

USC Leventhal

School of Accounting

ACCT 584 – Family Wealth Preservation Spring 2021 Jan 15 – May 12, 2021

Section # 14308R	Wednesday	6:30 p.m. – 9:30 p.m.	Online
Section # 14310R	Wednesday	6:30 p.m. – 9:30 p.m.	Online
Section # 14309R	Thursday	5:30 p.m. – 7:00 p.m.	Online – as indicated on chart

Syllabus

The goal of this course is to provide a course in family wealth preservation such that students become proficient in the area and are able to spot issues, provide solutions and citations, and explain their reasoning in excellent English prose.

RECOMMENDED PREPARATION: See Charts

COURSE STRUCTURE:

This course will be entirely online. Synchronous class sessions will be held on Wednesday. Thursday online students will view the lecture recorded during Wednesday lecture with Professor Barcal and Professor Gensler. Lecture recording posted on Thursday in Blackboard. Thursday Online students will have Zoom meetings on dates and times indicated. Both courses will have access to the same materials, class recordings, exercises, and lectures. Students are asked not to switch sections after the semester has started so that each section may function as a cohesive unit.

INSTRUCTOR: John J. Barcal, J.D., (CPA Certificate from Illinois)
California State Bar
-Certified Specialist – Taxation;
-Certified Specialist – Estate Planning, Probate and Trust
Associate Professor of Accounting
Leventhal School of Accounting
University of Southern California
3660 Trousdale Parkway, Room 207
Los Angeles, CA 90089-0441

CONTACT: Email: jbarcal@marshall.usc.edu
Phone: 213-740-4874 or 213-740-4838
Office Hours: By appointment or as posted on Blackboard

INSTRUCTOR: Cynthia A. Gensler, J.D.,
California State Bar
-Certified Specialist – Estate Planning, Probate and Trust

CONTACT: Email: cgensler@marshall.usc.edu
Phone: 213-740-4874 or 213-740-4838
Office Hours: By appointment or as posted on Blackboard

EMERGENCY NUMBERS: USC Emergencies: 213-740-4321
 USC Public Safety—Non Emergencies: 213-740-6000
 USC Emergency Information Line 740-9233
 USC Information Line 740-2311
 KUSC Radio 91.5

COURSE MATERIALS:

REQUIRED 3-ring 2” Notebook to hold materials and sample documents. Materials and sample documents will be provided by Professor through Blackboard

NOTE: In prior classes Professor Barcal provided a large 3 ring notebook with approximately 600 printed pages. With COVID-19, this is not practical, so pdf files containing the materials will be provided in Blackboard. The Cases section (apx 45 pages) and the Paraphrased Rules (apx 26 pages) need to be printed out and placed in your notebook. It is strongly advised that the supporting materials should also be printed out and placed in your notebook.

REQUIRED BOOK Every Californian’s Guide to Estate Planning (Wills, Trusts, and Everything Else) 2nd Edition, by Attorney Liza W. Hanks NOLO Press - order online

OPTIONAL (Excellent Reference): The Tools & Techniques of Estate Planning 19th Edition, by Stephan R. Leimberg, Martin M. Shenkman, Jay Katz, Stephen N. Kandell, Ralph Gano Miller

TECHNOLOGY REQUIREMENTS:

Online lectures through Zoom will be provided in Blackboard. Therefore, you must have access to the Internet to view/hear lectures. No special software is required.

The lecture presentations, links to articles, assignments, quizzes, and rubrics are located on Blackboard. To participate in learning activities and complete assignments, you will need:

- Access to a working computer that has a current operating system with updates installed, plus speakers or headphones to hear lecture presentations;
- Reliable Internet access and a USC email account;
- A current Internet browser that is compatible with Blackboard (Google Chrome is the recommended browser for Blackboard);
- A working video camera with microphone for use on Zoom;
- Microsoft Word as your word processing program; and
- Reliable data storage for your work, such as a USB drive or Office365 OneDrive cloud storage.

If your computer does not have Microsoft Word, Office 365 package is available to you free of charge and allows you to install Word, Excel, PowerPoint, Outlook, OneNote, Publisher, and Access on up to 5 PCs or Macs and Office apps on other mobile devices including tablets. Office 365 also includes unlimited cloud storage on OneDrive. To download Office 365 log into your student (University) email through a web browser, choose Settings (top right corner), and select software. If you have further questions or need help with the software, please contact the USC ITS service portal.

