

**FALL 2013
ACCT 3350**

Course Syllabus: as of 08/04/13

Course Information

Fall 2013 ACCT 3350 Foundations of Taxation I. MW 1-3:15pm Room-JSOM 1.117

Professor Contact Information

Steven J. Solcher
Office Phone 972-883-5985
JSOM 4.425
Email: Steve.Solcher@utdallas.edu
Preferred method of communication-Email

Office hours By Appointment and Mondays 9am to 1pm.

Course Pre-requisites, Co-requisites, and/or Other Restrictions

See catalog.

Course Description

An introductory course in Federal Taxation. It is a prerequisite for all the other courses in the tax program-and is an important element in the Uniform CPA Examination. A knowledge of individual income tax is important in developing relationships with key executive clients and is the foundation for financial planning.

Student Learning Objectives/Outcomes

- To understand and apply income tax concepts which influence decision making for individual taxpayers including determination of taxable income.
- Develop an understanding of the basic tax model and how it applies to all types of global tax situations.
- To understand the ethical considerations in a tax practice.
- To develop tax and business communication skills.
- To develop an understanding of the impact of technology to the tax practitioner.

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Required Textbooks and Materials

Mandatory

Concepts in Federal Taxation 2014
Kevin Murphy Student Edition with CD

Optional

Study Guide

Both are from Southwestern Cengage Learning Publishing

Suggested Course Materials

See above

Assignments & Academic Calendar

DATE	TOPIC	Assignments
08/26/13	Introduction Chapter 1	See attached
08/28/13	Chapter 2 Tax Return and Paper discussion	
09/02/13	Labor Day- no class	
09/04/13	Chapter 2	
09/09/13	Chapter 3	
09/11/13	Chapter 3	
09/16/13	Chapter 4	
09/18/13	Chapter 4 Exam #1 review	

WEEK OF 09/23/13 EXAM #1: (Chapters 1-4) Testing Center

09/23/13	Chapter 5
09/25/13	Chapter 5
09/30/13	Exam 1 results Chapter 6

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10/02/13	Chapter 6
10/07/13	MOVIE PAPER DUE Chapter 7
10/09/13	Chapter 7
10/14/13	Chapter 8
10/16/13	Chapter 8 Review for exam #2 (Ch 5-8)
10/21/13	Exam #2 9 (chapters 5-8): In Class
10/23/13	Results Exam #2 Chapter 9
10/28/13	Chapter 9 Chapter 10
10/30/13	Chapter 10
11/04/13	Chapter 11
11/06/13	Chapter 11
11/11/13	Chapter 12
11/13/13	Chapter 12
FROM 11/14 to 11/19/13: EXAM #3 (Ch 9-12): TESTING CENTER	
11/18/13	Chapter 13
11/20/13	Results of Exam #3 Chapter 13
11/25/13	Fall Break/ Thanksgiving Holiday- no class
11/27/13	Fall Break/ Thanksgiving Holiday- no class
12/02/13	TAX RETURN DUE Chapter 14
12/04/13	Chapter 15
12/09/13	Chapter 16/ Tax update
12/11/13	Exam #4 (Ch 13-16): in class.

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Assignments: In class examples- please review in advance:

TOPIC	Assignments
Chapter 1	42, 43, 50, 52, 59, 67
Chapter 2	2, 3, 4, 6, 7, 8, 9, 11, 12, 13, 15, 20, 22, 25, 31, 34, 35, 38, 40, 44, 47, 50, 55, 61, 62
Chapter 3	1, 3, 6, 7, 11, 13, 14, 15, 17, 22, 26, 30, 34, 37, 42, 44, 50, 54, 62, 64, 65, 70, 79, 85
Chapter 4	22, 23, 24, 29, 31, 33, 40, 43, 48, 51, 55, 61,
Chapter 5	26, 28, 29, 32, 33, 34, 38, 39, 44, 51, 53, 59, 66, 71
Chapter 6	26, 30, 33, 35, 40, 46, 47, 50, 51, 60, 61, 70, 74, 76,
Chapter 7	17, 20, 23, 24, 27, 31, 34, 37, 38, 45, 50, 53, 57, 61, 63, 68, 72
Chapter 8	30, 31, 32, 35, 36, 39, 45, 48, 51, 54, 58, 60, 64, 67, 71
Chapter 9	21, 22, 25, 28, 32, 36, 37, 39, 42, 44, 47, 48, 52, 57, 62, 69
Chapter 10	21, 23, 24, 26, 30, 31, 34, 37, 38, 40, 44, 51, 54
Chapter 11	22, 25, 29, 33, 34, 38, 44, 45, 53, 60, 61, 67
Chapter 12	19, 22, 25, 31, 36, 41, 47, 50,
Chapter 13	33, 37, 40, 47, 49, 58
Chapter 14	14, 15, 16, 17, 23, 25, 29, 32, 34,
Chapter 15	48, 51, 54, 57, 61, 66, 67, 79, 85, 91
Chapter 16	None.

