

FIN 4330-001—Estate Planning

Naveen Jindal School of Management

The University of Texas at Dallas

Fall 2015

Saturday 9:00 – 11:45 AM

SM 2.802

Professor Contact Information

Sol S. Reifer, J.D., LL.M.; Accredited Estate Planner

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Please contact me through my email address.

Office hours: By appointment

Catalog Course Description

FIN 4330 – Estate Planning (3 semester hours). Focuses on the efficient conservation and transfer of wealth, consistent with the client's goals. It is a study of the legal, tax, financial and non-financial aspects of this process, covering topics such as planning for citizens, non-citizens, traditional and non-traditional families (i.e., blended and same gender). You will be introduced to techniques such as trusts, wills, advanced directives, charitable giving, wealth transfers for high-net-worth individuals, including utilizing tools such as IDGTS, GRATS, CRUTS, CRATS, ILITS, SCINS, private annuities, and other tools.

Student Learning Objectives/Outcomes (SLOs)

Students will be expected to know and apply techniques appropriate to today's tax climate, as well as the tax situation in future years, according to legislation currently in place.

Upon successful completion of this course, the student should be able to:

- Determine client estate planning needs and objectives, taking into account financial and non-financial (behavioral/social/emotional) aspects of estate planning
- Understand demographics related to estate taxation and planning and inheritances
- Understand the effects of lack of estate planning, including state laws of intestacy
- Project estate taxation and liquidity needs in various situations
- Recommend appropriate and efficient methods of wealth transfer for a client's situation, including lifetime gifting strategies and taxation, planning for minors, incapacity planning, pre-mature death planning, planning in anticipation of marriage, planning related to divorce, planning related to tax-favored retirement assets, planning for non-citizen spouse, planning for adequate liquidity, planning to will conserve assets and minimize expenses, including taxes.
- Understand, analyze and evaluate client need for various estate documents, including, without limitation, wills, trusts, powers of appointment and medical directives
- Recommend appropriate life insurance arrangements, including, without limitation, life insurance trust planning

- Be able to explain the probate system, including its purpose and pros and cons
- Recommend appropriate titling of assets to meet estate planning and other objectives
- Understand and recommend appropriate techniques for charitable giving during life and as part of an estate plan
- Recommend estate planning techniques for traditional and non-traditional families, relationships and needs
- Recommend planning techniques for married couples, including pre-nuptial agreements and use of trusts
- Recommend planning techniques for owners of closely-held businesses and farms and ranches
- Recommend planning techniques for multi-generational planning
- Recommend techniques to mitigate post-death problems for survivors of the decedent, including pre-death planning techniques, planning for income adequacy and post-mortem planning techniques such as qualified disclaimers
- Evaluate a client's situation and available estate planning strategies and techniques to recommend an appropriate/the most appropriate plan to meet client objectives; monitor and recommend modifications based on changing circumstances
- Evaluate possible future changes in the client's situation and legal/tax situation to provide forward-looking estate planning advice
- Learn to work appropriately with other members of the client's estate planning team.

Textbooks and Materials

- Required: *Fundamentals of Estate Planning*, Constance J. Fontaine ("Fontaine"), (American College Press, 14th edition), ISBN 978-1582931340
- Financial Calculator
- Recommended: Pension Protection Act Supplement – available at www.nucollege.com and click on book supplements in the left-hand column
- Supplementary Reading: Additional readings may be required and provided by the instructor

Academic Calendar

Each student is responsible for staying current with university drop/withdrawal deadlines.

Technical Support

If you experience any problems with your UTD account you may send an email to: assist@utdallas.edu or call the UTD Computer Helpdesk at 972-883-2911.

