

**Department of Accounting
Ryan College of Business
University of North Texas
ACCT 5320 – Taxation of Flow-Through Entities
Syllabus – Fall 2024**

Instructor: Pradeep Sapkota, Ph.D., CPA
Section: ACCT 5320
Classroom: Wh 116
Office: BLB 394C
Office Hours: Mo We 10:00 am-11:00 am; 12:30 pm-1:00 pm; or by appointment
Phone: 940-565-3098 (Please leave a voicemail)
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Required Text: The Logic of Subchapter K, A Conceptual Guide to the Taxation of Partnerships 6th Edition by Laura E. Cunningham | Noël B. Cunningham ISBN: 9781642429794

Prerequisites: ACCT 4320 with a grade of C or better or consent of department.

I. Access to Information – EAGLE CONNECT

Your access point for business and academic services at UNT occurs within the my.unt.edu site <http://www.my.unt.edu>. All official communication from the university will be delivered to your Eagle Connect account. For more information, please visit the website that explains Eagle Connect and how to forward your e-mail to a personal address: <http://eagleconnect.unt.edu/>.

II. Course Description and Objectives

A comprehensive study of federal income taxation of partnerships, S corporations, fiduciaries, and their owners/beneficiaries. Partnerships, LLCs, and Subchapter S corporations are popular business forms that are taxed as flow-through entities. This course provides a good working knowledge of taxation of such entities including a comparison of such tax entities vis-à-vis C corporations, tax effects of the formation of partnerships on entity and partners, taxation of partnership income, substantial economic effect principle, the effect of liabilities on partnerships, and partners, distributions from partnerships and liquidation of partnerships. Similar topics are addressed for S-corporations as well.

By the end of this course, students will be able to:

1. List the tax advantages and disadvantages of partnerships and S-corporations vis-à-vis other business entities.
2. Compute the tax impact of the formation of partnerships/LLCs.
3. Explain the provisions related to taxation of partnerships and prepare a partnership tax

return.

4. Explain the principle of substantial economic effect and compute the effect of liabilities on partnership and partners.
5. Calculate the tax impact of distributions from and liquidation of partnerships.
6. Distinguish between the tax consequences of S-corporations and partnerships, prepare an S-corporation tax return, and compute the tax consequences of S-corporations including distributions from S-corporations.
7. Solve unstructured problems relating to compliance and planning of partnerships and S-corporations.

III. Course Structure

This class is set up as “in person”. Supplemental course materials will be posted to Canvas. Refer to the course schedule for specific details. Please note that the instructor reserves the right to make changes to the course structure and schedule as needed.

IV. Participation/Professionalism/Attendance

A professional demeanor is an integral part of any business environment, especially in your preparation for a career in accounting. Professionalism in this environment implies respect and courtesy for others. I expect students to maintain the highest standards of professionalism. Your speech, appearance, and attitude impact your professional image in the eyes of those around you. Asking for concessions that would violate the syllabus (attempts at turning in homework late, not watching the posted lectures, asking me to fraudulently report your grade by adding or rounding points, etc.), are examples of unprofessional behavior that translated into a business environment could get you fired. Start good professional habits now! Use of laptops or cell phones is not allowed in the classroom unless approved by the instructor.

Because attendance is so important for success in this class, 12% of your grade will be based on attendance and in-class discussion that may include group projects. Each student will check in and/or submit written assignments during class period when asked and your grade will be based on a percentage of your attendance in this class.

A link to the University Attendance Policy may be found below:

<https://policy.unt.edu/policy/06-039>

Early exits or late arrivals will be marked as unexcused absences because they tend to disrupt the class. Therefore, if you need to arrive late or leave early on any given day, please inform/check with me in advance so that I may try to accommodate your needs in the best manner possible.

V. In-class and Homework Assignments

You are expected to read each chapter prior to attending the lectures. Assigned readings are noted under each module in Canvas. There are three assignments for this course. In-class assignment consists of a set of questions that the students solve in groups during the class period. If you cannot

attend the class for an university approved reason, you are required to email me ahead of class time and then submit the in-class assignment individually before the beginning of the next class period. Homework assignments are to be completed individually, in-paper (handwritten), and submitted in the class. The steps taken in solving numerical problems must be clearly explained. Homework assignments are available on Canvas several days before they are due and students are encouraged to attempt them early and a doctor's note (dated assignment due date) will not be sufficient to receive additional time to submit the assignment. If you expect to miss one whole week during the semester, you are required to notify me at the beginning of the semester. Unless specifically excluded, students are responsible for all material in the assigned chapters of the text, even if not specifically covered in class. Illegible assignment submissions will receive a lower grade. Tax return assignment is also embedded in the course. Please look at the course calendar for details. Use of generative AI (including but not limited to ChatGPT) is not allowed when completing assignments and/or tax returns. Failure to abide by these rules could result in a lower grade in the assignments/ tax returns leading up to being dropped from the class. Late assignments will not be accepted.