IMPORTANT DATES—Spring Semester 2021

Friday, January 15	First day of Classes
Monday, January 18	USC Holiday—Martin Luther King, Jr.
Friday, February 5	Last Day to drop class without a “W”
Monday February 15	USC Holiday—Presidents’ Day
Tuesday February 16; Friday, March 12; Wednesday, April 7; Thursday, April 22	WELLNESS DAYS (No Class)

Friday, April 30	WELLNESS DAYS (No Class)
Friday, March 5	Last Day to Change from P/NP to Letter Grade
Friday, April 30	Last Day to drop a class with a “W”/ Last Day of Classes
Saturday – Tuesday, May 1-4	Study Days
Wednesday – Wednesday, May 5-12	Finals Week (See syllabus for exact date/time for this course)
14 May	COMMENCEMENT

Graduate Program Student Learning Outcomes

Below are the five Student Learning Outcomes developed for this program by the USC Leventhal faculty and administration and filed with the AACSB, the accrediting body for accounting and business schools. This course will deal primarily with Outcomes #1 and #2. To a lesser extent, this course will help you meet Learning Outcomes #3, #4 and #5.

1. Technical, Conceptual, Problem-Solving

Students will be competent in and be able to apply discipline-specific knowledge and skills in the fields of accounting or taxation. This learning outcome includes the development of critical thinking and problem-solving skills, as well as an understanding of the strategic role of accounting and taxation in business organizations and society.

- MBT specific—Apply critical thinking and problem-solving skills related to taxation of individuals, flow-through entities, and corporations. Recognize potential opportunities for tax savings and tax planning.

2. Professional Development

Students will be able to communicate clearly and strategically, after considering the relevant audience, situation, and purpose of the communication. Students will demonstrate the ability to work productively with others to accomplish established goals.

- MBT specific—Convert complex and technical tax terminology into language that translates to non-technical audiences. Demonstrate strong interpersonal communication skills that build relationships with clients over time. Document exchanges with careful attention to word choice, tone, and accuracy.

3. Research/Life-Long Learning

Students will be able to use relevant research databases and academic/professional literature to gain new knowledge and analyze business situations.

- MBT specific—Use computer-based and paper-based systems to thoroughly research tax codes, tax law, rulings and interpretations. Use knowledge to be able to adjust to changes in tax law over time.

4. Ethical Principles and Professional Standards

Students will be able to apply ethical principles and professional standards in analyzing situations and making informed decisions.

- MBT specific—Demonstrate understanding of and apply consistently the ethical principles and professional standards related to the profession. Show the ability to express and follow rules of independence and the highest sense of professional ethics.

5. Globalization and Diversity

Students will be able to demonstrate an international perspective and appreciation for diversity and cultural differences, along with their significance in global business.

- MBT specific—Explain key differences in taxing policies related to expatriates and the countries they live and work in. Reflect on cultural and ethnic differences in approaches to business and taxation policies.

GRADES:

Quizzes/Assigned Problems/Written Assignments	200pts	20%
Exams	600pts	60%
Participation	100pts	10%
Professionalism*	100pts	10%

Total	1000pts	100%

- Course is taught with the recognition that a tax season does exist which affects a tax practitioner's work load
 - No mid-term is planned - only a final
 - Actual documents - Will, Living Trust, Insurance Trust - will be used in class for discussion
 - Class will consist of lectures and class discussion on the assigned documents
- *Professionalism = 1. Arriving on time; 2. Staying the duration of the class; 3. Eating only during breaks; 4. Attentiveness and courtesy to professor and fellow students

CLASS CONDUCT/NETIQUETTE

Professionalism will be expected at all times. Because the university classroom is a place designed for the free exchange of ideas, we must show respect for one another in all circumstances. We will show respect for one another by exhibiting patience and courtesy in our exchanges. Appropriate language and restraint from verbal attacks upon those whose perspectives differ from your own is a minimum requirement. Courtesy and kindness is the norm for those who participate in my class.