Tentative Class Schedule

Detailed Class Outline – the instructor retains the right to modify this outline:

Week	Content/Assignments/Tests	Reading and Preparation	Homework Assignment
<p><u>One</u> Aug. 29</p>	<p><u>Estate Planning -- An Overview</u> Purpose History Impediments to a Well-Planned Estate Estate Planning Process Estate Planning Team Unauthorized Practice of Law</p> <p><u>Ethics for the Estate Planner</u> Introduction The Need for Professionalism in Estate Planning Ethical Situations: Temptations and Dilemmas Common Ethical Issues for the Estate Planner</p>	<p><i>Fontaine</i> Chapters: 1-2</p>	
<p><u>Two</u> Sept. 5</p>	<p><u>Ownership of Property</u> Real Property Personal Property Major Types of Ownership Interests Other Types of Ownership Interests Situs Domicile Concurrent Ownership Community Property</p> <p><u>Community Property</u> Historical Origins Nature of Community Property Presumptions as to Marital Property Joint Tenancy Classification Rules Property Character Community Property and Transfer Taxes Clients on the Move</p>	<p><i>Fontaine</i> Chapters: 3-5</p>	<p>“Comparative Analysis of Property Types” and “JTWROS Chart” and Q & A (power points 63-68)</p> <p>Q & A (power point 86)</p>

<p><u>Three</u> Sept. 12</p>	<p><u>Trusts, Trustees, and Other Fiduciaries, and Powers of Appointment</u> What is a Fiduciary? Duties of a Fiduciary Fiduciary Powers Selection of a Fiduciary Removal of Trustees Origin of Trusts Fundamentals of Trusts Types of Trusts Powers of Appointment</p> <p><u>Lifetime Transfers by Gift – An Overview</u> Non-Tax Advantages of Lifetime Gifts Technical Definition of a Gift Gratuitous Transfers That Are Not Gifts Exempt Gifts Requirements for a Completed Gift Valuation of Property for Gift Tax Purposes</p>	<p><i>Fontaine</i> Chapters: 5-6</p>	<p>“Powers of Appointment” and Q & A (power points 123-124)</p>
<p><u>Four</u> Sept. 19</p>	<p><u>Lifetime Transfers by Gift – An Overview of Federal Gift Taxation</u> Purpose, Nature, and Scope of Gift Tax Law Tax Advantages of Lifetime Gifts Allowable Reductions for Gift Tax Calculating Gift Tax Payable Reporting Gifts and Paying Tax Relationship of Gift Tax System to Income Tax System Determination of Basis of Gifted Property Relationship of Gift Tax System to Estate Tax System Gift Selection Factors</p> <p><u>Transfers at Death</u> Transfers by Will Advantages of a Will Requirements of a Typical Will Modes of Distribution Under Wills Types of Wills Amending or Revoking a Will Spouse’s Right of Election Against a Will Testamentary Trusts Contesting a Will Transfers by Contract Transfers by Operation of Law</p>	<p><i>Fontaine</i> Chapters: 7-8</p>	

<p><u>Five</u> Sept. 26</p>	<p><u>Gift Tax Calculations</u> – Projects #1 and #2</p> <p><u>Administration of the Estate</u> Initial Responsibilities Probating the Will Appointment of Executor or Administrator Assembling Estate Property Managing the Estate Payment of Debts and Taxes Distributing the Estate</p> <p><u>Valuation of Assets for Federal Estate and Gift Taxation</u> Importance of Valuing Assets Date Assets are Valued General Valuation Rules Specific Problems in Valuation Valuation of Real Property Valuation of Personal Property Valuation of Stock of Closely Held Corporations Valuation of Lifetime Transfers with Retained Interests</p>	<p><i>Fontaine</i> Chapters: 9-10</p>	
<p><u>Six</u> Oct. 3</p>	<p><u>Buy-Sell Agreements</u> Advantages of a Buy-Sell Agreement General Format of Buy-Sell Agreements Business Continuation Agreements Setting a Price in a Buy-Sell Agreement</p> <p><u>Federal Estate Taxation: The Gross Estate—Part I</u> Introduction—Gross Estate The Federal Estate Tax Basic Includibility (IRS Sec. 2031) The Catchall Provision (IRC Sec. 2033) Dower or Curtesy Interests (IRC Sec. 2034) Inclusion of Certain Gifts, Transfers, and Gift Taxes (IRC Sec. 2035) Transfers With Retention of Life Interest (IRC Sec. 2036) Transfers That Take Effect at Death (IRC Sec. 2037) Revocable Transfers (IRC Sec. 2038)</p>	<p><i>Fontaine</i> Chapters: 11-12</p>	

