

ACCT 538

Income Tax Accounting

Summer I - 2020

Online, with live and recorded video sessions

Instructor: Jim Hamill, CPA, Ph.D.
E mail: James.Hamill@tamuc.edu

Textbook: McGraw Hill's *Taxation of Individuals and Business Entities*, 2020 Edition.

Course Format

This is a fully online class using the D2L platform. **YOU MUST CHECK YOUR TAMUC E MAILS AND THE CONTENT SECTION OF D2L FREQUENTLY – AT LEAST EVERY OTHER DAY. I WILL COMMUNICATE BY E MAIL, BY POSTING CONTENT ON D2L AND BY LIVE VIDEOS THAT WILL BE RECORDED AND POSTED ON D2L. YOU ARE RESPONSIBLE FOR KEEPING UP IN THIS COURSE.**

Course Description

This course is an overview to the taxation of individuals, including tax issues associated with employees, independent contractors, and other forms of business income. It also addresses sales and exchanges of property, including investment property, business property, and personal-use property.

This course has been designated by the accounting department as a writing-intensive course. We address issues and approaches that are similar to what a tax practitioner would encounter and do. In many cases, there are no certain answers. This course is not specifically designed to prepare for the CPA exam, but the course coverage will be very helpful in this regard.

Significant tax law changes create opportunities, particularly for new or recent entrants into the profession. Changes to laws create a more equal footing for young professionals and more experienced ones.

Grading

(3) exams	300 points	80% of grade
Short writing assignments (3)	<u>75 points</u>	20% of grade
TOTAL	<u>375 points</u>	

Exams are not cumulative. Exams are (obviously) open notes, open book but you will have a time limit to complete the exam once you open it. . If you expect that you will be able to answer questions by reliance on the notes and book, you will very likely run out of time to finish the exam. Study in the same way that you would for any exam, with the knowledge that if you forget a specific fact that you will be able to check your source materials.

The writing assignments must be turned in on time. **You must submit a hard copy to the assignments folder of D2L.** Failure to submit it on this date will result in a loss of possible points. If turned in one day late, the maximum point total drops to 22 (out of 25). If 2 days late 18 points maximum, 3 days late 13 points maximum. More than 3 days late, zero points.

There may be extra credit assignments throughout the semester. If so, each one will be worth 3 points. To receive any points for extra credit the assignment must be turned in on time (“time” will be announced when the assignment is given).

Students with Disabilities and Title IX Compliance

If you have any disability that could affect your experience in this class, please let me know the first week of classes. I rely entirely on those specialists designated by the university to determine whether an accommodation is appropriate and, if so, what accommodation is appropriate.

In an effort to meet obligations under Title IX, faculty are considered “responsible employees” by the Department of Education. This requires that any report of gender discrimination which includes sexual harassment, sexual misconduct and sexual violence made to a faculty member must be reported to the Title IX Coordinator at the Office of Equal Opportunity.

CPA Exam Candidates - State of Texas

Candidates who desire to sit for the CPA in Texas must meet the following educational criteria: 1) Have a bachelor's degree; 2) Completed 150 semester hours of courses; 3) Included in the 150 semester hours, 30 of upper level accounting courses. You must have a minimum of 15-semester credit hours of accounting courses in the traditional format (face-to-face); 24 hours of upper level business courses; 3-semester credit hours of approved ethics; 2-semester credit hours of approved communication and 2-semester credit hours of approved accounting research. For more information visit Exam/Qualification on the State Board's website: <http://www.tsbpa.state.tx.us/>

NOTE: The Texas Board announced that online classes will count as FTF during the COVID-19 pandemic. The period that the Board set will allow this class to count as FTF. At the time I wrote this syllabus the Board had not extended the period to also include SS II or the fall. They may do so and you should check to see if the online classes that you take in Summer II or fall will count as FTF for purposes of the Board rules. The Board sets its own requirements and you should always check to ensure that any information that you receive is accurate.

COURSE SCHEDULE: 5 WEEKS

Date	Topic	Reading	Assignment(s)
M 6-01	Tax Research/Practice	Chapter 2 PowerPoint deck AICPA SSTS (Google search)	
T 6-02	Tax deferral, conversion, income shifting	Chapter 3 My chapter notes Read Supreme Court case, Lucas v. Earl (Google it)	
W 6-03	Dependents, filing status, Basic individual tax return organization	Chapter 4 My chapter notes	
R 6-04	Gross income Exclusions from income	Chapter 5 (through p. 25) My chapter notes Exam review	Writing Assignment 1
F 6-05	Business deductions	Chapter 6	
M 6-08	Qualified business income Deduction	My PowerPoint slides	
T 6-09	Qualified business income Deduction	Continuation	
W 6-10	EXAM 1	Chapters 2-6	
R 6-11	Taxation of individual Investments	Chapter 7 My chapter notes	
F 6-12		Chapter 7 continuation	
M 6-15	Tax Computation/Credits	Chapter 8 My chapter notes	Writing 1 due
T 6-16	Business Income Business Deductions Accounting Methods	Chapter 9 My chapter notes	Writing Assignment 2
W 6-17		Chapter 9 continuation	
R 6-18	Property Acquisition Cost Recovery	Chapter 10 My chapter notes	
F 6-19		Chapter 10 continued	
M 6-22	EXAM 2	Chapters 7-10	
T 6-23	Property Dispositions	Chapter 11 My Section 1031 outline My Section 1031 PowerPoint	
W 6-24		Chapter 11 continued	Writing 2 due
R 6-25		Chapter 11 continued	
F 6-26		Chapter 11 continued	Writing Assignment 3
M 6-29	Home Ownership	Chapter 14 My outline of Sec. 121	
T 6-30		Chapter 14 continued	

ACCT 538 SUMMER I – SCHEDULE CONTINUED

Date	Topic	Reading	Assignment
W 7-01		Chapter 14 continued	Writing 3 due
R 7-02	EXAM 3	Chapters 11, 14	