

**MOUNT ST. JOSEPH UNIVERSITY**  
**TAXATION I**  
**COURSE SYLLABUS**

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**Course Number:** ACC 340-E1  
Taxation I

**Semester:** S1-17

**Class Time:** Wednesday 6:30 - 9:20 PM  
(8/22 – 12/8)

**Class Location:** Main CL 113

**Credit Hours:** 3

**Instructor:** Nicholas T. Dardugno Jr. MST,  
CPA

**E-Mail:** [Nicholas.Dardugno@msj.edu](mailto:Nicholas.Dardugno@msj.edu)

**Office Phone:** 513-244-4920

**Office Location:** SC 300D

**Office Hours:** By Appointment with  
Instructor

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**I. COURSE PREREQUISITE:**

Accounting 214 or equivalent.

**II. REQUIRED MATERIALS:**

Taxation of Individuals and Business Entities

**McGraw-Hill Spilker Ayers Barrick Outslay Robinson Weaver Worsham**  
**ISBN: 978-1-259-54866-6**

Calculator (cell phones are not permitted to be used as calculators)

In addition, the instructor might distribute relevant articles to supplement and expand the material of the course required readings.

**III. COURSE OBJECTIVES & LEARNING OUTCOMES:**

This course introduces the student to the characteristics and basic concepts of taxation with a focus on individual taxation. Topics covered include: income and deductions, IRS, Internal Revenue Code, investments, tax credits, property acquisitions, asset cost recovery, property disposals, compensation, retirement and deferred compensation, and tax research and planning.

There will be in-depth discussions of individual tax laws, the current tax climate in the United States, the effects of recent and proposed tax legislation, ethics, and the role of the IRS and state and local tax authorities.

This course is designed to further the student's critical thinking of taxes in an ethical manner consistent with current tax law and the University's Learning Outcomes. Students will be expected to participate in discussions and timely complete the assigned homework.

**IV. UNDERGRADUATE LEARNING OUTCOMES:**

Please use the following link to access information regarding Undergraduate Learning Outcomes:

<http://registrar.msj.edu/undergraduate-catalog/academic-information/learning-outcomes-performance-indicators/>

**V. DROP DATES FOR THE CURRENT SEMESTER:**

Please use the following link to access information regarding drop dates for this semester.

<https://mymount.msj.edu/ICS/MSJAcademics/Catalogs.jnz?portlet=SemesterPolicies>

**VI. TEACHING METHODOLOGY:**

The material will be presented in lecture format. Class discussion and small groups may be utilized from time to time.

**VII. ACADEMIC HONESTY POLICY:**

Please use the following link to access Mount St. Joseph University's Academic Honesty Policy. The policy will be enforced in this class.

<http://registrar.msj.edu/undergraduate-catalog/rights-policies/academic-policies/academic-honesty/>

**VIII. POLICY ON INCOMPLETES:**

Please use the following link to access Mount St. Joseph University's policy on incompletes.

<http://registrar.msj.edu/undergraduate-catalog/rights-policies/academic-policies/grades/>

**IX. UNIVERSITY DISABILITY POLICY:**

In compliance with Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, the College of Mt. St. Joseph provides academic adjustments and auxiliary aids for students with physical or mental impairments that substantially limit or restrict one or more major life activities such as walking, seeing, hearing or learning. Students with disabilities should contact Meghann Litrell, the Director of Learning Center & Disability

Services, to present documentation and develop individualized accommodation plans (244-4524 [Meghann.Litrell@msj.edu](mailto:Meghann.Litrell@msj.edu), Learning Center, Room 156 Seton.) Students who have already registered with MSJ Disability Services are encouraged to discuss their accommodations with their course faculty at the beginning of each semester. Additional information can be found at <http://www.msj.edu/academics/disability-services/>.

**X. CLASSROOM EXPECTATIONS:**

You are preparing to enter an environment that thrives on professionalism. Being dependable, prepared and respectful are three qualities that exhibit professionalism.

**A. BE DEPENDABLE**

- If you know that you will be late to class, try to let the instructor know ahead of time via email.
- If you need to leave class early, let the instructor know before class begins.
- If you miss or are going to miss a class, you are required to notify the professor via email.

**B. BE PREPARED**

- Students are required to bring their textbooks and any additional reading material to each class.
- Students will need to access Blackboard presentations during class using a computer. If you do not own a computer, the ISS Help Desk can rent one to you. Please contact the ISS Help Desk prior to class to obtain a rental computer.
- All assigned reading should be completed prior to class in accordance with the Course Outline.
- Complete assignments on time and in a professional format. Submit your own work and cite any resources that you have used to complete an assignment.
- Make sure that you check your email regularly for any outside of class announcements.
- Material is covered rapidly and it is expected that students utilize all resources to maintain a pace of learning.

**C. BE RESPECTFUL**

- I respect everyone and will respect you as a person, a member of this class, and an individual in pursuit of a career in accounting. In return, I expect that you will provide me and your classmates with respect.