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Tax Return Project: Information concerning the **case study/tax return** will be posted in eLearning. The case study is a **variation** of one of the 2 case studies in the textbook. Tax return project will be handed out and discussed on 08/28/13.

The case study/ project will be due **no later than 12/02/13 at 10am.**

Movie/ tax id paper: Information concerning the movie/ tax id paper will be posted in eLearning. The paper project will be handed out and discussed on 08/28/13.

The case study/ project will be due **no later than 10/07/13 at 10am.**

Grading Policy		Maximum <u>Points</u>
1.	Four Tests	400
2.	Preparation of Tax Return	100
3.	Movie/ Tax ID paper	100
	TOTAL POINTS	600

Check eLearning regularly- there will be important updates posted for this class through out the semester.

Fall 2013-Testing Center guidelines for Acct 3350

I will use the UTD Testing Center for two of the four examinations administered in Fall 2013. The Testing Center is located in the basement of the McDermott Library-MC 1.304. The testing center is a technologically advanced computer lab with more than 150 computers available to support the academic testing function.

You must look at and become familiar with all of the testing center guidelines at www.utdallas/studentsuccess . The site will provide all of the up-to date information regarding the center-including operating hours.

You **MUST** check the website noted above to see the time that the center opens. The center usually closes at 10PM-Monday-Friday and 2PM Saturday. It is closed on Sunday.

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You will be allowed 2 hours to complete the exam—please note and adhere to the centers closing time. Please look at the syllabus to see the class examination window period. You can take the exam beginning on Monday of the exam week and **MUST** finish by the closing of the testing center on Thursday of that week. In other words, you have four (4) days to take the exam. Your grades will be posted before class on Monday following the exam week and you will be able to see your exam on the following Monday.

Testing Center Policies

- A Comet Card is required—a driver's license is not acceptable for admission into the center or taking an exam.
- Food and beverages are not permitted in the Testing Center.
- Electronic devices, cell phones, and all personal items, i.e. hats, coats, jackets, etc. are not permitted in the Testing Center. Lockers are available nearby (for Testing Center purposes only).
- I will tell you what calculators are allowed for the exams. All calculators will be examined before testing has started.
- Once a test has started, the Testing Center will not allow students to leave the room for **any** reason including the restroom until the test is finished.
- No talking is allowed in the Testing Center.
- The Testing Center will lock the doors 30 minutes prior to closing. Therefore no new tests or passwords will be administered after the doors are locked.

You should be aware that academic integrity is ensured in the Testing Center through video surveillance and remote monitoring of each individual computer station inside the Testing Center. All incidents of suspected cheating will be documented utilizing but not limited to – visual accounts, digital camera recordings and screen captures. Any violations will be reported to the Dean of Students and the class instructor for appropriate disciplinary action. Students are prohibited from bringing any testing aids or personal items into the Testing Center.

FINAL GRADES

Any curve is at the discretion of the instructor.

Class Participation: Students should read the assigned chapter and complete the assigned problems prior to class and participate in class discussion.

Late Assignments: **There will be a 20 point penalty per day for each day that an assigned project is late. If you can NOT be in class when an assignment is due—e-mail is a satisfactory way of complying with due dates.**

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Last Examination: The last examination will be limited to Chapters 12-16 (and Topics handout). The last examination is NOT cumulative.

Grading Scale:

A+:	96-100% of total points.
A:	93-95%
A-:	88-92%
B+:	85-87%
B:	82-84%
B-:	78-82%
C+:	75-77%
C:	72-74%
C-:	68-71%
D+:	66-67%
D:	63-65%
D-:	60-62%
F:	0-59%

Course & Instructor Policies

(make-up exams, extra credit, late work, special assignments, class attendance, classroom citizenship, etc.)

