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**SYLLABUS – ACCT 569T – ADVANCED PARTNERSHIP TAXATION**

**Spring 2017 / Section 14247R / Jan 9 – April 28**

**BRI 202 / 12:30 p.m. – 1:50 p.m. Tues/Thurs**

**PREREQUISITES**: ACCT 551T

**INSTRUCTOR**: Patricia Hughes Mills, J.D., LL.M.

 Professor of Clinical Accounting

 Leventhal School of Accounting, Room 111

Phone: 213-740-5007

 Email: pmills@marshall.usc.edu

**OFFICE HOURS**: Tuesdays and Thursdays 10:00 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.

 And by appointment

**EMERGENCY NUMBERS**: USC Emergencies: 213-740-4321

USC Public Safety—Non Emergencies: 213-740-6000

USC Emergency Info Line: 213-740-9233

USC Information Line: 213-740-2311or KUSC Radio (91.5 FM)

**TEXTS**: See Blackboard for instructions to access online:

Applicable Internal Revenue Code and Regulation Sections

(Available on-line through RIA Checkpoint or CCH IntelliConnect)

*Federal Taxation of Partnerships and Partners*

(Available free on-line through CCH IntelliConnect / CCH Expert Treatise Library)

**COURSE LEARNING OUTCOMES**: Upon taking this course, the student will be able to:

1. Apply the Subchapter K rules to various complex partnership transactions, including the receipt of a partnership interest for services, distributions from partnerships, sales of partnership interests, and the death or retirement of a partner;
2. Design partnership profit and loss allocations to comply with the rules of Code § 704(b) and (c), including constructing capital accounts;
3. Evaluate the benefits and detriments of optional and mandatory basis adjustments;
4. Compare the consequences of the sale of a partnership interest with the liquidation of a partnership interest;
5. Analyze the Subchapter K rules throughout for tax planning opportunities; and
6. Integrate the knowledge learned to determine the tax consequences of various transactions engaged in by a fictional case study client.

**GRADUATE PROGRAM STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOMES:**

Five Student Learning Outcomes for the Master of Accounting and Master of Business Taxation programs were developed by the USC Leventhal faculty and administration and filed with the AACSB, the accrediting body for accounting and business schools.  These outcomes were included in your fall semester syllabi. In brief, these Student Learning Outcomes are as follows:

1. Technical, Conceptual, Problem-Solving

2. Professional Development

3. Research/Life-Long Learning

4. Ethical Principles and Professional Standards

5. Globalization and Diversity

This course will deal primarily with Outcome #1 (Technical, Conceptual, Problem Solving) and Outcome # 3 (Research / Life-Long Learning). To a lesser extent, this course will help you meet Learning Outcomes #2 and #4.

**GRADES**:

Individual Homework Problems (see syllabus) 150 points

Exam Modules 1 – 5 200 points

Exam Modules 7 – 11 200 points

Participation & Discussion Problems 100 points

Final Case Study Project 350 points

Total 1000 points

**GRADING POLICIES:**

1. Class attendance and participation is important in developing a coherent view of the materials covered in the course. Students should be prepared to discuss the materials assigned for each class. Study groups will be formed and called upon to present answers to the discussion problems. All group members will be graded on the preparedness of their group in presenting the solutions to these discussion problems. This is part of your participation grade.
2. Certain problems will be assigned as individual homework problems, and must be submitted as a Word or Excel file under the “Assignments” tab in Blackboard. Cooperation with other students, including study group members, is **not** allowed on these individual homework problems. Due dates are indicated in the syllabus.
3. There are two exams, both of which will be “open book” (Code, Regs, text, and assigned readings only). Make up examinations will generally not be given, except in the case of a well-documented emergency, and arranged for in advance with the instructor. Extra credit assignments will not be available.
4. The final case study project will be evaluated based on content as well as on the effectiveness of your communication. This includes grammar, spelling, organization, and other essentials of effective communication. One case study will be submitted for each assigned group (which may or may not include your study group members). The topic and instructions will be posted on Blackboard.
5. The class lecture will be recorded and posted on Blackboard. The recordings are for study purposes or approved absences only. Attendance in all classes is expected.
6. **Laptops may not be used in the classroom during class time or on exams.**

**GRADING POLICIES:**

This course adheres to the USC Leventhal School of Accounting and Marshall School of Business grading Standards for graduate programs. In general, final course grades at the graduate level in a core course average approximately B+ (3.3) but may vary based on class performance. For elective courses, the class average is usually higher (approximately 3.5), which is between a B+ and an A-. You must receive a C or better to pass a required class, and you must have an overall B average (3.0 minimum) in order to graduate from USC. The graded elements of this course are listed in this syllabus along with information about how they will be evaluated.

