
MOS 4462A Sections – 001 & 002 Advanced Issues in Canadian Taxation Fall 2020 Course Syllabus

1. Course Information:

1.1 Class Location and Time:
Distance Studies/Online

1.2 Contact Information:

Instructor: Robert Pilling

Office: SSC-4414

Office Hours: Tuesdays & Wednesdays 8:00pm via zoom (see OWL for link)

Phone: 519-661-2111 x87273

Email: rpilling@uwo.ca

DAN Department of Management & Organizational Studies strives at all times to provide accessibility to all faculty, staff, students and visitors in a way that respects the dignity and independence of people with disabilities. Please contact the course instructor if you require material in an alternate format or if you require any other arrangements to make this course more accessible to you. You may also wish to contact Accessible Education (AE) at 519-661-2147 for any specific question regarding an accommodation.

More information about "Accessibility at Western" is available at: <http://accessibility.uwo.ca>

2. Calendar Description

2.1 Course Description:

This course deepens students' understanding of the Income Tax Act (Canada) and its effect on business decisions. Analysis consists of complex taxation issues at the personal and corporate level as well as a variety of complex issues such as rollovers, estate planning and the taxation of trusts and international taxation.

Antirequisite(s): None

Prerequisite(s): MOS-3362A/B

2.2 Senate Regulations

Senate Regulations state, "unless you have either the requisites for this course or written special permission from your Dean to enroll in it, you will be removed from this course and it will be deleted from your record. This decision may not be appealed. You will receive no adjustment to your fees in the event that you are dropped from a course for failing to have the necessary prerequisites."

This regulation is in regard to the COURSES required.

Students not in BMOS are permitted to enroll in up to 1.0 MOS courses, per the Academic Timetable.

3. Textbook

Byrd, Clarence and Chen, Ida.; Byrd and Chen's Canadian Tax Principles 2019-2020 Edition Plus Mylab Accounting with Pearson EText – Access Card Package, Pearson Education Canada, Toronto. ISBN: 9780135762547

Online Version of Income Tax Act available through Western Libraries, and on OWL

4. Course Objectives and Format

The DAN Department of Management and Organizational Studies as a whole draws upon an evidence-based management approach. Evidence-based management is the systematic process of gathering evidence from multiple sources, critically appraising the evidence, and using that evidence in making and evaluating management decisions to improve organizational performance.

4.1 Course objectives

To learn and practice advanced concepts in Canadian Income Tax and gain familiarity with the Income Tax Act.

4.2 Course format

Self-Study Problems and Textbook Exercises: Textbook exercises will be assigned each week. **They are to be attempted before starting the lecture videos.**

Participation: During the lectures, the instructor will post brief questions to test comprehension of topics. Students will prepare answers to these questions, and submit them at the end of class. The results of these questions will be a component of your participation mark. In addition, each class, up to two marks will be awarded for your contribution to class discussions on the forum. This contribution can be demonstrated by posting questions or answers to others' questions, demonstrating your engagement with the material by reading posts in the forums.

Lectures: The instructor will provide brief video lectures on topics followed by students completing problems in groups or on their own depending on individual preference and learning style. To gain access to the next video, a student must upload a solution to the dropbox.

Solutions: Students are not permitted to copy or distribute copies of any lecture videos or materials provide on OWL. Official solutions to the assignment problems will be made available on OWL after the relevant material is covered in class.

Assignment and Examinations: The assignment and the examinations will test the student's comprehension of both the technical and conceptual aspects of the course.

5. Learning Outcomes

Building upon the knowledge and skills of Introduction to Taxation in Canada – MOS3362A/B, students who successfully complete Advanced Issues in Canadian Taxation – MOS4462A/B will be able to:

- Assemble and properly arrange complex and diverse financial information in order to accurately calculate net income, taxable income and federal income tax payable for corporations, trusts and taxpayers involved in partnerships. (AK)
- Identify opportunities to minimize tax consequences of financial transactions involving corporations and their shareholders and generate multiple solutions. (AK)

Develop a solution to a tax planning scenario in order to minimize the tax consequences by balancing both short and long term taxpayer objectives and communicate their recommendations in a professional format. (CS)

6. Evaluation

Tests and examinations in this course will be conducted using Zoom. You will need to have both a computer to work on with access to OWL, and a secondary device capable of running Zoom and positioned such that the proctor can see you, your hands and your screen at all times.

You will be required to keep your zoom device/camera on for the entire session, hold up your student card for identification purposes, and share your screen with the invigilator if asked to do so at any time during the exam. The exam session will not be recorded.*

More information about the use of Zoom for exam invigilation is available in the Online Proctoring Guidelines at the following link:

<https://www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/onlineproctorguidelines.pdf>.

