

**Department of Accounting
College of Business
University of North Texas
ACCT 4300.003 – Federal Income Taxation
Syllabus – Spring 2020**

Instructor: Pradeep Sapkota, PhD, CPA
Section: Tu 6:30 - 9:20pm
Classroom: BLB 260
Office: BLB 394C
Hours: TU 9:30am - 11:30am, TU 4:00pm - 6:00pm, TH 9:30am - 11:30am
Phone: 940-565-3098
Email: Pradeep.sapkota@unt.edu (preferred communication)

Required Text: McGraw-Hill, Taxation of Individuals and Business Entities. 2020 Edition, Spilker et al.

Please obtain access to McGraw-Hill Connect ASAP. See Canvas for access to course materials once purchased (can be purchased directly through McGraw-Hill).

Prerequisites: A grade of C or better in ACCT 2010 and ACCT 2020; May not be taken more than twice at UNT.

Forward provision: This course serves as a prerequisite for ACCT 4320, ACCT 5110, ACCT 5310, and ACCT 5340. It may also be a prerequisite for some non-accounting courses. Please discuss your course schedule with your advisor.

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

This course is designed to introduce students to the Federal tax system while providing them with a skill set that will enable them to apply the appropriate tax law concepts to various tax situations. After successfully completing this course, you should obtain knowledge and skills related to:

- The Federal tax system including the different types of taxes and various tax compliance practices and procedures
- Individual taxation: including key concepts like gross income inclusions and exclusions, deductions for adjusted gross income, itemized deductions and the calculation of individual tax liabilities.

- Business taxation: deductibility of business expenses, tax years, acceptable tax accounting methods, book/tax differences, depreciation/amortization methods, and self-employment income and taxation.
- Taxation of business and personal property transactions: including calculation of capital gains/losses, and calculation of business property transactions including those under section 1231 and related code sections.
- Entity choice including the different methods used to tax different entities.
- Preparation of federal income tax forms for individuals including form 1040 and related schedules.

III. Laptops, Smartphones and iClicker REEF Polling

Use of computers, smartphones, and all other electronic devices is **strictly prohibited** unless it is to take notes, view the PowerPoint, or directly required for the class.

We will make use of **iClicker REEF Polling software/app** for which the use of smartphones is required. For a detailed description on how to install iClicker REEF Polling see instructions below. We will also spend part of the first or second day of class to go over the installation and use of the software.

To install iClicker Reef Polling follow these simple steps (for iPhone, Android phones should be very similar):

1. Visit the app store and search for “iClicker Reef”.
2. Install the app.
 - (i) After you opened the app, click on “Create a New Account”. You need to type “University of North Texas” into the field at the very top to populate a drop-down list to find UNT as the appropriate institution.
 - (ii) Fill in the rest of your information required to create your account, including name, UNT e-mail, Student ID, and password. PLEASE use your true information as I need those to identify you when evaluating answers or checking for attendance.
 - (iii) Sign in your account with your credentials you just created (username/e- mail and password)
3. You will be asked whether you want to register an iClicker remote. We will use smartphones only, therefore click on “not now”.
4. Click on the plus-sign that is located at the top right of the screen search for
5. Add the course
6. I will go over any questions or problems you may have encountered with respect to the installation process during the first day of class.

We will start using iClicker REEF Polling for attendance, partially for participation, so please make sure the app is running on your smartphone device.

A few FAQs: What if.....

#1 My phone/battery died during class?

Answer: Come and speak to me before class so that I can mark you as being present. On quiz-days I will bring some extra paper copies to class.

#2 I forgot my phone.

Answer: Same answer as #1.

#3 I can't connect to wifi.

Answer: Same answer as #1. Please also talk to UNT tech-support to resolve this issue asap.

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 a respect and courtesy for others. I expect students to maintain the highest standards of professionalism in the classroom. 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, habitually missing class, asking me to fraudulently report your grade by adding or rounding points, etc.), are examples of unprofessional behavior that translated into a business environment would get you fired. Professionalism is also exemplified by willingness to lead discussions in class. Sitting on your hands and saying absolutely nothing all semester will hurt you in class and the workplace. Excessive absences will result in the forfeiture of all professionalism points. Start good professional habits now!

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. We will use iClicker to take attendance. I reserve the right to drop students from class if they have more than three unexcused absences.

