

Course	ACCT 414/614-010 Federal Income Taxation: Research & Planning Lerner College of Business and Economics University of Delaware
Instructor	Scott R. Somerville, CPA
Term	Fall 2018
Meetings	Tuesday/Thursday, 3:30 – 4:45 p.m., One South Main, Room 220

Instructor's Contact Information

Office Location	Purnell 207(b)
Phone	443-253-5802 (c), (302) 831-1489 (o)
E-mail Address	scottsomerville12@gmail.com; botss@udel.edu
Office Hours	T&R 4:50 – 5:50 p.m. or 12:30 – 2:00 p.m. with advance notice (or other times by appointment). No class or office hours on 10/25. No 4:50 office hours on 9/20 or 11/29.
Other Information	My preferred mode of contact is a scheduled meeting or e-mail. My graduate assistant is Guanhua Fu. His email address is tobiasfu@udel.edu.

General Course Information

Course Overview	This course is directed at undergraduate and graduate accounting students who will obtain additional tax knowledge beyond the individual Federal Income Tax course. It is designed to present a survey approach to the following topics: Tax Research, Corporate Taxation, Partnership Taxation, Subchapter S Taxation, Estate & Gift Taxation, International Taxation and Accounting for Income Tax.
Learning Objectives	After completing this course, students should have: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Learned the basic terms, concepts and theories of federal taxation as applied to entities other than individuals; 2. An appreciation for the different tax rules that apply to various forms of business organizations; 3. Learned the fundamentals of tax research and the sources of tax law; and have 4. The ability to apply tax research skills and the fundamental theories of the Internal Revenue Code to entity tax problems that are likely to be encountered in tax practice.
Text	Anderson & Rupert, <u>Pearson's Federal Taxation 2019: Corporations, Partnerships, Estates and Trusts</u> KPMG: Tax Reform- KPMG Report on New Tax Law Internet, electronic versions and rentals are fine ISBN-978013473969-4

Course Policies

<p>Grading Criteria</p>	<p>Students will be evaluated through a combination of projects, three exams, and class participation. Points will be allocated as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • First exam (250 points) • Second exam (250 points) • Third exam (200 points) • C Corporation tax return (100 points for grad students/200 points for undergrads) • Group Tax Research project (100 points for grad students, not required for undergrads) • Class participation/quizzes (100 points) • Total Points – 1,000 <p>Based upon this system, final course grades will be computed according to the following scale:</p> <table style="margin-left: auto; margin-right: auto;"> <thead> <tr> <th style="text-align: center;"><u>Grading</u></th> <th style="text-align: center;"><u>Scale</u></th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td style="text-align: center;">93 – 100</td> <td style="text-align: center;">A</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="text-align: center;">90 – 92</td> <td style="text-align: center;">A-</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="text-align: center;">88 – 89</td> <td style="text-align: center;">B+</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="text-align: center;">83 – 87</td> <td style="text-align: center;">B</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="text-align: center;">80 – 82</td> <td style="text-align: center;">B-</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="text-align: center;">78 – 79</td> <td style="text-align: center;">C+</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="text-align: center;">73 – 77</td> <td style="text-align: center;">C</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="text-align: center;">70 – 72</td> <td style="text-align: center;">C-</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="text-align: center;">60 – 69</td> <td style="text-align: center;">D</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="text-align: center;">Below 60</td> <td style="text-align: center;">F</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	<u>Grading</u>	<u>Scale</u>	93 – 100	A	90 – 92	A-	88 – 89	B+	83 – 87	B	80 – 82	B-	78 – 79	C+	73 – 77	C	70 – 72	C-	60 – 69	D	Below 60	F
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70 – 72	C-																						
60 – 69	D																						
Below 60	F																						
<p>Exams</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The exams will be administered during the times outlined in this syllabus calendar. Please reserve these times in advance so that you do not have a conflict during a scheduled exam. You must sit for the exams on the dates and times scheduled. If an extraordinary event (death in immediate family, illness requiring hospitalization, etc.), contact me before the exam and I will resolve on an individual basis. 2. The exams will not be comprehensive, but will cover only the material covered since the last exam. 3. The exams will <u>not</u> be open book. You must bring a calculator to the exams. 																						
<p>Outside Reading and Homework</p>	<p>There is assigned reading in the text for each class meeting and you are expected to come prepared to discuss the material. Discussion questions and problems are assigned from the text at the end of each covered chapter. These problems will not be</p>																						