<p><u>Seven</u> Oct. 10</p>	<p><u>Federal Estate Taxation: The Gross Estate—Part II</u> Annuities (IRC Sec. 2039) Jointly Held Property With Right of Survivorship (IRC Sec. 2040) Powers of Appointment (IRC Sec. 2041) Life Insurance (IRC Sec. 2042)</p> <p><u>Deductions from the Gross Estate</u> The Taxable Estate Expenses Other Administration Expenses Deduction Decisions That Minimize Taxes</p>	<p><i>Fontaine</i> Chapters: 13-14</p>	<p>Estate Tax Calculation Q & A (power points 65-70)</p>
<p><u>Eight</u> Oct. 17</p>	<p><u>The Marital Deduction</u> Background Transfers Qualifying for Marital Deduction Overqualification and Underqualification Forms of Marital Bequests: Advantages and Disadvantages Extent to Which Marital Deduction Should Be Used</p> <p><u>The Charitable Deduction</u> Types of Charitable Organizations Denial of Charitable Deduction Types of Charitable Bequests Valuation</p>	<p><i>Fontaine</i> Chapters: 15-16</p>	
<p><u>Nine</u> Oct. 24</p>	<p><u>State Death Taxes and Estate Planning</u> Types of State Death Taxes Beneficiary Classes and Beneficiary Exemptions Classifications of Property Subject to State Death Taxes Property Subject to State Death Taxes—General Principles</p> <p><u>Computation and Payment of Federal Estate Tax</u> Determination of Tentative Tax Base Determination of Estate Tax Before Credits Determination of Net Federal Estate Tax Payable Filing an Estate Tax Return Payment of Estate Tax by Personal Representative IRC Sec. 303 Redemption</p>	<p><i>Fontaine</i> Chapters: 17-18</p>	

<p><u>Ten</u> Oct. 31</p>	<p>MID-TERM Estate Tax Calculations – Projects #1 and #2</p>		
<p><u>Eleven</u> Nov. 7</p>	<p><u>The Basis Rules for Property Transferred During Lifetime or at Death</u> Computing Gain or Loss Basis of Property Transferred at Death Property Transferred During Lifetime by Gift (IRC Sec. 1015)</p> <p><u>Income Taxation of Estates and Trusts</u> Estates Similarities and Differences Between Estates and Trusts General Income Taxation of Estates and Trusts Income Taxation of Estates Income Taxation of Trusts</p>	<p><i>Fontaine</i> Chapters: 19-20</p>	
<p><u>Twelve</u> Nov. 14</p>	<p><u>The Generation-Skipping Transfer Tax</u> Introduction to the Generation-Skipping Transfer Tax Taxable Transfers Exemptions and Exclusions Calculation of the GSTT Liability for the Tax Planning for the GSTT</p> <p><u>GSTT Calculations</u> – Projects #1, #2, #3</p>	<p><i>Fontaine</i> Chapter: 21</p>	
<p><u>Thirteen</u> Nov. 21</p>	<p><u>Other Estate Planning Techniques</u> Installment Sales Private Annuities Estate Freezes Through Use of Family Trusts Qualified Personal Residence Trusts Family Limited Partnerships and Limited Liability Companies Planning With Life Insurance Life Insurance Products Federal Estate Taxation of Life Insurance Federal Gift Taxation of Life Insurance Practical Uses for Life Insurance in Estate Planning</p>	<p><i>Fontaine</i> Chapter: 22</p>	

<p>Fourteen Dec. 5</p>	<p><u>Postmortem, Health and Special Groups Planning</u> Postmortem Estate Planning Methods Health Planning Estate Planning for the Elderly and Incapacitated Estate Planning for Married Couples Estate Planning for Singles Estate Planning Involving Non-Traditional Living Arrangements</p> <p>FINAL EXAM</p>	<p><i>Fontaine</i> Chapter: 23</p>	
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Grading Weights

Homework	10%
Projects (7)	25%
Mid-Term Exam	30%
Final Exam	<u>35%</u>
	100%

Projects, Mid-Term Exam, and Final Exam

Homework

Homework assignments are required to be completed before the topics are covered in class. **Homework assignments will not be accepted after the due date.** One homework grade can be dropped. Homework assignments can be a collaborative/team effort with your fellow classmates.