**ACADEMIC CONDUCT**

Students enrolled in any class offered by the Leventhal School of Accounting are expected to uphold and adhere to the standards of academic integrity established by the Leventhal School of Accounting Student Honor Code.  Students are responsible for obtaining, reading, and understanding the Honor Code System handbook.  Students who are found to have violated the Code will be subject to disciplinary action as described in the handbook.  For more specific information, please refer to the Student Honor Code System handbook, available in class or from the receptionist in ACC 101.

**PLAGIARISM**

Plagiarism – presenting someone else’s ideas as your own, either verbatim or recast in your own words – is a serious academic offense with serious consequences. Please familiarize yourself with the discussion of plagiarism in *SCampus*in Section 11, *Behavior Violating University Standards*<https://scampus.usc.edu/1100-behavior-violating-university-standards-and-appropriate-sanctions/>. Other forms of academic dishonesty are equally unacceptable. See additional information in *SCampus*and university policies on scientific misconduct,<http://policy.usc.edu/scientific-misconduct/>.

**SUPPORT SYSTEMS**

A number of USC’s schools provide support for students who need help with scholarly writing. Check with your advisor or program staff to find out more. Students whose primary language is not English should check with the *American Language Institute*[http://dornsife.usc.edu/ali](https://mail.marshall.usc.edu/owa/redir.aspx?C=_F2OgbbJUE2u40Qe99K1Zvo7QiTK5tEIGpfO0a82BTitSwC-utV__PvxCva-f6bV_8ZWSLRchJk.&URL=http%3a%2f%2fdornsife.usc.edu%2fali), which sponsors courses and workshops specifically for international graduate students.

*The Office of Disability Services and Programs* [http://sait.usc.edu/academicsupport/centerprograms/dsp/home\_index.html](https://mail.marshall.usc.edu/owa/redir.aspx?C=_F2OgbbJUE2u40Qe99K1Zvo7QiTK5tEIGpfO0a82BTitSwC-utV__PvxCva-f6bV_8ZWSLRchJk.&URL=http%3a%2f%2fsait.usc.edu%2facademicsupport%2fcenterprograms%2fdsp%2fhome_index.html) provides certification for students with disabilities and helps arrange the relevant accommodations.

If an officially  declared emergency makes travel to campus infeasible, *USC Emergency Information*[*http://emergency.usc.edu/*](https://mail.marshall.usc.edu/owa/redir.aspx?C=_F2OgbbJUE2u40Qe99K1Zvo7QiTK5tEIGpfO0a82BTitSwC-utV__PvxCva-f6bV_8ZWSLRchJk.&URL=http%3a%2f%2femergency.usc.edu%2f) will provide safety and other updates, including ways in which instruction will be continued by means of blackboard, teleconferencing, and other technology.

Discrimination, sexual assault, and harassment are not tolerated by the university. You are encouraged to report any incidents to the *Office of Equity and Diversity*<http://equity.usc.edu/>or to the *Department of Public Safety*<http://capsnet.usc.edu/department/department-public-safety/online-forms/contact-us>.  This is important for the safety whole USC community. Another member of the university community – such as a friend, classmate, advisor, or faculty member – can help initiate the report, or can initiate the report on behalf of another person. *The Center for Women and Men*<http://www.usc.edu/student-affairs/cwm/> provides 24/7 confidential support, and the sexual assault resource center webpage sarc@usc.edu describes reporting options and other resources.

**STATEMENT ON RETENTION OF PAPERS FROM THE CURRICULUM OFFICE**

According to the *Guidelines on Documents Retention*, University policy requires that final exams and all other grade work which affected the course grade be kept for one year.  Other papers or work that instructors hand back but that students fail to pick up can be held for one month.

**SCHEDULE – ACCT 569T – SPRING 2017**

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| **DATE** | **TOPICS / READINGS / ASSIGNMENTS** |
| **Jan 10** | **MODULE 1: Receipt of Partnership Interest for Property or Services****Learning Outcomes:**1. Recall the key issues of the taxation of partnership formation.2. Identify the difference between a capital interest and a profits interest.3. Explore the reasoning behind the proposed changes to the taxation of a partnership interest for services.4. Demonstrate and calculate the tax consequences when either a capital or profits interest is issued for services under both current and proposed rules.**Readings:****IRC**: §§ 721, 722, 723, skim § 83**Regs**: § 1.721-1(b); Prop. Reg. § 1.721-1(b); Prop. Reg. § 1.83-3(l)**CCH Treatise:** Review ¶¶ 4.01 – 4.06; 5.02 Study ¶¶ 6.01 – 6.06**Other**: Rev. Proc. 93-27, Notice 2005-43, 2005-24 IRB 1221 |
| **Jan 12** | **Prepare:** MODULE 1Discussion Problems to present in class |

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| **Jan 17** | **MODULE 2: Partner’s Distributive Share - § 704(b)****Learning Outcomes:**1. Construct capital accounts using the capital account maintenance rules.
2. Interpret the basic principles and mechanics of the § 704(b) allocation rules, and discuss the concept behind the substantial economic effect safe harbor.
3. Calculate capital accounts and the impact of special allocations in a given scenario.

