

DPA 703

**Advanced Canadian Tax Topics
Summer 2024 Course Outline**

**Accounting and Financial Management Services
DeGroote School of Business
McMaster University**

COURSE OBJECTIVE

An in-depth look at selected advanced topics of Federal Income Taxation in Canada.

INSTRUCTOR AND CONTACT INFORMATION

Section 1 Thursday 1:30pm-4:30pm

Eric Bentzen-Bilkvist

Instructor

ericb@petmas.ca

Office: DSB 234

Office Hours: ON REQUEST

Tel: (905) 522-6555, ext. 4

COURSE ELEMENTS

Credit Value:	3	Leadership:	Yes	IT skills:	No	Global view:	Yes
Avenue:	Yes	Ethics:	No	Numeracy:	Yes	Written skills:	Yes
Participation:	Yes	Innovation:	Yes	Group work:	Yes	Oral skills:	Yes
Evidence-based:	Yes	Experiential:	No	Final Exam:	Yes	Guest speaker(s):	No

LEARNING OUTCOMES

The student will have an in-depth knowledge of the taxation of partnerships and trusts as well as the rules to prevent corporate surplus stripping and capital gains stripping. In addition, the student will be provided with an overview of international tax matters from a Canadian perspective.

COURSE SITES

Avenue: <http://avenue.mcmaster.ca>

Top Hat: **TO BE ANNOUNCED**

REQUIRED COURSE MATERIALS AND READINGS

Johnston, Mescall & Robson, *Introduction to Federal Income Taxation in Canada, 2023 - 2024, 44th edition with Student Study Guide*, CCH Canadian Limited, North York, Ontario 2021.

EVALUATION

Group hand-in cases and presentation:

The cases are used to reinforce, integrate and supplement the course material, and to provide practice in its application. A total of 4 cases will be analyzed throughout the semester. Each case will be assigned to groups. All groups will hand in their written analysis before class. The maximum length of a hand-in case will not exceed 3-10 pages of double-spaced **typed** text (inclusive of exhibits and figures).

Group evaluation

Your individual mark for group work will be based on a combination of:

- the mark assigned to the group's hand-in cases
- your contribution to the group work as evaluated by your peers and yourself. You will be given the opportunity to make your **confidential** peer evaluation in writing.

Participation

You are expected to be prepared for each class by reading the assigned material and be a willing participant in discussions.

Mid term and Final exam

There will be a comprehensive Mid-term and Final exam for all DPA courses. Tax will be covered off as part of these overall exams.

Important dates in the course

Learning in this course results primarily from in-class discussion and participation of comprehensive business cases as well as out-of-class analysis. The balance of the learning results from the lectures on strategic concepts, from related readings, and from researching your presentations, cases, assignments, simulation decisions and projects. All work will be evaluated on an individual basis except in certain cases where group work is expected. In these cases group members will share the same grade adjusted by peer evaluation. Your final grade will be calculated as follows:

Components and Weights

Class participation	20%
Group's hand-in cases and presentations	40%
Mid-term (comprehensive), Saturday, June 15 (tentative)	10%
Final exam (comprehensive), Saturday, July 27 (tentative)	30%
Total	100%

Conversion

At the end of the course your overall percentage grade will be converted to your letter grade in accordance with the following conversion scheme.

Grade	Points	Percent
A+	12	90-100
A	11	85-89
A-	10	80-84
B+	9	77-79
B	8	73-76
B-	7	70-72
F	0	0

Students must maintain a 70% average in the program and at least 60% in each course in order to graduate and be eligible for entry in the CPA PEP at the Capstone 1 level.

NOTE: The use of a McMaster standard calculator is allowed during examinations in this course. See McMaster calculator policy at the following URL:

<http://www.mcmaster.ca/policy/Students-AcademicStudies/examinationindex.html>

Communication and Feedback

Students that are uncomfortable in directly approaching an instructor regarding a course concern may send a confidential and anonymous email to the respective Area Chair or Director:

<http://www.degrootemcmaster.ca/curr/emailchairs.aspx>

Students who wish to correspond with instructors or TAs directly via email must send messages that originate from their official McMaster University email account. This protects the

confidentiality and sensitivity of information as well as confirms the identity of the student. **Emails regarding course issues should NOT be sent to the Administrative Assistant.**

ACADEMIC DISHONESTY

It is the student's responsibility to understand what constitutes academic dishonesty. Please refer to the University Senate Academic Integrity Policy at the following URL:

<http://www.mcmaster.ca/policy/Students-AcademicStudies/AcademicIntegrity.pdf>

This policy describes the responsibilities, procedures, and guidelines for students and faculty should a case of academic dishonesty arise. Academic dishonesty is defined as to knowingly act or fail to act in a way that results or could result in unearned academic credit or advantage. Please refer to the policy for a list of examples. The policy also provides faculty with procedures to follow in cases of academic dishonesty as well as general guidelines for penalties. For further information related to the policy, please refer to the Office of Academic Integrity at:

<http://www.mcmaster.ca/academicintegrity>

STUDENT ACCESSIBILITY SERVICES

Student Accessibility Services (SAS) offers various support services for students with disabilities. Students are required to inform SAS of accommodation needs for examinations on or before the last date for withdrawal from a course without failure (please refer to official university sessional dates). Students must forward a copy of such SAS accommodation to the instructor immediately upon receipt. If a student with a disability chooses NOT to take advantage of an SAS accommodation and chooses to sit for a regular exam, a petition for relief may not be filed after the examination is complete. The SAS website is:

<http://sas.mcmaster.ca>

POTENTIAL MODIFICATIONS TO THE COURSE

The instructor and university reserve the right to modify elements of the course during the term. The university may change the dates and deadlines for any or all courses in extreme circumstances. If either type of modification becomes necessary, reasonable notice and communication with the students will be given with explanation and the opportunity to comment on changes. It is the responsibility of the student to check their McMaster email and course websites weekly during the term and to note any changes.

COURSE SCHEDULE

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WEEK	TOPIC
1	<p><i>High Level Review of following previously covered material:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Chapter 2 - Residency rules • Chapter 3 - Employment Income • Chapter 4 - Business Income • Chapter 5 - Tax Depreciation
2	<p><i>High Level Review of following previously covered material:</i></p> <p>Group Presentation of Case 1 (assigned in week 1)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Chapter 6 - Property Income. • Chapter 7 - Capital Gains • Chapter 8 - Voluntary and Involuntary dispositions • Chapter 9 - Misc. Income and Deductions • Chapter 10 - Taxation of individuals
3	<p><i>High Level Review of following previously covered material:</i></p> <p>Group Presentation of Case 2 (assigned in week 2)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Chapter 11 - Taxation of corporations • Chapter 12 - Taxation of CCPC • Chapter 13 - Shareholder/manager remuneration
4	<p>Group Presentation of Case 3 (assigned in week 3)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Chapter 14 - Death of a taxpayer • Chapter 15 - Corporate Distributions • Chapter 16 - Section 85

5	<p>Group Presentation of Case 4 (assigned in week 4)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Chapter 17 - Section 86/ 87 / 88• Chapter 18 - Partnerships and Trusts <p>Chapter 20, HST issues</p>
6	<p>Case: - The McRaes (CPA)</p>