VI. Examinations

There will be three exams, each required, and each carry 20% of the course grade. All exams will be closed book/notes but you will be allowed to use a one-page, one-sided cheat sheet. The page must be standard letter size (A4 or 8.5 inches by 11 inches). You are not allowed to use electronic devices such as cell phones, PDAs, or smartwatches during the exams. A basic, four-function calculator (addition, subtraction, multiplication, division, and perhaps square root) is all that is allowed on exam days. Cell phones, tablets, laptops, etc. cannot be substituted for a calculator. A financial calculator (BA II Plus) is allowed. The exams will be conducted in person in classroom during regular class times. In the event the class or exam is switched to online format due to an unforeseeable event, the exams will be set up using the LockDown Browser in Canvas and will require a webcam. Please refer to the course calendar for exam schedule dates.

You have a responsibility to appear for each examination at its regularly scheduled time. Except in the case of a university-sanctioned emergency, absence in the exams will automatically receive a score of zero.

VII. Grading

Table 1: Your grades will be determined based on the table below:

Assignment	Percentage of Final Grade
Attendance and In-class Discussions	12%
Homework	18%
Tax return	10%
Exams	60%
TOTAL	100%

Table 2: Overall course grading scale

A	≥90%
B	≥80%
C	≥70%
D	≥60%
F	<60%

VIII. CPA Exam Preparation

This is NOT directly a CPA exam preparation course. Recognizing the importance of professional certifications (CPA, CMA, CFE, etc.) throughout the careers of our accounting graduates, however, the Accounting Department is committed to providing information about the process of obtaining these designations and the degree of difficulty of questions on the respective examinations.

While the integration of this material in upper-division undergraduate and graduate courses will be dependent on specific course objectives, examples may include:

- Assignment of AICPA adapted assignments which are included in most accounting textbooks.
- Use of CPA exam questions as discussion or written assignments.
- Designing class examinations to include CPA exam level questions.

IX. Academic Dishonesty

The G. Brint Ryan College of Business takes academic honesty seriously. Ethics and integrity are important business values, essential to building trust and adhering to both professional and legal standards. Academic dishonesty destroys trust, damages the reputation and the value of the degree and is unacceptable.

According to UNT Policy 06.003, Student Academic Integrity, academic dishonesty occurs when students engage in behaviors including, but not limited to cheating, fabrication, facilitating academic dishonesty, forgery, plagiarism, and sabotage. A finding of academic dishonesty may result in a range of academic penalties or sanctions from admonition (a warning) to expulsion from the University.

Some of the most common examples of academic integrity violations include plagiarism or cheating, such as unauthorized assistance on examinations, homework, research papers or case analyses. Your work must be entirely your own. When working on assignments, you should not discuss your work with others unless approved by the course instructor. Group assignments should only be discussed with members assigned to your group, and all group members may be held accountable in some way for known academic integrity violations in a group assignment.

Another example of academic dishonesty relates to improper attribution. When preparing your assignments, you must cite all outside sources in the manner requested by your instructor. Copying or using material from any source prepared by or previously submitted by others, at UNT or other institutions, or downloaded from the Internet, is plagiarism. Unless directed otherwise in an assignment, large scale “cutting and pasting” from other sources, even if properly footnoted, is not appropriate. You should synthesize this material in your own words and provide a footnote.

Your instructor will specify what materials, if any, may be used on the tests and exams. Using materials other than those permitted, talking with other individuals during the exam, individuals exchanging information about an exam when one has taken the exam and the other has not, or copying or using material from another individual’s exam is academic dishonesty and will result in a meeting to discuss academic integrity violations and potentially issue sanctions mentioned above, and may result in ineligibility for academic scholarships. The use of online assistance, such as sites commonly used for finding homework solutions, group chat, cell phones, smart watches, and similar tools during exams is not allowed for any reason unless specifically permitted. No portion of an exam may be copied or photographed without permission.

Students are expected to conduct themselves in a manner consistent with the University's status as an institution of higher education. A student is responsible for responding to a request to discuss suspected academic dishonesty when issued by an instructor or other University official. If a student fails to respond after a proper attempt at notification has been made, the University may take appropriate academic actions in the absence of the student’s participation.