- Cell phones and laptops are tools that allow us to access a volume of information and are helpful in gathering research as we dive into the accounting body of knowledge. Studies show that use of cell phones in interactive environments are a distraction and reduce participation. Cell phones must be put away before class begins. Please turn off your cell phone or set it to silent when you put away. Laptops may be used to take notes during class. Please be respectful to the instructor and your fellow students and not use the laptop in a manner that is distracting and disruptive to the class. The instructor reserves the right to ask the student to not use the laptop if the instructor notices that the use of the laptop becomes a distraction during class.

## **XI. COURSE REQUIREMENTS:**

### **A. CLASS PARTICIPATION/DISCUSSION**

Class attendance and discussion is vital to the overall learning process. Therefore, you are expected to attend, prepare for and actively be involved in the learning process through class discussions, in-class exercises and answering questions. Attendance will be taken at the beginning of each class and tracked by the University. If you miss a class, please make sure that you talk to a peer and get updates on the material covered and announcements made during class.

### **B. HOMEWORK ASSIGNMENTS**

Accounting is a hands-on profession and requires a strong work ethic, ability to research and an ability to communicate information. Questions and exercises are assigned throughout the course in order to assist you in learning the material that is discussed during class time. Graded homework assignments are to be completed through the Blackboard site. It is expected that each student will put forth the effort to complete the assignments in order to be fully prepared to participate in class. Students who expect to succeed in this course should be prepared to invest the appropriate amount of time and effort into class attendance, class participation and homework assignments.

### **C. EXAMS**

There will be two exams during the term. These exams will consist of short answer, computational, and multiple-choice questions and essay questions. The exams are “closed book” and “closed notes.” The mid term exam is worth 50 points. The final exam is worth 150 points and will be held the last day of the class.

## **XII. COURSE EVALUATION:**

Attendance and Participation – 50 points

Homework – 100 points

Mid-Term Quiz - 50 points

Final Exam – 150 points

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Extra credit will be awarded in this course. The instructor will make extra credit available periodically throughout the course. Extra credit can be voluntarily completed by the student and is not mandatory.

The following grading scale will be used for assigning final grades:

90-100 = A

80-89 = B

70-79 = C

60-69 = D

0-59 F

**XIII. CLASS OUTLINE:**

The following is a general outline for the class. Please note that the class schedule may change as the class progresses. Homework assignments will be provided as we progress through the class.

Week	Dates	Topic	Chapters
1	August 24	<b>Chapter 1:</b> Introduction to Taxation  <b>Chapter 2:</b> Tax Compliance, the IRS, and Tax Authorities (Pages 2-1 through 2-17; Pages 2-23 through End)  <b>All work assigned in BlackBoard for Chapters 1 &amp; 2 DUE August 31</b>	1 & 2
2	August 31	<b>Chapter 4:</b> Individual Income Tax Overview, Exemptions, and Filing Status  <b>All work assigned in BlackBoard for Chapters 4 DUE September 7</b>	4
3	September 7	<b>Chapter 5:</b> Gross Income and Exclusions  <b>All work assigned in BlackBoard for Chapters 5 DUE September 14</b>	5
4	September 14	<b>Chapter 6:</b> Individual Deductions  <b>All work assigned in BlackBoard for Chapters 6 DUE September 21.</b>	6
5	September 21	<b>Chapter 7:</b> Investments  <b>All work assigned in BlackBoard for Chapters 7 DUE September 28.</b>	Review for Mid-Term Exam; 7
6	September 28	Mid-Term Exam	Mid-Term Exam;

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		<p><b>Chapter 8:</b> Individual Income Tax Computation and Tax Credits</p> <p><b>All work assigned in BlackBoard for Chapters 8 DUE October 5.</b></p>	8
7	October 5	<p><b>Chapter 8:</b> Individual Income Tax Computation and Tax Credits</p> <p><b>Chapter 9:</b> Business Income, Deductions, and Accounting Methods</p> <p><b>All work assigned in BlackBoard for Chapters 9 DUE October 12</b></p>	8 & 9
8	October 12	<p><b>Chapter 10:</b> Property Acquisition and Cost Recovery</p> <p><b>All work assigned in BlackBoard for Chapters 10 DUE October 19</b></p>	10
9	October 19	<p><b>Chapter 11:</b> Property Dispositions</p> <p><b>All work assigned in BlackBoard for Chapters 11 DUE October 26</b></p>	11
10	October 26	<p><b>Chapter 12:</b> Compensation</p> <p><b>All work assigned in BlackBoard for Chapters 12 DUE November 2</b></p>	12
11	November 2	<p><b>Chapter 13:</b> Retirement Savings and Deferred Compensation</p> <p><b>All work assigned in BlackBoard for Chapters 13 DUE November 9</b></p>	13
12	November 9	<p><b>Chapter 14:</b> Home Ownership</p> <p><b>All work assigned in BlackBoard for Chapters 14 DUE November 16</b></p>	14
13	November 16	<p><b>Chapter 2:</b> Pages 2-17 through 2-23</p> <p><b>Chapter 3:</b> Tax Planning Strategies and Related Limitations</p> <p><b>All work assigned in BlackBoard for Chapters 3 DUE December 1</b></p>	2, 3

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14	November 23	<b>No Class – Thanksgiving Holiday</b>	
15	November 30	<b>Review for Final Exam</b>	Review
16	December 8	<b>Final Exam</b>	Final Exam