, etc., during class time.