

Sam Houston State University
College of Business Administration
Department of Accounting

Course Syllabus-Accounting 383
Spring, 2008

COURSE NUMBER: Accounting 383

COURSE TITLE: Income Tax Accounting

PREREQUISITES: Accounting 231

INSTRUCTOR: Diane J. Green

OFFICE: S-H 305-F

OFFICE HOURS: 1-2 M-Th

PHONE NO: 936-294-1262 (O)

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REQUIRED TEXT: **Individual Income Taxes** by Hoffman, Smith, Willis, 2008 Edition

COURSE DESCRIPTION:

The primary emphasis of this course is on basic tax concepts and the income taxation of individuals. Emphasis is placed on tax compliance and tax planning.

LEARNING OBJECTIVES:

At the completion of this course students are expected to have a sound technical and conceptual foundation of the federal tax system as it applies to individuals. Additionally, students will have a better understanding of the impact of tax laws on daily activities and how tax laws affect business and financial decisions. Students will learn to apply tax law to both compliance and planning problems/situations. Specifically, students are expected to know the filing requirements and basic tax formula used to compute tax liability, the concept of gross income, deductions, credits, property transactions, and alternative minimum tax

EVALUATION PROCESS:

Examinations—There will be 3 unit exams and a final examination each worth 100 points (**400 exam points**). *Exams will be open book.*

Homework Problem Assignments—Problems are due on the date shown on the assignment sheet. It is your responsibility to “attempt to work and complete” the problems before class. Your efforts to solve the problems on your own will be reflected in your exam score. Points **will not** be awarded for homework problems. I will answer any questions and work-out specific homework problems in class if requested to do so. Problem solutions will be posted on Blackboard. .

Daily Work: Daily work may include both “in” and “out” of class assignments, including (but not limited to) extra problem assignments, tax research, chapter quizzes, and/or homework check. The due date of these assignments (except for in-class assignments and quizzes) will be announced when the assignment is made. **NO LATE OR MAKE-UP OF DAILY WORK ASSIGNMENTS WILL BE ACCEPTED/PERMITTED.** Each assignment is worth 10 points for a total of **100 points**. You will be allowed to drop your lowest assignment score.

Individual/Group Projects—Projects #1 and #2 are individual, Project #3 is group. For the group, you will voluntarily form groups of 2 members. Each individual/group is responsible for completing, in good form, each of the assignments. The nature of these assignments will be compliance: i.e., you will assume the role of tax return preparer and will prepare your client's tax return. For the group projects, I will grade your return and multiply that score by 2 (the number of students in group). Based on your **group's allocation sheet** turned in with the assignment, you will tell me how to allocate the points. Example: Assume Group #1 received a score of 30 (out of 33) on their assignment. $30 \times 2 = 60$. Assume that the allocation sheet specified the following: 60% and 40% for each of the 2 students respectively. $.60 \times 60 = 36$, but limited to max of 33 (max points on assignment); $.40 \times 60 = 24$. In this case, of the 60 points possible, only 57 were assigned: 33 and 24. You will have 3 projects at 33, 33, and 34 pts each or a total of **100 pts**. **NO LATE OR MAKE-UP OF SPECIAL INDIVIDUAL/GROUP PROJECTS WILL BE ACCEPTED/PERMITTED.**

Grade Distribution—The semester's grade distribution will be figured on the 3 unit exams, the Daily Work, the Individual/Group Projects, and the Final Exam for a maximum of **600 points**. The grade achievement levels will be 90%, 80%, 70%, 60%, for A, B, C, and D, respectively. Any score below 60% is an F.

RELIGIOUS HOLY DAYS POLICY:

Students who expect to be absent from class for observance of a religious holy day shall present to the instructor a written statement concerning the religious holly(s) for which class will be missed. The instructor will complete a form notifying the student of a reasonable timeframe for completing the missed assignments.

DISABLED STUDENT POLICY:

It is the policy of Sam Houston State University that no otherwise qualified disabled individual shall, solely by reason of his/her handicap, be excluded from the participation in, be denied the benefits of, or be subjected to discrimination under any academic, Student Life program, or activity. Handicapped students may request academic assistance when needed from a committee for continuing Academic Assistance for Disabled Students by visiting the director of the Counseling Center in the Lee Drain building annex or by calling EXT. 1720.

ATTENDANCE AND PROFESSIONAL BEHAVIOR POLICY:

You are expected to behave in a courteous and business-like manner. Such behavior includes being on time for class, not to leave the classroom to get food, drink, or use the phone, not to depart early, not to talk while someone else is talking, not to read the newspaper, and not to work on other class assignments during class. You are expected to remember to turn your cell phones off when you enter the classroom and that COBA policy states "no drinks/food in classroom." In summery, you are expected to come to class prepared, be attentive, participate in class discussions and treat everyone with courtesy and respect. For students who demonstrate such **PROFESSIONAL BEHAVIOR**, I will add **10 points** to your final grade.

OTHER:

Make-up/Replace Exam Work: Students who miss any one of the first three major exams or who would like to replace a "low" exam score on one of the first three major exams will be allowed to prepare a **comprehensive tax return** at the end of the semester. If two such major exams are missed, an F will be given for the course. **ALL STUDENTS MUST TAKE THE FINAL EXAM.**

Academic Honesty—"Students are expected to maintain complete honesty and integrity in the academic experiences both in and out of the classroom. Any student found guilty of dishonesty in any phase of academic work will be subject to disciplinary action." Code of Student Conduct and Discipline, Section 5.3, as printed in Guidelines.

Drop Date—Last day to drop this course without a grade of F is May 8th.

