

GOVERNORS STATE UNIVERSITY
College of Business and Public Administration
Department of Accounting and Finance

Course: Tax Accounting 1
Course No.: Acct. 421 (Section B)
Credit Hours: Three
Professor: Gary J. Fernandez, B.S.B.A., M.B.A., J.D.,
C.P.A.
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Trimester: Fall 1992
Class Time: Tuesday 4:30-7:20 p.m.

Description:

The course is designed to give the student an overview of the complex world of individual taxation. The course will take a conceptual approach, rather than a tax return form approach, to the material. Case studies will be integrated into the course for purposes of identification and resolution of tax issues. The course will survey the topics indicated for the chapters assigned. Class sessions will follow a lecture and discussion format. Class sessions will involve the review of chapter materials, analyze homework problems, work through additional problems and discuss contemporary issues that pertain to individual taxation.

Acct 421-
FA 1992
GSU ARCHIVES

Prerequisite: Acct. 301 or its equivalent

Restrictions: None

Intended Audience: Accounting Majors

Expected Student Outcomes:

Upon completion of this course the student should have an overview of individual income taxes, including employee business expenses, depreciation, investment income and expenses, alternative minimum taxes, property transactions, and pass-through entities.

Instructor's

Modality:

Lecture/Discussion/Class Participation

Required Test:

Individual Taxation, 1993 Edition. James Pratt and William Kulsrud, Irwin.

Test Description:

The test is designed for use in a first course in Federal taxation for undergraduate or graduate accounting, business, or law students. The numerous examples and computational illustrations used to explain the more complex rules concerning the Federal income taxation of individuals should also make the text suitable for use in a self-study program.

Although the primary emphasis of this test is the income taxation of individuals, the final chapter, "Taxation of Business Forms and Their Owners," provides a comparison of the tax consequences of operating a business as a sole proprietorship, partnership, regular corporation, or "S" corporation. For those students who will not have the opportunity to take another course in Federal taxation, this chapter offers an overview of the tax factors that should be considered in the selection of a particular business form. For other, this chapter provides an introduction to some of the topics generally included in a second course in Federal taxation. The text's companion volume, Corporate, Partnership, Estate and Gift Taxation, is designed for use in such a course.

The 1993 Edition has been revised to reflect the changes introduced by the Emergency Unemployment Compensation Act of 1992 as well as all other significant judicial and administrative developments during the past year.

Homework:

The single most important part of this course is the assigned homework. Taxation is a problem-solving discipline. The ability to sort through reams of rules, determine what is relevant, and then to critically analyze the solution is crucial to success in this area. Often the homework problems may seem c or vague, this is intentional. The rote application of a set of principles to problems that are mirror images of text examples may be easy, but it provides no enlightenment. Consider each problem to be a work assignment placed on your desk by your supervisor. Deal with the assignments as you would if you were being paid based upon you answer.

You should allow 3-4 hours for each session's reading assignment and homework. Work through the self study problems in the chapters. It may be necessary to read the chapters several times. You are required to work all assigned homework problems for the date indicated on the syllabus. Incomplete, undone and late homework have been the primary causes of failure in this

class.

Solutions to most assigned problems will be available on 2-hour reserve in the Library after the date assigned for class. You are cautioned to use the solutions appropriately. The solutions are provided so that you may check your own answers, trace errors, make corrections, and obtain additional help when necessary. Solutions are not provided for students to "solve" the assignments by reading the author's solutions and concluding that they have "solved" the problem. It is very easy to develop a false sense of security about one's abilities if one always "solves" the problems with an open solution manual.

Class Sessions:

Class sessions will follow a lecture and discussion format. We will review chapter materials, analyze homework problems, work through additional problems and discuss contemporary issues that pertain to taxation.

Grading:

Two open book multiply choice exams will be given. Each test will contain approximately 60 questions. These tests are extremely difficult and making them open book makes them even more difficult. The student may use the text book, chapter outlines, and class solutions as an open source for answering questions asked. Not only does the student need to identify issues concerning questions asked, they must index their source material to reference the answer. The exams will constitute eighty percent of the overall grade.

Each student is required to prepare a term paper. This paper will be approximately 20% of your final grade. The objective of the paper is to provide you with an opportunity to independently investigate a topic of interest. Your term paper must be double-spaced and typewritten. In general the length of the term paper should be four to eight pages. Papers should reflect a professional standard and be free of spelling and grammatical errors. They must contain footnotes and bibliography.

The assigned topic for the term paper is to pick an Internal Revenue Code Section from the material and to discuss the three latest developments in the area. This can be most easily done by using the CCH Access Service in the computer lab. Instructions are available as to how to use the service. When investigating the latest developments, the student should look for Treasury and I.R.S. pronouncements, as well as Court cases.

Overall Grade:

Point totals from the exams and the term paper are added together and 90% of the highest grade is an "A", 80% is a "B", 70% is a "C", and 60% is a "D". Conspiracies to hold down the highest grade has never worked, i.e. there's always one.

<u>Date</u>	<u>Chapter</u>	<u>Problems</u>
9/1	One, Two	None
9/8	Three	3-31, 32, 35, 36, 43, 46, 50
9/15	Four	4-24, 25, 26, 29, 32, 39, 46
9/22	Five	5-29, 30, 31, 33, 35, 37, 39, 42, 47, 49, 50
9/29	Six	6-16, 24, 26, 28, 30, 32, 34, 36, 37, 40, 43
10/6	Seven	7-22, 23, 25, 26, 30, 31, 33, 43, 45, 46, 54
10/13	Eight	8-24, 25, 28, 32, 34, 35, 37
10/20	Mid-Term	
10/27	Nine	9-25, 26, 31, 34, 35, 36
11/3	Ten	10-12, 16, 18, 21, 25, 26
11/10	Eleven	11-23, 24, 25, 26, 28, 30, 31, 32
11/17	Twelve	12-14, 15, 20, 21, 22, 25, 30, 32
11/24	Thirteen	13-18, 22, 24, 29, 33, 36, 39, 41, 44
12/1	Fourteen	14-22, 23, 25, 26, 31, 35, 38
12/8	Final Exam	

Withdrawal Deadline is Monday, November 9.