**Readings:** **IRC**: § 704(a) & (b)**Regs**: § 1.704-1(b)(1)(i) § 1.704-1(b)(2)(i), (ii)(a), (b), (c) § 1.704-1(b)(2)(iv)(a) thru (h) § 1.704-1(b)(5) Examples 1(i), 4(i)**CCH Treatise:** ¶¶ 17.01, 17.02, 17.03 intro and [A], 17.03[B][1], 17.03[D] |
| **Jan 19** | **Prepare:** MODULE 2 Discussion Problems to present in class |

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| **Jan 24** | **MODULE 3: Working with Profit and Loss Allocations****Learning Outcomes:**1. Interpret and apply the alternate test under the § 704(b) Regulations
2. Evaluate which allocations fail the “substantiality” requirement
3. Apply the principles of the § 704(c) allocation rules to asset sales
4. Analyze non-safe harbor allocations
5. Calculate the consequences of special allocations

**Readings:** **IRC** § 704(c)(1)(A)**Regs.** §§ 1.704-1(b)(2)(ii)(d); 1.704-1(b)(2)(iii); 1.704-3(a)(1) – (5), (b)(1) **CCH Treatise:** ¶¶ 17.03[B][2]; 17.03[C][1], [2]; 17.04; 17.06[B]; 17A.01 intro and [A] |
| **Jan 26** | **Prepare:** MODULE 3 Discussion Problems to present in class |

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| **Jan 31** | **MODULE 4: Working with Book-Tax Differences****Learning Outcomes:**1. Identify the use of “reverse” § 704(c) allocations
2. Interpret and apply the principles of § 704(c) to depreciable property
3. Apply the use of remedial and curative allocations and understand their practical application
4. Compare the relationship between § 704(b) and § 704(c)

**Readings:****IRC** § 704(c)(1)(A)**Regs.** §§ 1.704-3(b); skim Treas. Reg. § 1.704-3(c), (d)**CCH Treatise:** ¶¶ 17.03[A][3]; 17A.01[B]; 17A.02[A]; 17A.03[A]; 17A.03[B]; 17A.03[F] introSuggested Reading: Treas. Reg. § 1.704-3(d)(7) Ex 1 |
| **Feb 2** | **Prepare:** MODULE 4 Discussion Problems to present in class**Submit: Individual Homework Problem for Module 4 (DUE SUNDAY FEB 5TH)** |

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| **Feb 7** | **MODULE 5: Allocation of Liabilities - § 752****Learning Outcomes:**1. Identify which partners are subject to an economic risk of loss with respect to partnership debt
2. Compare the allocation of recourse debt with the allocation of non-recourse debt
3. Demonstrate how debt is allocated in various situations

**Readings:****Code**: § 752**Regs**: § 1.752-1;  § 1.752-2(a) – (c), (f) Ex 1, 2, 4 § 1.752-3(a), (c) Ex 1; **CCH Treatise** ¶¶ 9.01 intro & [A], 9.03[A][1], [2]; 9.03[B]; 9.05[A], [B] |
| **Feb 9** | **Prepare:** MODULE 5 Discussion Problems to present in class |

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| **Feb 14** | **MODULE 6: Review and Exam****Prepare:** Review Discussion Problems |
| **Feb 15** | **EXAM MODULES 1 – 5**  |

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| **Feb 21** | **MODULE 7: Distributions of Property****Learning Outcomes:**1. Explain the tax consequences of partnership distributions
2. Apply the basis rules for the distribution of multiple assets
3. Compare distributions of contributed property

**Readings:****IRC** §§ 731(a), (b), (d); 732(a), (b), (c); 733; 737; 704(c)(1)(B)**Regs**: § 1.732-1(a) – (c); 1.761-1(d); § 1.737-1; 1.704-4(a), (b), (e)**CCH Treatise**: ¶¶ 21.01; 21.07; 21.08 intro, 21.08[E] |
| **Feb 23** | **Prepare:** MODULE 7 Discussion Problems to present in class |

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| **Feb 28** | **MODULE 8: Distributions of Hot Assets****Learning Outcomes:**1. Demonstrate the consequences of “hot assets” on distributions
2. Assess the effectiveness of IRC § 751(b)