Make up exams-which are rare-will be determined by instructor on a case-by-case basis.

“No special assignments other than those listed in the assignments”-therefore, please do not ask to do a special project to get points.

Please shut your cell phones off during class.

Field Trip Policies

Off-campus Instruction and Course Activities

Off-campus, out-of-state, and foreign instruction and activities are subject to state law and University policies and procedures regarding travel and risk-related activities. Information regarding these rules and regulations may be found at the website address http://www.utdallas.edu/BusinessAffairs/Travel_Risk_Activities.htm. Additional information is available from the office of the school dean. Below is a description of any travel and/or risk-related activity associated with this course.

Student Conduct & Discipline

The University of Texas System and The University of Texas at Dallas have rules and regulations for the orderly and efficient conduct of their business. It is the responsibility of each student and each student organization to be knowledgeable about the rules and regulations which govern student conduct and activities.

The University of Texas at Dallas administers student discipline within the procedures of recognized and established due process. Procedures are defined and described in the Rules and Regulations of the Board of Regents of the University of Texas System, Part 1, Chapter VI, Section 3, and in Title V, Rules on Student Services and Activities of the Course Syllabus Page 8, University's Handbook of Operating Procedures. Copies of these rules and regulations are available to students in the Office of the Dean of Students, where staff members are available to assist students in interpreting the rules and regulations (SSB 4.400, 972/883- 6391).

A student at the university neither loses the rights nor escapes the responsibilities of citizenship. He or she is expected to obey federal, state, and local laws as well as the Regents' Rules, university regulations, and administrative rules. Students are subject to discipline for violating the standards of conduct whether such conduct takes place on or off campus, or whether civil or criminal penalties are also imposed for such conduct.

Academic Integrity

The faculty and administration of the School of Management expect from our students a high level of responsibility and academic honesty. Because the value of an academic degree depends upon the absolute integrity of the work done by the student for that degree, it is imperative that a student demonstrate a high standard of individual honor in his or her scholastic work. We want to establish a reputation for the honorable behavior of our graduates, which extends throughout their careers. Both your individual reputation and the school's reputation matter to your success.

The Judicial Affairs website lists examples of academic dishonesty. Dishonesty includes, but is not limited to cheating, plagiarism, collusion, facilitating academic dishonesty, fabrication, failure to contribute to a collaborative project and sabotage. Some of the ways students may engage in academic dishonesty are:

- Coughing and/or using visual or auditory signals in a test;
- Concealing notes on hands, caps, shoes, in pockets or the back of beverage bottle labels;
- Writing in blue books prior to an examination;
- Writing information on blackboards, desks, or keeping notes on the floor;
- Obtaining copies of an exam in advance;
- Passing information from an earlier class to a later class;
- Leaving information in the bathroom;
- Exchanging exams so that neighbors have identical test forms;
- Having a substitute take a test and providing falsified identification for the substitute;
- Fabricating data for lab assignments;

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- Changing a graded paper and requesting that it be re-graded;
- Failing to turn in a test or assignment and later suggesting the faculty member lost the item;
- Stealing another student's graded test and affixing one's own name on it;
- Recording two answers, one on the test form, one on the answer sheet;
- Marking an answer sheet to enable another to see the answer;
- Encircling two adjacent answers and claiming to have had the correct answer;
- Stealing an exam for someone in another section or for placement in a test file;
- Using an electronic device to store test information, or to send or receive answers for a test;
- Destroying or removing library materials to gain an academic advantage;
- Consulting assignment solutions posted on websites of previous course offerings;
- Transferring a computer file from one person's account to another;
- Transmitting posted answers for an exam to a student in a testing area via electronic device;
- Downloading text from the Internet or other sources without proper attribution;
- Citing to false references or findings in research or other academic exercises;
- Unauthorized collaborating with another person in preparing academic exercises.
- Submitting a substantial portion of the same academic work more than once without written authorization from the instructor.

<http://www.utdallas.edu/judicialaffairs/UTDJudicialAffairs-Basicexamples.html>

Updated: August, 2011

Plagiarism on written assignments, especially from the web, from portions of papers for other classes, and from any other source is unacceptable. On written assignments, this course will use the resources of turnitin.com, which searches the web for plagiarized content and is over 90% effective.

