

**MGT 4010: BUSINESS TAXATION
SYLLABUS**

PROF. DAVE MCARTHUR
DMCARTHUR8@GATECH.EDU
OFFICE: COB ROOM 101
(TEXT) 404.285.5703

FALL 2026
CLASSROOM: COB ROOM 101
CLASS TIME: TUE/THU: 5PM – 6:15PM
OFFICE HOURS: TUE 6:15-6:30PM

COURSE DESCRIPTION:

The central objective of this course is to give you an overview of the federal income tax system as it relates to business activities. The course will take a tax analysis and planning approach. The basic concepts of federal income taxation will be covered through lecture and class discussion.

PREREQUISITE

ACCT 2101, Accounting I or MGT 3000, Accounting for Decision Making.

COURSE LEARNING OUTCOMES:

COURSE LEARNING OUTCOMES. At the end of the course, students should be able to do the following:	MEASUREMENT. The following are the means of assessing students' ability to accomplish the course learning outcomes.
Demonstrate knowledge of the US tax system and principles of taxation, including but not limited to sources of tax law, IRS process and procedure, tax planning strategies, gross income and exclusions, deductions and exemptions, tax credits, tax calculations, tax accounting methods, property transactions, corporate formation, corporate operations, corporate distributions, partnership formation, partnership operations, partnership distributions, and partnership interest disposition.	Participation in daily class discussions, solving in class problems, and exams.
Demonstrate knowledge of the professional responsibilities of accountants and existing anti-avoidance rules.	Participation in daily class discussions, solving in class problems, and exams.
Predict the tax consequences from a set of facts describing an individual or business taxpayer hypothetical.	Participation in daily class discussions, solving in class problems, and exams.
Communicate orally and in writing, in a professional manner, using logic and reasoning the likely tax consequences from a set of facts describing an individual or business taxpayer hypothetical.	Participation in daily class discussions, solving in class problems, and exams.

HONOR CODE

Please note that you are required to familiarize yourself with and abide by the Georgia Institute of Technology's Academic Honor Code in all aspects of participation in this course, including the section establishing student

responsibilities with respect to academic integrity. As you may remember, compliance with the Academic Honor Code is a condition of enrollment in the College of Business. If I suspect that any student has violated that Academic Honor Code or the Honor Agreement, I will refer the matter to the Office of Student Integrity for appropriate action.

DISABILITY ACCOMMODATION

The Georgia Institute of Technology has established policies with respect to disability accommodation through Office of Disability Services. These policies may be accessed at the Office of Disability Services website located at disabilityservices.gatech.edu. Students seeking disability accommodation should refer to the student guide and documentation pages on this website. Students must comply with the requirements set forth by the Office of Disability Services to receive accommodation.

ATTENDANCE/CLASS PARTICIPATION GRADING POLICY

Attendance and class participation are required in this course. Attendance means arriving to the session on time, staying for the entire session, and appearing engaged during the session. You must also contribute meaningfully to be considered as participating in the class session. Examples of meaningful contributions includes asking germane questions, offering insightful comments on the subject matter, responding to or following up on others' comments, and offering substantial contributions during group work. **Your mere presence does not constitute meaningful participation. Failure to attend and participate in class will result in a lowered class participation grade and zero credit for any work performed or due that day.**

Typical Attendance Exceptions: All students who are absent for GT athletic purposes or other GT-sponsored required events must give me notice of such absence as soon as the student knows that he/she will be absent. Other excused absences include jury duty, voting, religious holidays, death in the family, documented illness, and other personal emergencies. Documentation for jury duty, voting, and religious holiday absences can be submitted directly to me. Documentation for other types of emergencies, such as family deaths, illness, and personal emergencies, should be submitted through the Dean of Students because these absences often necessitate coordination and utilization of other campus resources.

COVID-19 Absences: Do not attend class if you have COVID or flu symptoms.

