COURSE SYLLABUS
Accounting 543 001 – Tu 4:00-6:30
McGee Business Building / Nelson Rusche College of Business
Spring, 2020

Instructor: Dr. Thomas Branton JD, LLM, CPA
Office: Accounting Department / Gerald W. Schlief School of Accountancy,
Office 292E
Phone: 936-468-1829 direct line
  936-468-3105 accounting department (leave a message)
E-mail: brantontm@sfasu.edu

Office Hours: Online: TuTh 10:30 am to 12:00 pm
Office: MW 10:00am to 12:00pm., Tu 1:00 to 4:00, Other times by
appointment

Class Hours: Tu 4:00 to 6:30, room 269

Prerequisites: Individual Income Tax (ACC 343) and a quest for adventure.

Required Text:

2020 Corporations, Partnerships, Estates & Trusts by Hoffman, Young, Raab, Maloney, and
Nellen with Cengage Now Access; The course key for the class is in the Cengage boarding pass
on D2L.

A note about the book and Cengage. You can purchase a hardback (or loose-leaf) copy of the book or use
the electronic version that is supplied with the Cengage software. My recommendation is to
purchase the hardback or loose-leaf book. It just seems to work better for students than the
electronic version in terms of receiving better grades. If you have the printed version please plan
to bring it to every class. We work a great deal out of the text and not having it during the lecture
will put you at some disadvantage. If you use the electronic version I would suggest printing each
chapter and bringing that to class or bring your laptop to class to view it. You really will use the
book or printed copy in class so do bring it. I know books and passwords for software are expensive
and I wish it were not so. Don’t delay in getting your book and Cengage access. Cengage will give
you a courtesy access for a couple of weeks at the start of the semester so make use of it. The
courtesy access will give you the ability to do your homework and hand an on-line copy of the text
to read. See D2L for more information on signing up for Cengage.

Course Description:
Statutes, regulations, administrative rulings and court decisions relating to the income taxes of
corporations and other entities.

Program Learning Outcomes:
Program learning outcomes define the knowledge, skills, and abilities students are expected to
demonstrate upon completion of an academic program. These learning outcomes are regularly
assessed to determine student learning and to evaluate overall program effectiveness. You may access the program learning outcomes for your major and particular courses at http://www.sfasu.edu/cob/grad-plo.asp.

Student Learning Outcomes:
1. Understand the laws governing corporate and entity income tax.
2. Demonstrate competency in taxation by preparation of corporate and entity income tax returns.

Cheating and Plagiarism:
Cheating and/or plagiarism will not be tolerated. If a student or students are proven to have cheated or plagiarized material, a grade of F will be given for the assignment and, in certain cases, a grade of F may be awarded for the course. See also “Academic Integrity” below.

Attendance Policy:
Regular on-time class attendance is expected. You are responsible for all announcements made during class. You are also responsible for getting notes and learning what was covered in class if you have to miss a class. It is disruptive to the other students and the professor when students come to class late, therefore you will not receive the same benefit as the students that arrived on time.

In-Class Time:
Read the material BEFORE class. My lectures will assume that you have finished the assigned reading and have a basic understanding of the material. Bring your books to class. Respect of your colleagues and the instructor is also expected. We will not work all the problems at the end of the chapter but will complete some of the problems.

Course Requirements:
Exams:
You will have two exams during the course of the semester. The final is not cumulative. Exams will be part multiple choice and part essay/problems. The exams will be VERY similar to the problems at the end of the chapters and the problems discussed in class. Therefore, it is essential that you work, re-work and thoroughly understand these problems.

Research Memo:
You will have one research memo due near the end of the semester. This memo will cover topics from the chapters covered. Most of the issues in the memo are discussed in the text; however, you will still have to do additional research on other issues.

Participation:
You will be expected to attend class AND meaningfully participate in the lectures.