During tests and quizzes, students in this section are not allowed to have with them any food or drinks, scratch paper, course materials, textbooks, notes, invisible ink pens, or electronic devices, including iPads, iPhones, iPods, MP3 Players, earphones, radios, smart phones, cameras, calculators, multi-function timepieces, or computers. When possible, students should sit in alternating seats, face forward at all times, and remove any clothing which might conceal eye movements, reflect images of another's work, or hide course material for copying. Exam proctors will monitor any communication or signaling between students by talking, whispering, or making sounds, or by using your hands, feet, other body movements, the test paper itself or your writing implement.

Students in this course suspected of academic dishonesty are subject to disciplinary proceedings, and if found responsible, the following minimum sanctions will be applied:

1. Homework – Zero for the Assignment
2. Case Write-ups – Zero for the Assignment
3. Quizzes – Zero for the Quiz
4. Presentations – Zero for the Assignment
5. Group Work – Zero for the Assignment for all group members
6. Tests – F for the course

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These sanctions will be administered only after a student has been found officially responsible for academic dishonesty, either through waiving their right for a disciplinary hearing, or being declared responsible after a hearing administered by Judicial Affairs and the Dean of Student's Office.

In the event that the student receives a failing grade for the course for academic dishonesty, the student is not allowed to withdraw as a way of preventing the grade from being entered on their record. Where a student receives an F in a course and chooses to take the course over to improve their grade, the original grade of F remains on their transcript, but does not count towards calculation of their GPA.

The School of Management also reserves the right to review a student's disciplinary record, on file with the Dean of Students, as one of the criteria for determining a student's eligibility for a scholarship.

Judicial Affairs Procedures

Under authority delegated by the Dean of Students, a faculty member who has reason to suspect that a student has engaged in academic dishonesty may conduct a conference with the student in compliance with the following procedures:

- (i) the student will be informed that he/she is believed to have committed an act or acts of academic dishonesty in violation of University rules;
- (ii) the student will be presented with any information in the knowledge or possession of the instructor which tends to support the allegation(s) of academic dishonesty;
- (iii) the student will be given an opportunity to present information on his/her behalf;
- (iv) after meeting with the student, the faculty member may choose not to refer the allegation if he/she determines that the allegations are not supported by the evidence; or
- (v) after meeting with the student, the faculty member may refer the allegations to the dean of students along with a referral form and all supporting documentation of the alleged violation. Under separate cover, the faculty member should forward the appropriate grade to be assessed if a student is found to be responsible for academic dishonesty;
- (vi) the faculty member may consult with the dean of students in determining the recommended grade;
- (vii) the faculty member must not impose any independent sanctions upon the student in lieu of a referral to Judicial Affairs;
- (viii) the faculty member may not impose a sanction of suspension or expulsion, but may make this *recommendation* in the referral documentation

If the faculty member chooses not to meet with the student and instead forwards the appropriate documentation directly to the dean of students, they should attempt to inform the student of the allegation and notify the student that the information has been forwarded to the Office of Dean of Students for investigation.

The student, pending a hearing, remains responsible for all academic exercises and syllabus requirements. The student may remain in class if the student's presence in the class does not interfere with the professor's ability to teach the class or the ability of other class members to

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learn. (See Section 49.07, page V-49-4 for information regarding the removal of a student from class).

Upon receipt of the referral form, class syllabus, and the supporting material/documentation from the faculty member, the dean shall proceed under the guidelines in the Handbook of Operating Procedures, Chapter 49, Subchapter C. If the respondent disputes the facts upon which the allegations are based, a fair and impartial disciplinary committee comprised of UTD faculty and students shall hold a hearing and determine the responsibility of the student. If they find the student in violation of the code of conduct, the dean will then affirm the minimum sanction as provided in the syllabus, and share this information with the student. The dean will review the student's prior disciplinary record and assess additional sanctions where appropriate to the circumstances. The dean will inform the student and the faculty member of their decision.

Email Use

The University of Texas at Dallas recognizes the value and efficiency of communication between faculty/staff and students through electronic mail. At the same time, email raises some issues concerning security and the identity of each individual in an email exchange. The university encourages all official student email correspondence be sent only to a student's U.T. Dallas email address and that faculty and staff consider email from students official only if it originates from a UTD student account. This allows the university to maintain a high degree of confidence in the identity of all individual corresponding and the security of the transmitted information. UTD furnishes each student with a free email account that is to be used in all communication with university personnel. The Department of Information Resources at U.T. Dallas provides a method for students to have their U.T. Dallas mail forwarded to other accounts.