Projects

Projects will not be accepted after the due date. One project grade can be dropped. Projects can be a collaborative/team effort with your fellow classmates.

- Gift Tax Calculations – Projects #1 and #2
- Estate Tax Calculations – Projects #1 and #2
- GSTT Calculations – Projects #1 and #2
- Property Interests – Project #1

Mid-Term Exam

- Multiple choice questions
- Cannot be taken late

Final Exam

- Multiple choice questions
- Cannot be taken late

Exam questions will include information that is:

- covered in the text, but not in lectures,
- covered in lectures, but not in the text,
- covered in both the text and lectures.

Course & Instructor Policies

The instructor reserves the right to add bonus questions to any or all of the exams. Otherwise, the traditional 100 point, maximum grade per exam/quiz will be followed. Final semester grades will be assigned letter grades as follows:

A+ (98+), A (93-97), A- (90-92), B+ (88-89), B (83-87), B- (80-82), C+ (78-79), C (73-77), C- (70-72), D+ (68-69), D (63-67), D- (60-62), F (below 60). Unless there is a computational error, absolutely NO final semester grades will be changed. The time to be concerned about your grade is NOW and NOT the end of the semester.

Various items will be posted on eLearning. Please be sure to stay current by checking the sections “Course Content/Assignments” and “Course Content/Handouts” on eLearning for this course.

All cell phones **MUST** be turned off before class begins. Laptop computers are not allowed in class. No eating is allowed in the classroom, but non-alcoholic beverages are acceptable. If you anticipate the need to use the restroom during the class period, please do so before the class begins. Please avoid leaving during class and then returning as it is not only disruptive to the class, but also disrespectful to the instructor in the same way that it would be disrespectful to your employer to leave during a staff meeting. Your whole-hearted attention and participation are expected during each class.

Although head coverings for bona fide religious purposes are welcome in class, baseball caps and other such fashion statements are not. In general, our expectation is that the classroom will be more like a board room than a family room.

You will determine the extent of your knowledge gained from this course. If you remain current with the readings and assignments, attend class, ask questions and work through the end of chapter questions, you should perform well in this class. Attendance will be monitored, but it will only be explicitly considered in borderline cases.

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;
- Changing a graded paper and requesting that it be regraded;
- 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.

During tests and quizzes, students in this section are not allowed to have with them any food, scratch paper, course materials, textbooks, notes, invisible ink pens, or electronic devices, including iPads, iPhones, iPods, MP3 Players, earphones, radios, smart phones, cameras, 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:

- Homework – Zero for the Assignment
- Case Write-ups – Zero for the Assignment
- Quizzes – Zero for the Quiz
- Presentations – Zero for the Assignment
- Group Work – Zero for the Assignment for all group members
- Tests – F for the course

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 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.

Copyright Notice

The copyright law of the United States (Title 17, United States Code) governs the making of photocopies or other reproductions of copyrighted materials, including music and software. Copying, displaying, reproducing, or distributing copyrighted works may infringe the copyright owner's rights and such infringement is subject to appropriate disciplinary action as well as criminal penalties provided by federal law. Usage of such material is only appropriate when that usage constitutes "fair use" under the Copyright Act. As a UT Dallas student, you are required to follow the institution's copyright policy (Policy Memorandum 84-I.3-46). For more information about the fair use exemption, see <http://www.utsystem.edu/ogc/intellectualproperty/copypol2.htm>

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 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.; Monday 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)
disabilityservice@utdallas.edu

If you anticipate issues related to the format or requirements of this course, please meet with the Coordinator of Disability Services. The Coordinator is available to discuss ways to ensure your full participation in the course. If you determine that formal, disability-related accommodations are necessary, it is very important that you be registered with Disability Services to notify them of your eligibility for reasonable accommodations. Disability Services can then plan how best to coordinate your accommodations.

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. 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.