V. Homework Assignments, Quizzes, and LearnSmart

You are expected to read each chapter prior to its discussion in class. You are to have all HW assignments and quizzes completed and submitted by 11:59pm the day before class, as specified in the course calendar or in class. For instance, if a HW and/or quiz is listed on Thursday, June 6th, it is due by Wednesday night 11:59pm. LearnSmart assignments are due 1 hour before each class meeting. Late assignments will not be accepted. All homework, Quizzes, and LearnSmart assignments must be completed in McGraw-Hill Connect or Canvas.

Unless specifically excluded, students are responsible for all material in the assigned chapters of the text, even if not specifically covered in class.

VI. Quizzes

We will have graded quizzes every week. All quizzes will be administered through Canvas using a lock-down browser. Although you will have to take the quiz at home, I have monitors in place to spot cheating attempts. Please refer to the Academic Honesty policy further below.

VII. Examinations

There will be three mid-term exams and a final exam during the course of the semester. Your grade will be based on three best efforts in the exams. The final exam will be a comprehensive exam. Please do not bring electronic devices such as cell phones or PDAs to 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.

You have a responsibility to appear for each examination at its regularly scheduled time. No make-up exams will be available except in case of university approved emergencies.

VIII. Grading

Your grades will be determined as follows:

Assignment	Percentage of Final Grade
Exams (best 3 out of four)	70%
LearnSmart	6.5%
Homework Assignments	13.5%
Weekly quizzes	8%
Attendance & participation	2%
TOTAL	100%

Overall Course Grading Scale	
A	≥90%
B	≥80%
C	≥70%
D	≥60%
F	<60%

IX. 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 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 examination questions as discussion or written assignments.
- Designing class examinations to include CPA exam level questions.

X. Academic Dishonesty

The UNT Code of Student Conduct and Discipline provides penalties for misconduct by students, including academic dishonesty. Academic dishonesty includes cheating and plagiarism. The term "cheating" includes, but is not limited to (1) use or provision of any unauthorized assistance in taking quizzes or examinations or completing tax return assignments; (2) dependence upon the aid of sources beyond those authorized by the instructor in writing papers, preparing reports, solving problems, or carrying out other tax return assignments; or (3) the acquisition, without permission, of tests or other academic material belonging to a faculty member or staff of the university.

The term "plagiarism" includes, but is not limited to, the use, by paraphrase or direct quotation, of the published or unpublished work of another person without full and clear acknowledgment. It also includes the unacknowledged use of materials prepared by another person or agency engaged in the selling academic materials on the internet. (Source: Code of Conduct and Discipline at the University of North Texas.)

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 <http://policy-dev.unt.edu/policy/06-003>

XI. Disabling Conditions:

The Department of Accounting, in cooperation with the Office of Disability Accommodation, 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 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 <http://www.unt.edu/oda>

XII. 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. Take control. Be prepared. Get involved. Be persistent. To learn more about campus resources and information on how you can achieve success, go to <http://success.unt.edu/>. The following are some specific applications of Succeed at UNT for this class. A key to success is persistence.

XIII. 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.

XIV. 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.

Course Calendar (Note: The instructor reserves the right to make changes as needed)

Schedule: ACCT 4300-003 (BLB 260 - T 6:30 pm - 9:20 pm)			
Semester: Jan 13, 2020 - May 8, 2020			
Date	Chapters	LearnSmart Due 1 hour before class!	Homework Assignment and Chapter Quiz Due the night (11:59 pm) before class!
14-Jan-20	Chapter 1		
21-Jan-20	Chapter 2	Chapter 2	Chapter 1
28-Jan-20	Chapter 3	Chapter 3	Chapter 2
4-Feb-20	Chapter 4	Chapter 4	Chapter 3
11-Feb-20	Chapter 5	Chapter 5	Chapter 4
18-Feb-20	Exam 1 and begin Chapter 6		Chapter 5
25-Feb-20	Finish Chapter 6 and Chapter 8	Chapter 6, Chapter 8	
3-Mar-20	Chapter 9	Chapter 9	Chapter 6, Chapter 8
10-Mar-20	No Class - Spring Break		
17-Mar-20	Chapter 10	Chapter 10	Chapter 9
24-Mar-20	Exam 2		Chapter 10
31-Mar-20	Chapter 11	Chapter 11	
7-Apr-20	Chapter 7	Chapter 7	Chapter 11
14-Apr-20	Chapter 12	Chapter 12	Chapter 7
21-Apr-20	Chapter 13	Chapter 13	Chapter 12
28-Apr-20	Exam 3		Chapter 13
5-May-20	Final exam at 6:30 pm - 8:30 pm		
Exam 1	Chapters: 1, 2, 3, 4, 5		
Exam 2	Chapters: 6, 8, 9, 10		
Exam 3	Chapters: 7, 11, 12, 13		

