

ACCOUNTING 502 - SPRING, 2010

ADVANCED TAX TOPICS

Tu Th 3:15 - 4:30 pm, B-102A

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OFFICE HOURS: Tu/Th 1:30 – 3:00 and Wed. 4:30 – 7:00 pm. I am available most of the time (Monday through Thursday) unless I am in class or playing racquetball. Please contact me with questions any time. I encourage you to seek help early.

COURSE MATERIALS: **Required: Taxation of Business Entities**, 2010 Edition, by Spilker, Ayers, et. al.

COURSE DESCRIPTION: Accounting 502 is an advanced course in Federal taxation for business students. The primary emphasis of the course is taxation in the context of C corporations, S corporations, partnerships, estate and gift, and multinational taxation. Basic tax research skills and knowledge of professional ethics are also outcomes of this course. Students enrolled in ACCT 502 should have completed ACCT 302 or have permission from the instructor.

COURSE OBJECTIVES:

- 1) Create an awareness of the income tax implications inherent in business and personal decision-making.
- 3) Examine the major provisions of Federal tax laws as they apply to C corporations, S corporations, partnerships, estate and gifts, and multinational transactions. Apply these provisions to factual, client-like situations.
- 4) Develop a minimum level of tax research competence.
- 5) Obtain an awareness of the professional ethics required by tax accountants.
- 6) A byproduct of this course is that it will mostly prepare you for the business tax portion of the CPA Exam (the 3-hour Regulation Section).

VALUE OF EXAMINATIONS AND ASSIGNMENTS:

Research and writing assignment, other assignments	100 points
Quizzes//Tax Returns/Participation	240 points
Participation and Attendance	60 points
Exam #1	200 points
Exam #2	200 points
Exam #3	<u>200 points</u>
TOTAL	<u>1,000 points</u>

GRADING: Grades are assigned on a curved basis, but anyone with $\geq 90\%$ will receive at least

an A-; $\geq 80\%$, B-, etc. Expect challenging exams. You may use one 5 x 7 card, front and back, for each in-class exam.

MID-TERM EXAMS: Two mid-term exams are given. Missed exams are graded as zero. The second exam is a take-home exam.

RESEARCH: This will involve a client research problem and client letter worth 70 points.

QUIZZES / PARTICIPATION: There are seven quizzes, worth 20 points each and you may drop the lowest score. It is expected that everyone will attend class and participate regularly in class discussions. There are 50 points attributed to this. For each class missed beginning with the second miss, 10 points are deducted.

TAX RETURNS: We will do a tax return for a C corporation, partnership, and an estate. You will have a partner to do the return and each one is worth 40 points.

HOMEWORK: Complete assigned homework problems from the text **before** class discussion of the homework, but after discussing the material. Homework problems are intended to illustrate the application of material covered in the lectures and should help you learn the most important material. Solutions to each chapter will be posted to Blackboard. Since this is a graduate course, I expect that you will do additional chapter problems in areas of weakness or of high interest.

EXPECTATIONS: This is a graduate course so student expectations exceed those for undergraduate courses. I expect that you are working 3 hours/week for each credit, which totals about 12 hours of class and study time per week. If you do less than this and still get an A, you are remarkable. At the graduate level, we expect that you will do more than just read the text and do the assigned problems. We expect that you will do extra homework, extra research, extra study time, etc. to excel in this and other graduate courses.

Week
Jan. 18

Chapter
1 – 3 Review of Individual rules

Assignment

Jan. 25	4, Entities Overview	55, 56, 62, 66, 70, 73, 77, 80
Feb. 1	5, Corporate Operations	56, 58, 60, 61, 64, 65, 68, 73, 74, 80, 81 Tax Return 1, due Feb. 15
Feb. 8	Finish Chpt. 5 6, FAS 109 & FIN 48	38 thru 42, 45 thru 49, 54, 58, 63-68, 70, 73, 77
Feb. 15	Finish Chpt. 6 7, Corporate Nonliquidating Distributions (skip 7-22 – 7-27)	35, 36, 37, 38, 41, 44, 45, 65
Feb. 22	EXAM ONE: Chpts. 1 – 6 Finish Chpt. 7	
March 1	8, Corporate Formation & Liquidation (skip pp. 8-20 thru 8-33)	36, 38, 40, 41, 47, 56
March 8	Finish Chpt. 8 9, Partnerships, Formation & Operation	37 thru 42, 45, 49, 58, 59, 63, 66, 67, 69, 71; Tax Return 2, due April 1
March 15	Finish Chpt. 9 Circular 230, Professional Standards	
March 22	SPRING BREAK	
March 29	10, Partnership Distributions (skip pp. 10-24 thru 10-29) TAKE HOME EXAM: Chpts 7-9, Circular 230 – due April 6	32, 35, 38, 39, 40, 41, 47, 50, 57, 58
April 5	Finish Chpt. 10 11, S Corporations (Skip pp. 11-23 thru 11-26)	50, 51, 65, 68, 82
April 12	14, Estate & Gift Taxation	50, 52, 62, 63, 64 Tax Return 3 due 4/27
April 19	Finish Chpt. 14	
April 26	13, Multinational Tax Issues	39, 40, 41, 42, 43, 44, 46, 47, 53
May 3	Catch-up, review	Research Assignment due
May 11	FINAL EXAM 3:30 – 5:30 PM; Chapters 10, 11, 13, 14	