Completion of this course will require you to have a reliable internet connection and a device that meets the system requirements for Zoom. Information about the system requirements are available at the following link:

<https://support.zoom.us/hc/en-us>.

Please note that Zoom servers are located outside Canada. If you would prefer to use only your first name or a nickname to login to Zoom, please discuss this with your instructor in advance of the test or examination.

Mid-Term 1 (Oct 2 10am – 12:30pm) (Multiple case problems to solve.)	20%
Mid-Term 2 (Oct 23 10am - 1pm) (Multiple case problems to solve.)	25%
Group Term Assignment (Due Dec 4 @ 5:01pm) (Long case.)	15%
Participation (See OWL for rubric)	10%
Final Exam (Time set by Registrar) (Multiple case problems to solve.)	<u>30%</u>
Total	<u>100%</u>

Exams are short answers and calculations in format. Each exam/test, in total, will be scheduled for 2.5 or 3 hours, consist of from 2 to 7 questions, and are closed book examinations.

Students are responsible for material covered in the lectures as well as the assigned chapters/sections in the text. Exams may be reviewed on zoom by contacting your Instructor.

Students are **REQUIRED TO COMPLETE ALL COMPONENTS** of this course. There are no exceptions to this. Extra assignments to improve grades **will NOT** be allowed.

Grades will not be adjusted on the basis of need. It is important to monitor your performance in the course. Remember: *You* are responsible for your grades in this course.

The DAN Department has a grade policy which states that for courses in the 3000-4000 range, the class average must fall between 70% and 77% for all sections of a course taught by the same instructor. In very exceptional circumstances only, class averages outside this range may be approved by the Undergraduate Chair. Class averages are not grounds for appeal.

7. Lecture and Examination Schedule

See Schedule on OWL.

8. Student Responsibilities

Students should familiarize themselves with Western University Senate Regulations, please see: http://www.uwo.ca/univsec/academic_policies/index.html.

Material covered in lectures will not always be the same as material covered in the textbook. These two sources should be viewed as complimentary and not redundant. As such, students who want to do well in this course are **strongly encouraged** to attend lectures on a regular basis. Please note that the instructor will not be providing copies of lectures notes or overheads. Therefore, if you miss a lecture, you should try to obtain this material from another student.

8.1 Respect

Please act respectfully towards the classroom, the Professor and your fellow students. Acting respectfully means arriving on time, turning off phones, avoiding private discussions during lectures, refraining from viewing non-course material on your laptops, and cleaning up after yourself. Acting respectfully provides a better learning experience for everyone.

Private in-class discussions are distracting to students and the Professor. If other students are distracting your attention from the material, you should ask them to be quiet. If you feel uncomfortable doing this (or the problem persists), please see the instructor.

Late arrivals are also distracting. Please try to arrive on time for classes.

8.2 No Recording of Classes

Students are not permitted to record any portion of a class, audio or video, without the prior written permission of the professor.

8.3 Copyright Notice

Lectures and course materials, including power point presentations, outlines, and similar materials, are protected by copyright. You may take notes and make copies of course materials for your own educational use. You may **not** record lectures, reproduce (or allow others to reproduce), post or distribute lecture notes, wiki material, and other course materials publicly and/or for commercial purposes without my written consent.

9. Exam Policies

- Have student identification ready for proctors to verify using zoom.
- Nothing is to be on/at one's desk during an exam, except your computer and any approved materials
- Using OWL for the exam questions and uploading, no other browsers or programs, other than Excel or Word, may be open while an exam is in progress.
- See above for requirements for zoom.
- To ensure fairness to all students, questions will not be answered during exams.

10. E-mail Policies

The following policies apply to all emails between students and the Professor. Please respect the fact that the Professor receives hundreds of emails from students and must deal with those emails in a fair and organized manner. Unacceptable emails will receive a reply saying only "Please see Email Policies on the course outline".

10.1 UWO.CA Email Addresses Only

For privacy reasons, students must use their Western email accounts to contact the Professor. The Professor will not respond to emails from non-uwo.ca addresses (e.g. hotmail.com, gmail.com, etc.).

10.2 Subject Line Must Include Course and Section Number

The subject line of emails must contain the name or number of the course, and the section number in which the student is enrolled. The Professor teaches different courses and sections and cannot properly respond to questions if he does not know which course or section you are enrolled in.

10.3 Acceptable Emails

- questions about the course content or materials
- asking to set up an appointment to ask questions or review an exam using zoom
- notification of illness or other special circumstances
- providing constructive comments or feedback about the course

10.4 Unacceptable Emails

- questions that may be answered on OWL or on this course outline
- asking when grades will be posted
- asking what grade a student received
- asking where or when an exam is scheduled or the material covered on an exam
- requests for grade increases, extra assignments, or reweighting of course components

11. Attendance/Engagement

It is expected that students will watch and participate in all video lectures. Videos and some parts of OWL will not be available during exams.. Students are encouraged to stay current on all video lectures obtain participate in the forum to enhance their understanding of the material.

