

Syllabus for  
**ACT 474/GACT 574—Tax Seminar**  
3 Credit Hours  
Spring 2015

**I. COURSE DESCRIPTION**

A tax seminar focused on various contemporary federal taxation, tax planning opportunities, and tax compliance issues.

Prerequisite: ACT 216

Enrollment in Tax Seminar (ACT 474/GACT 574) is open to all MBA students and School of Business majors and Business minors who have completed Principles of Financial and Managerial Accounting II (ACT 216) or its equivalent with a grade of "C" or better. Others wishing to enroll in the course are encouraged to request an individual conference with the instructor prior to enrollment.

**II. COURSE GOALS**

- A. The goal of this course is for the student to examine and become familiar with various contemporary federal taxation concepts/systems, tax planning opportunities, and tax compliance issues.
- B. In line with the purpose of this University, this course seeks to do the following:
  - 1. Contribute to the education of the whole person.
  - 2. Develop an appreciation for differing cultures.
  - 3. Encourage the synthesis and integration of the common bond of knowledge provided by the University into a unified whole.
  - 4. Sharpen the writing and oral communication, computation, and critical analysis skills of each student.
  - 5. Assist the students' development of basic skills, acquiring of basic knowledge, and formulation of a world vision.
- C. In line with the purpose of the accounting program, this course is designed to prepare a student for an active role in professional accounting and/or tax planning and representation. An objective of this program is to combine the broad foundation of business administration with professional accounting and tax knowledge so that the student has the potential of maximum achievement in the field of taxation. Through all of the courses in accounting, it is the purpose of this program to develop an integrated person--spiritually alive, intellectually alert, physically disciplined, socially adept, and professionally competent.
- D. In line with the departmental goals, this course seeks to prepare the student in the following areas:
  - 1. Critical thinking (skills in reasoning, objectivity, analysis, interpretation, research, or decision making relevant to the discipline)
  - 2. Provides broad, comprehensive, foundational knowledge for the professional standards of the major
  - 3. Broad interpretation of the dynamics of business within the social and professional

context

### III. STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOMES FOR THIS COURSE

#### A. Terminal Objectives

Upon successful completion of this course, the student will be able to analyze, classify, and solve problems across a variety of contemporary federal taxation concepts/systems, tax planning opportunities, and tax compliance issues on the examinations and the homework with an accuracy level of 70% or above.

#### B. Unit Objectives

Upon successful completion of this course, the student will be able to do the following:  
TBA – Due to the contemporary nature of the course and the ever changing tax, legislative and legal environments, the course content and unit objectives will change on a semester-by-semester basis.

### IV. TEXTBOOKS AND OTHER LEARNING RESOURCES

#### Required Materials

##### Textbook:

Pope, Anderson, Kramer. Prentice Hall's Federal Taxation 2013, Comprehensive Edition, New Jersey: Pearson, 2015. ISBN-13 978-0-13-380778-3.

### V. POLICIES AND PROCEDURES

#### A. University Policies and Procedures

1. Attendance at each class or laboratory is mandatory at Oral Roberts University. Excessive absences can reduce a student's grade or deny credit for the course.
2. Students taking a late exam because of an unauthorized absence will be charged a late exam fee.
3. Students and faculty at Oral Roberts University must adhere to all laws addressing the ethical use of others' materials, whether it is in the form of print, electronic, video, multimedia, or computer software. Plagiarism and other forms of cheating involve both lying and stealing and are violations of ORU's Honor Code: "I will not cheat or plagiarize; I will do my own academic work and will not inappropriately collaborate with other students on assignments." Plagiarism is usually defined as copying someone else's ideas, words, or sentence structure and submitting them as one's own. Other forms of academic dishonesty include (but are not limited to) the following:
  - a. Submitting another's work as one's own or colluding with someone else and submitting that work as though it were his or hers;
  - b. Failing to meet group assignment or project requirements while claiming to have done so;
  - c. Failing to cite sources used in a paper;
  - d. Creating results for experiments, observations, interviews, or projects that were not done;
  - e. Receiving or giving unauthorized help on assignments.