STUDENT RESPONSIBILITY & ELECTRONIC DEVICES

Professional behavior is required in this class and its activities. College-level effort is necessary as is class participation. I seek to create an engaging learning environment in this course, and that is impossible without your participation. Behaviors such as arriving late, sleeping, doing work for other classes, and talking while the professor or other students are talking are not professional. Everyone is expected to be prepared, participate in class, and uphold their group responsibilities.

Computer/ipad/phone usage must be limited to tasks directly related to the material being covered in class. Extraneous activities such as surfing, emailing, working on other class assignments, playing games, and any other activities that might cause a distraction to the class are not allowed.

RESERVATION OF RIGHTS POLICY

Please also note that this syllabus expresses my administrative policies and intentions for the subject matter for the class; however, I reserve the right to change any of the above-referenced policies and/or the following topics and assignments. I further reserve the right to make changes without notice and within my own discretion. Classes may not be recorded without my express permission.

COMPASSION AND GRACE POLICY

Because of the uncertainties of life, something unexpected will probably happen for each of us this semester, and we will endeavor to handle it with compassion and grace for each other.

EVALUATION:

Class Participation	25%
First Exam	25%
Second Exam	25%
Final Exam	25%

Your final grade will be based on a combination of class participation and three exams.

GRADE SCALE:

A	90-100
B	80-89
C	70-79
D	60-69
F	59 and below

METHOD OF COVERAGE OF MATERIAL

Classes will be taught using a combination of lecture, class discussions, and problems. Please come prepared to ask questions and propose topics for discussion.

TOPICS COVERED, ASSIGNED READINGS, AND GRADED WORK

The following is an aspirational/tentative schedule of topics and assignments. It is subject to change based on how fast the class is able to absorb the material. If the class is challenged by a particular concept, we will slow the pace to ensure that we cover the material adequately. If, on the other hand, the class is adept at absorbing the material, we could move more quickly than stated below.

Exams will be submitted via Canvas. A schedule of the class topics and exam suggested dates is below. All items subject to change based on our progress.

The below schedule will be updated based on the availability of any guest speakers as well as our progress on state topics and topics which originate in class (or after class for the next or a future class).

CLASS	Date	TOPIC
1.	Tuesday	Introduction–History of Taxation–Fundamental Concepts
2.	Thursday	History of Taxation
3.	Tuesday	Payroll Tax - Tax Rates & Brackets
4.	Thursday	The IRS & Types of Authority
5.	Tuesday	Self-employment Tax – Property Taxes – Entity Types - Org Chart Shapes
6.	Thursday,	Check-the-Box Elections
7.	Tuesday	Why go with a corporation?
8.	Thursday	Business Taxation
9.	Tuesday	Business Taxation
10.	Thursday	Exam 1 – Take home Taxable Income from Business Operations
11.	Tuesday	Taxable Income from Business Operations
12.	Thursday	Exam 1 Due Property (Acquisitions)
13.	Tuesday	Property (Acquisitions)
14.	Thursday	Property (Dispositions)
15.	Tuesday	Property (Dispositions)
16.	Thursday	Property (Nontaxable Exchanges)
17.	Tuesday	Book-Tax Differences
18.	Thursday	Book-Tax Differences
19.	Tuesday	No Class – Take Home Assignment
20.	Thursday	Guest Speaker
21.	Tuesday	No Class – Spring Break
22.	Thursday	No Class – Spring Break
23.	Tuesday	The Corporate Taxpayer
24.	Thursday	Choice of Business Entity
25.	Tuesday	Exam 2 – Take home - No Class
26.	Thursday	Exam 2 Due – No Class
27.	Tuesday	Compensation/Retirement Taxation
28.	Thursday	International and Transfer Pricing
29.	Tuesday	Tax Compliance Process
30.	Thursday	Guest Speaker
31.	Tuesday	Exam 3 – Take home Last Day of Regular Class – Various Topics
32.	Tuesday	Exam 3 Due (turn in during Final Exam period TBD)