

Course Number: MGMT 543
*Course Title: Seminar in Business Tax
Planning*
Semester & Year: Fall 2014
Classroom: ASM 1064
Meeting Time/Days: 5:30-8:00 M

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Office Hours: 4:00-5:15 M

PURPOSE AND METHOD

Classes are conducted in a lecture-discussion manner. Due to the rigorous nature of the subject matter and the heavy workload of the class, it is imperative that you attend class regularly in order to comprehend the material, avoid falling behind, and to perform adequately on each exam. The key to success in any course is careful and consistent preparation. Students are expected to come to class prepared and actively participate in classroom discussions. It is expected you will respect others by not using communication devices during the class period.

COURSE OBJECTIVES

1. To study the basics of the Federal taxation of business entities --including the creation, operation, and liquidation of C corporations, S corporations, and partnerships. This material is focused at comparing and contrasting different entity choices.
2. A brief introduction to the Federal estate and gift tax.
3. Introduction to primary tax source material and tax forms & instructions.
4. Enable you to analyze the effects of any tax and the interactions of various taxes on decision-making.
5. To gain familiarity to preparing corporate and partnership tax returns.
6. Equip you with the tools to comply with the provisions of our federal tax laws. That is, completing a tax return and engaging in tax planning.
7. Demonstrate technical knowledge of:
 - Corporate income tax
 - Tax cost concepts and relevance to decision situations
 - Tax information to support management decisions
 - Identifying tax accounting alternatives and analyzing the impacts of each on financial statements and/or tax liabilities
 - Tax financial accounting principles
 - Working in collaborative environments

TEXT AND/OR OTHER READINGS

Text – Loose-leaf edition of *McGraw-Hill's Taxation of Individuals and Business Entities*, 2015 edition with *Connect Plus*, by Spilker, Ayers, Robinson, Outslay, Worsham, Barrick and Weaver; ISBN 9781259356537.

Connect – See the attached instructions, your text and the Connect website:
<http://connect.mheducation.com/class/r-gary-fall-2014-1>

Income Tax Forms and Instructions – See the Internal Revenue Service website:
<http://www.irs.gov/>

RIA Checkpoint – <http://www.unm.edu/libraries/> then click on “University Libraries”, then, under “Databases by Title”, click on “R”, and then click on “RIA Checkpoint”

Also, from time to time I will post handouts for class and/or study questions on *Connect*. It will be your responsibility to download them and bring a hard copy to class (when required).

PERFORMANCE MEASURES and GRADING

Your points will accumulate according to the schedule of assignments listed below.

Points are earned as follows:

Lecture Preparation (<i>Connect/LearnSmart</i>)	100
Homework (<i>Connect</i>)	100
3 Tax Return Assignments (3 @ 50 points ea.)	150
Tax Research Project	100
3 Examinations (3 @ 100 points ea.)	300
Final Exam (Comprehensive)	<u>200</u>
Total	950

Lecture Preparation: Lecture preparation will be administered through *Connect* as *LearnSmart* assignments. Each assignment will consist of questions derived from the next chapter of study. Each assignment will be available for completion for approximately one week prior to the lecture. The completion date/time for each assignment is given in *Connect*. **There are no make-ups for lecture preparation not completed by the due date/time.**

Homework: Homework will be administered through *Connect* as assignments. Each assignment will consist of questions derived from the current chapter of study. Each assignment will be available for completion for approximately one week. The completion date/time for each assignment is given in *Connect*. **There are no make-ups for homework not completed by the due date/time.**

Tax Returns: Three tax return assignments will be assigned during the semester. Each return will stress tax issue identification, tax return preparation, and tax planning. The focus of these returns will be to understand the tax concepts through a “hands on” implementation based on the tax forms. The requirements for each return will be discussed more fully when they are distributed. **Each return is due at the beginning of class on the due date. No late returns will be accepted.** These returns are team assignments. **Each team is expected to work independently from the remainder of the class.** I am available to answer questions, check figures, and provide advice as you prepare your returns (either via meetings or email). Bonus points are available for those teams that complete the returns correctly and turn them in prior to the due date (more points are awarded for the earliest submittals). Your return and peer evaluations can either be turned in or emailed to me prior to the due date/time for full credit.

Tax Research Letter: You will be required to create a professional client letter using appropriate citations after researching a tax issue. **Each student is expected to work independently from the remainder of the class. No late letters will be accepted.** A passing grade requires that your letter is professional, formatted as a professional business letter, contains correct spelling and grammar, and references solely primary sources.

Exams: There are four exams. All exams will be given “in-class”. The first three exams will cover the areas assigned since the previous exam. The final exam is comprehensive in nature. Exam I - III dates are tentative and may be changed at a later date.

It is expected that you will attend the exam-----absences are expected to be rare. If you are sick on the day of the exam, I expect to be notified prior to the exam so that alternative arrangements can be made for you to take the test (in addition, I will need a note from a doctor, the infirmary, etc. confirming the illness). **In every event, however, I reserve the right to judge whether the reason for the absence is reasonable or not. If your absence is excused, you will be expected to take the exam at a time that is convenient to me. In all cases, there are no make-up exams for unexcused absences and you will receive a grade of zero for that exam.**

GRADING SCALE

If your total points accumulate to the following percentages you will receive the following grades: 90% to 100% (A+, A or A-); 80% to 89% (B-, B or B+); 70.00% to 79% (C-, C or C+); 60.00% to 69% (D- or D).

ACADEMIC INTEGRITY

Anderson School of Management faculty, staff and students commit to values of trust, honesty, integrity, and accountability. We will not tolerate academic dishonesty. By enrolling in any course at Anderson, the student accepts the Anderson Academic Honesty Code and affirms the following pledge:

I will not lie, cheat, fabricate, plagiarize or use any other dishonest means to gain unfair academic advantage.

Any violation of the code of conduct will be taken very seriously and appropriate sanctions will be applied. FOR FULL TEXT OF ANDERSON'S ACADEMIC HONESTY CODE, please visit <http://www.mgt.unm.edu/honesty>

ADA STATEMENT

Reasonable accommodation will be given to any individual with a legitimate disability. Please contact the instructor privately for arrangements. If you are a qualified person with disabilities who might need appropriate academic adjustments, please communicate with me as soon as possible so that we may make appropriate arrangements to meet your needs in a timely manner. Frequently, we will need to coordinate accommodating activities with other offices on campus. Course materials can be made available in alternative formats.