

Accounting 538, Fall 2017			
Business Taxation			
Instructor:	Dr. William M. VanDenburgh, DRV	E-mail Address:	vandenburghbm@cofc
Office:	Beatty Center 219	Class Location:	Beatty 218
Office Hours:	12:00–2:00, 3:15–3:55 MW Additional times available by appointment.	Class Times:	M&W 4-5:15 pm

COURSE OBJECTIVES

This course focuses on basic concepts and applications of taxation of corporations, partnerships, and other relevant entities. The course is intended as a survey of taxation topics across the functional areas of accounting practice. Specific topical coverage will vary due to the dynamic nature of taxation and related issues.

In completing this course, the students will:

- In Depth review of selected issues which may affect external (i.e., financial, tax) and internal reporting within the local, national, and international areas.
- Distinguish the forms for conducting a business, identify applicable benefits and limitations
- Identify, research, and make recommendations regarding tax issues facing businesses
- Demonstrate competency in transfer taxation and family wealth planning
- **Gain an in-depth appreciation of Dr V's taxing humor**

COURSE MATERIALS

- **South-Western Federal Taxation 2018: Corporations, Partnerships, Estates and Trusts**, see me if an alternate version is going to be used
- ISBN-10: 1337390046 | ISBN-13: 9781337390040
- H&R Block CD that comes with the text
- Outside readings as assigned (at least 101 separate highly technical tax readings)

COURSE GRADING

Tentative Points Available

Resume	5 or -5
Exam 1	+ or - 150
Class paper	10
Exam 2	+ or - 150
Quizzes (+/-? @ +/- 20 points each)	+ or - 150
Projects (+/- 3@ +/-5 points each)	+ or - 15
Citizenship	50
Tentative Total Points	+ or -530

You will receive an incomplete until you hand in a resume, tax return, and tax paper.
You must earn 70% or better on these assignments or you will get an incomplete.

Your grade in this course will primarily be determined by your level of performance in three areas: (1) examinations, (2) quizzes, (3) projects/readings and (4) citizenship/*class participation*. **Your final course grade will be based solely on the total points you earned.**

Grades will be awarded based on the following percentages of total points:

A	=92%		C	72%
A-	=90%		C-	70%
B+	=87%		D+	67%
B	=82%		D	62%
B-	=80%		D-	60%
C+	=77%		F	Below 60%

QUIZZES

Make up quizzes are not given. There is no dropping of the lowest quiz grade due to the comprehensive nature of taxation. Quizzes are given approximately after every chapter. They are a critical component to understanding the material. The points available on each quiz will vary and the exact number of quizzes can vary. Pop quizzes can occur.

EXAMS

There will be two exams. They will **both be comprehensive**, and will include all readings and assignments listed in this syllabus or handed out in class. Exams will consist of problem solving, tax planning, and/or essay questions.

PROJECTS and READINGS

The projects will consist of the following returns, which are to be done with the tax program that comes with the text. You will receive an incomplete final grade until you receive 3 points or better on each project.

Projects	Points
1120 Return	5
1065 Return	5
1120-S Return	5

Students can consult with each other on the above returns. **I will assist students on the projects, but only with printed out returns (*no laptops and memory keys*). Students are strongly advised to save a copy of their tax returns as insurance against a lost return.**

The class paper will be approximately two pages on a tax issue selected by the student and approved by the professor. Failure to earn 7 out of 10 points will result at a minimum in an incomplete grade.

Attendance Policy- Attendance in this course is mandatory. Examinations and assigned materials will require attendance of all classroom lectures. Make-up examinations are not given. Late assignments are not accepted under any circumstance. If the student is to be absent,

assignments must be submitted prior to the due date. **Failure to attend class will result in an alarming email from Dr V that can even result in dramatic reductions in students' point totals.**

Each day a roll attendance sheet will be passed around the class. Late arrivals who miss the attendance sheet will be counted as absent for that day. **Any student who misses more than two classes may receive a failing grade for the course and/or will be administratively dropped from the roll.**

GRADING APPEALS

Grading appeals must be made in writing. It is solely the **student's responsibility to verify credit is given on exams, quizzes, and projects.** **Any and all grading disputes must be resolved within one week of the blackboard posting of the points or by the last day of class (if this occurs sooner).** Failure to meet these time requirements will result in the student not receiving any potential appeal points.

COLLABORATION AND HONOR CODE

Electronic copying of the test bank and/or the sharing test bank is considered an honored code violation.

CITIZENSHIP POINTS:

Citizenship points are positively affected by being prepared for class, regularly attending class, adding constructively to the class discussions and having a great attitude at all times. They are severely negatively impacted by rudeness and a disruption of instruction. A student could even receive 0, negative points and/or even be administratively withdrawn from the class (see other policies). A good citizen of this class is someone who respects others, works hard and is pleasant to the professor and their fellow students.

Exams and quizzes are to be completed individually. Each student must adhere to the College of Charleston Honor Code and Code of Student Conduct (see Student Handbook on these policies). Students are to work alone and neither give nor receive assistance on exams and quizzes (unless otherwise instructed). Suspected collaboration on exams and/or quizzes will be considered an honor code violation and will be dealt with in accordance with university guidelines.

Disability Accommodation: The College of Charleston complies with the Americans with Disabilities Act. If you need accommodation, please see me during the first week of class.

Other Policies:

1. Audio and visual recording media are forbidden in the classroom. Under no circumstance is it permissible to record my lectures.
2. Students are never to walk in late for class or leave early unless prior arrangements have been made with the professor. Tardy students will not be permitted to take examinations. If you arrive late or leave early without explicit permission, you will be counted as absent for the day.

3. Any student who is considered by the professor to pose a disruption of instruction will be administratively withdrawn, dismissed from the class permanently and/or receive a failing grade for the course. This determination shall rest absolutely with the professor.
4. Students must complete all assigned material before coming to class. The professor reserves the right to not address questions or comments by those not doing the assigned work prior to class. This is consistent with the College of Charleston Classroom Code of Conduct (see Student Handbook, page 51).

Class Schedule, Accounting 538
Tentative

Chapter	Topic	Assignments
	Syllabus	101 class readings will be handed out throughout the semester
2	Corporations: Introduction and Operating Rules	Quiz 1120 Return
3	Corporations: Special Situations	Quiz
4	Corporations: Organization and Capital Structure	Quiz
5	Corporations: Earnings & Profits and Dividend Distributions	Quiz
	Exam 1	TBA
	§1213, 1245, §1250 Class handout (not directly covered in text)	
10	Partnerships: Formation, Operation, and Basis	Quiz 1065 Return
11	Partnership: Distributions, Transfer of Interests, and Terminations	Quiz
		Quiz
12	S Corporations	Quiz 1120S Return
18	Federal Gift and Estate Taxes	Quiz
13	Comparative Forms of Doing Business	Quiz
	Exam 2	TBA
	Important Dates	
	Classes begin	August 23
	Fall break	Oct 16-17
	Thanksgiving holiday	Nov 22-26
	Last day of classes	Dec 4