By submitting an assignment in any form, the student gives permission for the assignment to be checked for plagiarism, either by submitting the work for electronic verification or by other means. Penalties for any of the above infractions may result in disciplinary action including failing the assignment or failing the course or expulsion

4. Final exams cannot be given before their scheduled times. Students need to check the final exam schedule before planning return flights or other events at the end of the semester.
5. Students are to be in compliance with University, school and departmental policies regarding ePortfolio requirements. Students should consult the ePortfolio handbooks for requirements regarding general education and the student's majors.
  - a. The penalty for not submitting electronically or for incorrectly submitting an ePortfolio artifact is a zero for that assignment.
  - b. By submitting an assignment, the student gives permission for the assignment to be assessed electronically.

**B. Course Policies and Procedures**

**1. Evaluation Procedures**

Undergraduate - There are 500 points possible in the course as follows:

Examinations	400 points
Homework – Class Participation	<u>100 points</u>
Total Points Possible	500 points

Graduate - There are 600 points possible in the course as follows:

Examinations	400 points
Homework – Class Participation	100 points
Graduate Project	<u>100 points</u>
Total Points Possible	600 points

**2. Grades are assigned on the following basis:**

A = 90% - 100%  
 B = 80% - 89%  
 C = 70% - 79%  
 D = 60% - 69%  
 F = <60%

**3. Plagiarism will not be tolerated.**

**4. ePortfolio Requirements      None**

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VI. COURSE CALENDAR – TBA – Due to the contemporary nature of the course and the ever changing tax, legislative and legal environments, the course content and calendar changes on a semester-by-semester basis. General topics that may be covered:

- A. Tax Philosophy and Various Taxation Systems
- B. Estate and Gift Taxation
- C. Income Taxation of Trusts and Estates
- D. Not-for-Profit Organizations, Taxation, and Reporting Requirements
- E. Administrative Procedures
- F. Oil and Gas
- G. Contemporary Issues

# Course Inventory for ORU's Student Learning Outcomes

## *Tax Seminar – ACT 474/GACT 574 Spring 2015*

This course contributes to the ORU student learning outcomes as indicated below:

**Significant Contribution** – Addresses the outcome directly and includes targeted assessment.

**Moderate Contribution** – Addresses the outcome directly or indirectly and includes some assessment.

**Minimal Contribution** – Addresses the outcome indirectly and includes little or no assessment.

**No Contribution** – Does not address the outcome.

The Student Learning Glossary at <http://ir.oru.edu/doc/glossary.pdf> defines each outcome and each of the proficiencies/capacities.

OUTCOMES and Proficiencies/Capacities		Significant Contribution	Moderate Contribution	Minimal Contribution	No Contribution
1	<b>Outcome #1 – SPIRITUALLY ALIVE</b>				
	<i>Proficiencies/Capacities</i>				
1A	Biblical knowledge			X	
1B	Sensitivity to the Holy Spirit			X	
1C	Evangelistic capability	X			
1D	Ethical behavior	X			
2	<b>Outcome #2 – INTELLECTUALLY ALERT</b>				
	<i>Proficiencies/Capacities</i>				
2A	Critical thinking	X			
2B	Analytical problem solving	X			
2C	Global and historical perspectives			X	
2D	Aesthetic appreciation			X	
2E	Intellectual creativity	X			
2F	Information literacy	X			
3	<b>Outcome #3 – PHYSICALLY DISCIPLINED</b>				
	<i>Proficiencies/Capacities</i>				
3A	Healthy lifestyle				X
3B	Physically active lifestyle				X
3C	Properly balanced nutrition plan				X
4	<b>Outcome #4 – SOCIALLY ADEPT</b>				
	<i>Proficiencies/Capacities</i>				
4A	Communication skills		X		
4B	Interpersonal skills			X	
4C	Appreciation of cultural and linguistic differences			X	
4D	Responsible citizenship	X			
4E	Leadership capacity			X	