



Course title and number	AGEC 437 – Tax Planning (3 credits)
Term/Section	Summer 2016
Meeting times/location	Web-based course offered during 10-week session

Course Description and Prerequisites

Applies the principles of income, gift, and estate tax planning to enhance household income after taxes; understanding tax laws, reporting requirements, and opportunities for planning; identify and implement useful tax planning strategies; focus on practical application for financial planning.

Instructor Information

Name	Debra A. Webb, MS, CPA, CFP®, Lecturer
Email address	TAMUIncomeTaxPlanning@gmail.com
Office hours	By appointment

Course Goal

Overall Goal: We will learn to apply knowledge of the federal tax system and the principles of tax planning to enhance household income after taxes consistent with the clients' financial goals.

Learning Outcomes

As a result of your participation in this course, you will be able to:

1. Describe and apply the federal income tax system to the calculation of gross income and tax liabilities for households and small businesses.
2. Describe the tax implications of property transactions, including depreciation, sales and other dispositions.
3. Explain the alternative minimum tax and its effects on tax liability, and describe the characteristics and taxation of various legal business entities, such as partnerships, LLCs, and C and S corporations.
4. Apply the concepts of gift and estate taxation to the development of plans for estate planning planned giving to achieve the benefactor's goals.

Textbook and Resource Material

Textbooks (see readings on Course Schedule below):

- Langdon, T.P. *et al. Income Tax Planning*, 9th Edition, Money Education, 2016. ISBN 978-1-936602-36-0.
- Dalton, M.A., Langdon, T.P. *Estate Planning*. 9th edition, Money Education, 2016. ISBN: 978-1-936602-27-8. NOTE: This book is also used for AGECE 436 Insurance and Estate Planning.

Order the books from the publisher – <http://money-education.com>. Both are available in print or digital format.

Course Structure

This online course is organized into 10 weeks. Each week will include some or all of the following resources and activities as follows:

- Assigned readings in the textbook
- Additional readings about current issues
- Videos of short lecture presentations
- Assignments related to the weeks topics
- Assessment or quizzes over the topics of the week.
- Preparation of blog posts.

The week starts on Tuesday ends on Monday evening. All assessments and assignments for the week must be submitted by that time.

In addition, you will have 4 exams. Exams must be submitted by 11:59 p.m. on the last day that the exam will be open.

Exams

The four exams are each 15% of the course grade, for a total of 60%. They are comprehensive, reviewing material from the beginning of the course, but heavily emphasizing the more recent material.

Exams will be taken online from any computer/physical location of your choosing. You will not need to arrange for a proctor for the exams. You will have a 5-day window to take the unit exams. Exams are due by 11:59 p.m. on the last day for each exam.

Assignments

You will have several assignments during the semester, which will account for 30% of your course grade. Assignments will not be accepted late. You are responsible for assuring that the assignments have been properly submitted in eCampus. They are due each Monday evening. I will drop the lowest assignment grade.

Quizzes

Quizzes will be assigned each week. They will account for 20% of your course grade. I will drop the lowest quiz grade.

How to Succeed in this Course

- Set aside time daily to work on the course.
- Be aware of assignments and due dates. The home page shows upcoming due dates and other calendar items.
- Stay ahead in your work. Tax is very detailed. Trying to do assignments at the last minute won't work.
- Stay connected to your fellow students and to the instructor. Ask. Discuss. Comment. Share.
- Check your email often for announcements and updates.
- Download BlackBoard Mobile Learn app for Android or iOS systems.
- Check your grades often.