	collected or graded. However, we may discuss the questions and solutions during class and they may be used for the group problems.
Group Problems	The class will be divided into groups of 3-4 people. You will be part of that group for the entire semester. The groups will complete the tax return listed below and the tax research project (graduate students only). In addition, the groups will complete a tax quiz after most chapters that will be graded and considered as part of the 10% participation grade. The two lowest scores on the quizzes will be dropped.
Tax Research Project (Graduate Students only)	Students will participate in a group research project that involves international corporate taxation. The group will research the topic using all sources of tax law and other current information and make a presentation at the end of the semester to the class, explaining the issue, the reasons behind the recent tax legislation, and the implication to corporate income tax revenue generated. Sources must be properly cited. The deliverables will be a 10 minute presentation, with PowerPoint slides and written paper (not to exceed 5 pages). Each person in the group must participate.
Tax Returns	A C Corporation tax return (Form 1120) will be assigned and completed in groups. All information will be provided for you to prepare the return, including a list of the forms and schedules required. These forms are available at www.irs.gov in fill-out and print format. Tax preparation software is not permitted.
Class Attendance	I will not take class attendance; however, 10% of your grade will be based upon class participation including the group quizzes. It is in your best interest to attend class and be prepared. If you must miss a class, it is your responsibility to contact another student to get the lecture notes and other materials that you missed.
Class Cancellation	In the event of inclement weather, please check your UD e-mail to determine whether classes will be held. I will send out an e-mail to notify you if class is cancelled. In the event of cancellation, please proceed with the regularly scheduled readings and assignments.
Classroom Citizenship	Please turn off all cell phones, PDAs and iPods during class. Laptops may be used only to take notes and if they are not distracting to others.

Sakai	This course will utilize the Sakai learning management system, which you may access at http://sakai.udel.edu/portal . The syllabus and other important information will be posted.
Competencies	This course will help students develop critical thinking skills by applying tax laws to various factual situations, some of which will have uncertain solutions due to the structural ambiguity or the statutory language of the Internal Revenue Code. A comprehensive tax return assignment will reinforce the topics learned as an integrated whole.
Religious Holidays	Absences on religious holidays listed in the University calendar are recognized as excused absences. Nevertheless, students are fully responsible for all material presented during their absence. If such a religious holiday falls on an exam date, please notify me as early as possible. I will handle on an individual basis.

ACCOUNTING 414/614-011 SYLLABUS

Date	Chapter	Topic	Assigned Reading	Problems
8/28, 8/30	EY Handout	Course Intro Accounting Methods §451, 461		
9/4, 9/6	1	Tax Research The Judicial System	Chapter 1, pp 1-34	1, 9, 10, 14, 20, 24
9/11, 9/13	2	Corporate Formations and Capital Structure Section 351, Assign Tax Research Project	Chapter 2, pp 1-36	1, 2, 3, 7, 20, 21 11, 13
9/18, 9/20	3	Corporate Tax Liability Assign Corporate Tax Return	Chapter 3, pp 1-37	4,5,7, 8, 11,13,19 43, 47
9/25	4	Earnings & Profits/Corporate Distributions	Chapter 4, pp 1-16	1, 2, 4, 6, 28, 31
9/27	6	Liquidations	Chapter 6, pp 1-14	2, 3, 8, 11, 12, 13
10/2 (3:20 – 5:00 p.m.)		Exam #1 (Accounting Methods and Chapters 1, 2, 3, 4, 6)		
10/4	7	Taxable Acquisitions, Tax Free Reorganizations	Chapter 7, pp 1-33; pp 40-42	1, 2, 4, 6, 11,12,13,22,31,71
10/9	7	Section 382/Tax Attribute Carryovers/Return Exam 1/Corporate Tax Return due	Chapter 7, pp 43-47	
10/11, 10/16	9	Partnership Formation Partnership Basis	Chapter 9, pp 1-36 KPMG, pp 73-76	1, 3, 4, 25(a),(b),(d), 39
10/18, 10/23	10	Partnership Issues	Chapter 10, pp 1-7; 11-33	2, 8, 16, 22, 35
10/25		No Class		
10/30, 11/1	11	S-Corporations	Chapter 11, pp 1-38	1, 4, 12, 17, 27
11/8 (3:20 – 5:00 P.m.)		Exam #2 – Partnerships/S Corps/M&A (Chapters 7,9,10,11)		
11/13	12	Gift Tax Overview	Chapter 12, pp 1-9; 16-25 KPMG, p 30	1, 10, 18, 27
11/15	13	Estate Tax Overview/Return Exam 2	Chapter 13, pp 1-8, 18-25, 30-31	1,5,18,47
11/20, 11/22		No Classes- Thanksgiving Break		

Date	Chapter	Topic	Assigned Reading	Problems
11/27, 11/29	EY Handout, 3	Accounting for Income Tax – Guest Speaker	Chapter 3, pp 37-49	27, 58
12/4		Tax Research Group Presentations		
12/6	16	Corporate Foreign Tax – Guest Speaker	Chapter 16, pp 1-5, 19-23; 33-36 KPMG, pp 108-126	18, 20
TBA		Final Exam – Chapters 12, 13, 16 and 3		