Class Policies
Recording and/or videoing the seminar is prohibited.
**Grading Policy:**

Exams (two exams at 22% each) \(66\%\)
Homework \(22\%\)
One Research Project \(12\%\)
Bonus points \(?\)

100%

**Grading Scale:**

A = 90% and above
B = 89% to 80%
C = 79% to 70%
D = 69% to 60%
F = 59% and below

---

**Tentative Course Schedule**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Lecture Material</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1/21</td>
<td>Course discussion and syllabus; Chapter 1 discussion on understanding and working with federal tax law.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1/28</td>
<td>Chapter 1 review, Chapter 2 discussion on deduction for qualified business income for pass-through entities.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2/04</td>
<td>Completion of Chapter 2 discussion and Chapter 3 overview and discussion on corporations and operating rules, basic taxation of corporations.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2/11</td>
<td>Chapter 3 completion and summary, intro to chapter 4 on corporate organization and capital structure.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2/18</td>
<td>Chapter 4 overview and discussion on corporations organization and capital structure</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2/25</td>
<td>Chapter 5 overview and discussion on taxation of earning, profits, and distributions</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3/03</td>
<td>Exam 1 on chapters 1 through 5 corporate taxation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3/10</td>
<td>Spring break week</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3/17</td>
<td>Chapter 10 overview and discussion on partnership formation, operation and basis.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3/24</td>
<td>Chapter 10 completion and intro to Chapter 11 on partnership distributions transfer of interest and terminations.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Date</td>
<td>Event</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>--------</td>
<td>----------------------------------------------------------------------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3/31</td>
<td>Chapter 11 completion and intro to Chapter 12 on S corporations</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4/07</td>
<td>Chapter 12 completion and intro to Chapter 13 on forms of doing business</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4/14</td>
<td>Chapter 13 completion and intro to Chapter 18 on federal gift and estate tax</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4/21</td>
<td>Chapter 18 completion</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4/28</td>
<td>Presentation of projects</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5/05</td>
<td>Final exam on chapters 10 through 13 and Chapter 18</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Academic Integrity (4.1)**

Academic integrity is a responsibility of all university faculty and students. Faculty members promote academic integrity in multiple ways including instruction on the components of academic honesty, as well as abiding by university policy on penalties for cheating and plagiarism.

**Definition of Academic Dishonesty**

Academic dishonesty includes both cheating and plagiarism. Cheating includes but is not limited to (1) using or attempting to use unauthorized materials to aid in achieving a better grade on a component of a class; (2) the falsification or invention of any information, including citations, on an assigned exercise; and/or (3) helping or attempting to help another in an act of cheating or plagiarism. Plagiarism is presenting the words or ideas of another person as if they were your own. Examples of plagiarism are (1) submitting an assignment as if it were one's own work when, in fact, it is at least partly the work of another; (2) submitting a work that has been purchased or otherwise obtained from an Internet source or another source; and (3) incorporating the words or ideas of an author into one's paper without giving the author due credit. Please read the complete policy at [http://www.sfasu.edu/policies/academic_integrity.asp](http://www.sfasu.edu/policies/academic_integrity.asp)

**Withheld Grades--Grades Policy (5.5)**

Ordinarily, at the discretion of the instructor of record and with the approval of the academic chair/director, a grade of WH will be assigned only if the student cannot complete the course work because of unavoidable circumstances. Students must complete the work within one calendar year from the end of the semester in which they receive a WH, or the grade automatically becomes an F. If students register for the same course in future terms the WH will automatically become an F and will be counted as a repeated course for the purpose of computing the grade point average.

**Students with Disabilities**
To obtain disability related accommodations, alternate formats and/or auxiliary aids, students with disabilities must contact the Office of Disability Services (ODS), Human Services Building, and Room 325, 468-3004 / 468-1004 (TDD) as early as possible in the semester. Once verified, ODS will notify the course instructor and outline the accommodation and/or auxiliary aids to be provided. Failure to request services in a timely manner may delay your accommodations. For additional information, go to http://www.sfasu.edu/disabilityservices/.

Acceptable Student Behavior
Classroom behavior should not interfere with the instructor’s ability to conduct the class or the ability of other students to learn from the instructional program (see the Student Conduct Code, policy 10-4). Unacceptable or disruptive behavior will not be tolerated. Students who disrupt the learning environment may be asked to leave class and may be subject to judicial, academic, or other penalties. This prohibition applies to all instructional forums, including electronic, classroom, labs, discussion groups, field trips, etc. The instructor shall have full discretion over what behavior is appropriate/inappropriate in the classroom. Students who do not attend class regularly or who perform poorly on class projects/exams may be referred to the iCare Early Alert Program. This program provides students with recommendations for resources or other assistance that is available to help SFA students succeed.