Penalties: If you engage in academic dishonesty related to this class, you will receive a failing grade on the test or assignment **and** a failing grade in the course. In addition, the case will be referred to the Dean of Students for appropriate disciplinary action. Further information can be found at <https://policy.unt.edu/policy/06-003>

X. Disabling Conditions:

The Department of Accounting, in cooperation with the Office of Disability Access, complies with the Americans with Disabilities Act in making reasonable accommodations for qualified students with disabilities. If you have an established disability as defined in the Americans with Disabilities Act and would like to request an accommodation, please present your written accommodation request during the first two weeks of classes. My office hours and office number are shown on this syllabus. Further information can be found at <https://studentaffairs.unt.edu/office-disability-access>

XI. Succeed at UNT

UNT endeavors to offer you a high-quality education and to provide a supportive environment to help you learn and grow. As a faculty member, I am committed to helping you be successful as a student. Here’s how to succeed at UNT: Show up. Find support. Get advised. Be prepared. Get involved. Stay focused. To learn more about campus resources and information on how you can

achieve success, go to <http://success.unt.edu/>. The key to success is persistence.

XII. Emergency Notification & Procedures:

UNT uses a system called Eagle Alert to quickly notify students with critical information in the event of an emergency (i.e., severe weather, campus closing, and health and public safety emergencies like chemical spills, fires, or violence). The system sends voice messages (and text messages upon permission) to the phones of all active faculty staff and students. Please make certain to update your phone numbers at <http://www.my.unt.edu>. Some helpful emergency preparedness actions include: 1) know the evacuation routes and severe weather shelter areas in the buildings where your classes are held, 2) determine how you will contact family and friends if phones are temporarily unavailable, and 3) identify where you will go if you need to evacuate the Denton area suddenly. In the event of a university closure, please refer to Canvas for contingency plans for covering course materials.

XIII. Emergency Evacuation Procedures for Business Leadership Building:

- **Severe Weather:** In the event of severe weather, all building occupants should immediately seek shelter in the designated shelter-in-place area in the building. If unable to safely move to the designated shelter-in-place area, seek shelter in a windowless interior room or hallway on the lowest floor of the building. All building occupants should take shelter in rooms 055, 077, 090, and the restrooms on the basement level. In rooms 170, 155, and the restrooms on the first floor.
- **Bomb Threat/Fire:** In the event of a bomb threat or fire in the building, all building occupants should immediately evacuate the building using the nearest exit. Once outside, proceed to the designated assembly area. If unable to safely move to the designated assembly area, contact one or more members of your department or unit to let them know you are safe and inform them of your whereabouts. Persons with mobility impairments who are unable to safely exit the building should move to a designated area of refuge and await assistance from emergency responders. All building occupants should immediately evacuate the building and proceed to the south side of Crumley Hall in the grassy area, west of parking lot 24.

XIV. Class Materials for Online Instruction

Recorded lectures or other course materials might be posted to Canvas during the semester. Class recordings and other course materials are the intellectual property of the university or instructor and are reserved for use only by students in this class and only for educational purposes. Students may not post or otherwise share the recordings outside the class, or outside the Canvas Learning Management System, in any form. Failing to follow this restriction is a violation of the UNT Code of Student Conduct and could lead to disciplinary action.

Schedule: ACCT 5320		
Fall 2024 (Mo 6:30 pm - 9:20 pm)		
Date	Modules	Assignments due dates
19-Aug-24	Module 1	Module 1 assignments due in class on Sept 9
26-Aug-24	Module 2	No in-person class (See Canvas). Assignments due in class on Sept 9
2-Sep-24	No class (Labor Day)	
9-Sep-24	Module 3	Module 3 assignments due in class on Sept 16
16-Sep-24	Module 4	Module 4 assignments due on Sept 21 (Canvas)*
23-Sep-24		Exam 1
30-Sep-24	Module 5	Module 5 assignments due on Oct 7
7-Oct-24	Module 6	Module 6 assignments due on Oct 14
14-Oct-24	Module 7	Module 7 assignments due on Oct 21
21-Oct-24	Module 8	Module 8 assignments due on Oct 26 (Canvas)*
28-Oct-24		Exam 2
4-Nov-24	Module 9	Module 9 assignments due on Nov 11
11-Nov-24		Tax Return Due Date
11-Nov-24	Module 10	Module 10 assignments due on Nov 18
18-Nov-24	Module 11	Module 11 assignments due on Dec 2
25-Nov-24	Thanksgiving Break	
2-Dec-24	Module 12	Module 12 assignments due on Dec 7 (Canvas)*
9-Dec-24		Exam 3