11.1 Short Absences.

If you miss a class due to minor illness or other problems, check your course outlines for information regarding attendance requirements and make sure you are not missing a test or exam. Cover any readings and arrange to borrow the missed lectures notes from a classmate.

11.2 Extended Absences.

If you are absent more than approximately two weeks or if you get too far behind to catch up, you should consider reducing your workload by dropping one or more courses. The Academic Counsellors can help you to consider the alternatives. At your request, they can also keep your instructors informed about your difficulties.

12. Grade Fairness

Fairness requires that all students be treated equally and be evaluated using the criteria set out in this course outline. The evaluation criteria are based on actual achievement and not on how hard a student has tried.

Claims by students of an excellent academic history, good attendance record, need to obtain or maintain a scholarship, desire to be admitted to Ivey or graduate school, or other personal issues, cannot be used to justify a higher grade in the course or a reweighting of course components. There is no extra work or assignments available for extra credit or to "make up" for a course component that was missed or performed poorly.

13. Posting of Grades

Midterm exam grades will be posted on OWL once the grades are available. Final exam grades and final course grades are not posted on OWL until they have been approved for issue and are available once they have been posted by the Registrar under "Academic Summary" at the Student Centre website.

14. University Policy Regarding Illness

14.1 Illness

For details on University Policy and student responsibilities go to:

https://www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic_policies/appeals/Academic_Consideration_for_absences.pdf

The current Illness Policy is available here (subject to change):

https://dan.uwo.ca/undergraduate/course_information/IllnessPolicy.pdf

14.2 Make Up Examinations

The student must write a make-up exam if the regularly scheduled exam is missed for reasons for which adequate documentation is received by the instructor (this documentation must be supplied by the Academic Counseling office).

The date and time of the make-up examination will be set by the instructor, who will communicate the date to the student.

If a student is unable to meet the scheduled make-up as agreed, then the student is responsible for obtaining new accommodations from Academic Counselling, and seeking a new make-up date with the instructor within a reasonable time frame.

15. University Policy on Cheating and Academic Misconduct

Students are responsible for understanding the nature of and avoiding the occurrence of plagiarism and other academic offenses. Students are urged to read the section on Scholastic Offenses in the Academic Calendar. Note that such offenses include plagiarism, cheating on an examination, submitting false or fraudulent assignments or credentials, impersonating a candidate, or submitting for credit in any course without the knowledge and approval of the instructor to whom it is submitted, any academic work for which credit has previously been obtained or is being sought in another course in the University or elsewhere. If you are in doubt about whether what you are doing is inappropriate, consult your instructor. A claim that "you didn't know it was wrong" will not be accepted as an excuse.

A copy of guidelines about how to avoid cheating can be obtained from the office of the Ombudsperson, Room 3135 WSSB, (519) 661-3573, ombuds@uwo.ca.

Cheating on exams will not be tolerated; students are referred to the university policy on scholastic offenses. Looking at the test of another student, allowing another student to view your exam, or obtaining information about a test in advance are all examples of cheating.

Students found cheating will receive a zero (0%) on that exam. A number of safeguards will be employed to discourage cheating. For example, examination supervisors (proctors) of the tests may ask students to move their zoom device, remove baseball caps, etc. This is not meant as a personal affront nor as an accusation of cheating, rather as vigilant attempts at proctoring.

The penalties for a student guilty of a scholastic offense include refusal of a passing grade in the assignment, refusal of a passing grade in the course, suspension from the University, and expulsion from the University.

16. Procedures For Appealing Academic Evaluations

1. In the first instance, all appeals of a grade must be made to the course instructor (informal consultation).
2. If the student is not satisfied with the decision of the course instructor, a written appeal must be sent to the Undergraduate Chair: Student Affairs of the Department of Management and Organizational Studies.
3. If the response of the Undergraduate Chair is considered unsatisfactory to the student, he/she may then appeal to the Dean of the Faculty in which the course of program was taken.
4. Only after receiving a final decision from the Dean may a student appeal to the Senate Review Board Academic. A Guide to Appeals is available from the Ombudsperson's Office.

17. Support Services

17.1 Support Services

The Registrar's office can be accessed for Student Support Services at <http://www.registrar.uwo.ca>
Student Support Services (***including the services provided by the USC listed here***) can be reached at: <http://westernusc.ca/your-services/>
Student Development Services can be reached at: <http://www.sdc.uwo.ca/>
Students who are in emotional/mental distress should refer to Health and Wellness at Western University: <https://www.uwo.ca/health/> for a complete list of options about how to obtain help.

17.2 Academic Concerns.

If you are in academic difficulty, it is strongly recommended that you see your academic counsellor.