Withdrawal from Class

The administration of this institution has set deadlines for withdrawal of any college-level courses. These dates and times are published in that semester's course catalog. Administration procedures must be followed. It is the student's responsibility to handle withdrawal requirements from any class. In other words, I cannot drop or withdraw any student. You must do the proper paperwork to ensure that you will not receive a final grade of "F" in a course if you choose not to attend the class once you are enrolled.

Student Grievance Procedures

Procedures for student grievances are found in Title V, Rules on Student Services and Activities, of the university's *Handbook of Operating Procedures*.

In attempting to resolve any student grievance regarding grades, evaluations, or other fulfillments of academic responsibility, it is the obligation of the student first to make a serious effort to resolve the matter with the instructor, supervisor, administrator, or committee with whom the grievance originates (hereafter called "the respondent"). Individual faculty members retain primary responsibility for assigning grades and evaluations. If the matter cannot be resolved at that level, the grievance must be

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submitted in writing to the respondent with a copy of the respondent's School Dean. If the matter is not resolved by the written response provided by the respondent, the student may submit a written appeal to the School Dean. If the grievance is not resolved by the School Dean's decision, the student may make a written appeal to the Dean of Graduate or Undergraduate Education, and the dean will appoint and convene an Academic Appeals Panel. The decision of the Academic Appeals Panel is final. The results of the academic appeals process will be distributed to all involved parties.

Copies of these rules and regulations are available to students in the Office of the Dean of Students, where staff members are available to assist students in interpreting the rules and regulations.

Incomplete Grade Policy

As per university policy, incomplete grades will be granted only for work unavoidably missed at the semester's end and only if 70% of the course work has been completed. An incomplete grade must be resolved within eight (8) weeks from the first day of the subsequent long semester. If the required work to complete the course and to remove the incomplete grade is not submitted by the specified deadline, the incomplete grade is changed automatically to a grade of **F**.

Disability Services

The goal of Disability Services is to provide students with disabilities educational opportunities equal to those of their non-disabled peers. Disability Services is located in room 1.610 in the Student Union. Office hours are Monday and Thursday, 8:30 a.m. to 6:30 p.m.; Tuesday and Wednesday, 8:30 a.m. to 7:30 p.m.; and Friday, 8:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m.

The contact information for the Office of Disability Services is:
The University of Texas at Dallas, SU 22
PO Box 830688
Richardson, Texas 75083-0688
(972) 883-2098 (voice or TTY)

Essentially, the law requires that colleges and universities make those reasonable adjustments necessary to eliminate discrimination on the basis of disability. For example, it may be necessary to remove classroom prohibitions against tape recorders or animals (in the case of dog guides) for students who are blind. Occasionally an assignment requirement may be substituted (for example, a research paper versus an oral presentation for a student who is hearing impaired). Classes enrolled students with mobility impairments may have to be rescheduled in accessible facilities. The college or university may need to provide special services such as registration, note-taking, or mobility assistance.

It is the student's responsibility to notify his or her professors of the need for such an accommodation. Disability Services provides students with letters to present to faculty members to verify that the student has a disability and needs accommodations.

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Individuals requiring special accommodation should contact the professor after class or during office hours.

Religious Holy Days

The University of Texas at Dallas will excuse a student from class or other required activities for the travel to and observance of a religious holy day for a religion whose places of worship are exempt from property tax under Section 11.20, Tax Code, Texas Code Annotated.

The student is encouraged to notify the instructor or activity sponsor as soon as possible regarding the absence, preferably in advance of the assignment. The student, so excused, will be allowed to take the exam or complete the assignment within a reasonable time after the absence: a period equal to the length of the absence, up to a maximum of one week. A student who notifies the instructor and completes any missed exam or assignment may not be penalized for the absence. A student who fails to complete the exam or assignment within the prescribed period may receive a failing grade for that exam or assignment.

If a student or an instructor disagrees about the nature of the absence [i.e., for the purpose of observing a religious holy day] or if there is similar disagreement about whether the student has been given a reasonable time to complete any missed assignments or examinations, either the student or the instructor may request a ruling from the chief executive officer of the institution, or his or her designee. The chief executive officer or designee must take into account the legislative intent of TEC 51.911(b), and the student and instructor will abide by the decision of the chief executive officer or designee.

These descriptions and timelines are subject to change at the discretion of the Professor.