**Readings:****IRC** § 751(b)**Regs**: § 1.751-1(b), (g) Ex 2**CCH Treatise**: ¶¶ 23.01 – 23.03; skim 23.04**Other**: See posted material; Watch “Bill Woods Perspective” |
| **Mar 2** | **Prepare:** MODULE 8 Discussion Problems to present in class**Submit: Individual Homework Problem for Module 8 (DUE SUNDAY MARCH 5TH)** |

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| **Mar 7** | **MODULE 9: Sale or Exchange of Partnership Interest****Learning Outcomes:**1. Analyze the impact of the sale of a partnership interest on all parties2. Identify “hot” assets in a partnership and their treatment upon sale of a partnership interest4. Calculate the amount and character of gain on the sale of a partnership interest5. Identify the issue of a disguised sale of a partnership interest**Readings:****Code:** §§ 741, 742, 752(d), 751(a), (c), (d)**Regs:** §§ 1.704-3(a)(7); 1.704-1(b)(2)(iv)(l); 1.741-1; 1.751-1(a), (c), (d)(2), (g) Ex 1**CCH Treatise:** ¶¶ 24.01 – 24.03; 25.01 – 25.04 |
| **Mar 9** | **Prepare:** MODULE 9 Discussion Problems to present in class |

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| **Mar 21** | **MODULE 10: Basis Adjustments Upon Transfer of Partnership Interest****Learning Outcomes:**1. Compare the results of making versus not making a Section 754 election.
2. Calculate the basis adjustments under IRC § 743 for sales of partnership interests.
3. Apply the basis adjustments to partnership transactions.
4. Analyze the pros and cons of mandatory basis adjustments.

**Readings:****IRC:** §§ 743(a) – (d); 754; skim 755**Treas. Regs.:** §§ 1.743-1(a) – (e), (j); 1.754-1; 1.704-1(b)(2)(iv)(l), (m); skim 1.755-1**CCH Treatise:** ¶¶ 37.01 – 37.07 |
| **Mar 23** | **Prepare:** MODULE 10 Discussion Problems to present in class |

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| **Mar 28** | **MODULE 11: Basis Adjustments Upon Distributions****Learning Outcomes:**1. Compare the results of making versus not making a Section 754 election.
2. Calculate the basis adjustments under IRC § 734 for distributions to partners.
3. Apply the basis adjustments to partnership transactions.
4. Analyze the pros and cons of mandatory basis adjustments.

**Readings:** **IRC:** §§ 734; 754; skim 755**Treas. Regs.:** §§ 1.734-1; 1.754-1; 1.704-1(b)(2)(iv)(l), (m); skim 1.755-1**CCH Treatise:** ¶¶ 37.01 – 37.07 |
| **Mar 30** | **Prepare:** MODULE 11 Discussion Problems to present in class**Submit: Individual Homework Problem for Module 11 (DUE SUNDAY APRIL 2nd)** |

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| **Apr 4** | **MODULE 12: Review and Exam****Prepare:** Review Discussion Problems |
| **Apr 6** | **EXAM MODULES 7 – 11** |

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| **Apr 11** | **MODULE 13: Guaranteed Payments / § 707****Learning Outcomes:**1. Distinguish between payments under IRC § 707(a) and § 707(c)
2. Evaluate the tax consequences of guaranteed payments
3. Apply the self-employment tax rules to LLCs

**Readings:****IRC:** § 707(a), (b), (c)**Treas. Regs.:** § 1.707-1(a), (b), (c)**CCH Treatise:** ¶¶ 27.01, 27.02[A], [B], [C]; 27.03; 27.04[A][1]; 31.03[B] |
| **Apr 13** | **Prepare:** MODULE 13 Discussion Problems to present in class |

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| **Apr 18** | **MODULE 14: Death and Retirement of Partner - § 736****Learning Outcomes:**1. Identify whether liquidating payments to a partner are treated under IRC § 736(a) or § 736(b)
2. Analyze and calculate the tax consequences of a liquidating distribution to a partner
3. Compare the tax consequences of selling versus liquidating a partner’s interest

**Readings:****IRC:** § 736**Treas. Regs.:** § 1.736-1**CCH Treatise:** ¶¶ 35.01, 35.02, 35.03 |
| **Apr 20** | **Prepare:** MODULE 14 Discussion Problems to present in class |

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| **Apr 25** | **MODULE 15: Review and Comprehensive Case Study** |
| **Apr 27** | **MODULE 15: Review and Farewell!** |
|  | **CASE STUDY DUE PRIOR TO MIDNIGHT April 30th**  |