Some Netiquette Rules:

- Dress respectfully. Video conference business meetings are and will be the norm, so practice your professional telepresence.
- Virtual background respectfully professional
- Display both your first and last name during video conferencing and synchronous class meetings.
- Respectfully minimize distractions with muting and video off when moving around
- Disagree respectfully
- Respectfully pay attention to classmates
- Do not use all CAPITAL LETTERS in emails or discussion board postings. This is considered "shouting" and is seen as impolite or aggressive.
- Do not use more than one punctuation mark, this is also considered aggressive!!!!
- Begin emails with a professional salutation (Examples: Dr. Name; Ms. Name; Hello Professor Name; Good afternoon Mr. Name). Starting an email without a salutation or a simple "Hey" is not appropriate.
- When sending an email, please include a detailed subject line. Additionally, make sure you reference the course number (Ex. ACCT 584 S21) in the message and sign the mail with your name.
- Use proper grammar, spelling, punctuation, and capitalization. Text messaging language is not acceptable. You are practicing for your role as a business leader.
- Re-Read, think, and edit your message before you click "Send/Submit/Post.". As a check, consider whether you would be comfortable with your email or post or text being widely distributed on the Internet.

Final grades represent how you perform in the class relative to other students. The average grade for this class is expected to average about 3.4-3.5 (i.e. between B+ and A-). Three items are considered when assigning final grades:

1. Your average weighted score as a percentage of the available points for all assignments (the points you receive divided by the number of points possible).
2. The overall average percentage score within the class.
3. Your ranking among all students in the class.

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 -- approximating 3.4 to 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) from all your courses 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.

1. Participation in class is expected, and students should be present and prepared to engage with the class at the date and time indicated each week in order to earn participation credit for this activity.
2. Exams/quizzes are to be determined. Make up exams/quizzes will be given only if a student has received pre-approval from the instructor or has a doctor's excuse.

RETENTION OF GRADED PAPERS:

Final exams and other graded work that affected the course grade will be kept for one year. Other papers or work that are handed back but that students fail to pick up will be held for one month. Discussion forums and other online work, if any, will be deleted at the end of the course.

STATEMENT ON ACADEMIC CONDUCT AND SUPPORT SYSTEMS

Academic Conduct:

Students are expected to make themselves aware of and abide by the University community's standards of behavior as articulated in the [Student Conduct Code](#). 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 Part B, Section 11, "Behavior Violating University Standards" policy.usc.edu/scampus-part-b. Other forms of academic dishonesty are equally unacceptable. See additional information in *SCampus* and university policies on scientific misconduct at <http://policy.usc.edu/scientific-misconduct>.

Support Systems:

Counseling and Mental Health - (213) 740-9355 – 24/7 on call
studenthealth.usc.edu/counseling

Free and confidential mental health treatment for students, including short-term psychotherapy, group counseling, stress fitness workshops, and crisis intervention.

National Suicide Prevention Lifeline - 1 (800) 273-8255 – 24/7 on call
suicidepreventionlifeline.org

Free and confidential emotional support to people in suicidal crisis or emotional distress 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.

Relationship and Sexual Violence Prevention and Services (RSVP) - (213) 740-9355(WELL), press "0" after hours – 24/7 on call
studenthealth.usc.edu/sexual-assault

Free and confidential therapy services, workshops, and training for situations related to gender-based harm.

Office of Equity and Diversity (OED)- (213) 740-5086 / Title IX – (213) 821-8298

equity.usc.edu, titleix.usc.edu

Information about how to get help or help someone affected by harassment or discrimination, rights of protected classes, reporting options, and additional resources for students, faculty, staff, visitors, and applicants. The university prohibits discrimination or harassment based on the following *protected characteristics*: race, color, national origin, ancestry, religion, sex, gender, gender identity, gender expression, sexual orientation, age, physical disability, medical condition, mental disability, marital status, pregnancy, veteran status, genetic information, and any other characteristic which may be specified in applicable laws and governmental regulations. The university also prohibits sexual assault, non-consensual sexual contact, sexual misconduct, intimate partner violence, stalking, malicious dissuasion, retaliation, and violation of interim measures.

Reporting Incidents of Bias or Harassment - (213) 740-5086 or (213) 821-8298

usc-advocate.symplcity.com/care_report

Avenue to report incidents of bias, hate crimes, and microaggressions to the Office of Equity and Diversity |Title IX for appropriate investigation, supportive measures, and response.

USC Support and Advocacy - (213) 821-4710

uscsa.usc.edu

Assists students and families in resolving complex personal, financial, and academic issues adversely affecting their success as a student.

Diversity at USC - (213) 740-2101

diversity.usc.edu

Information on events, programs and training, the Provost's Diversity and Inclusion Council, Diversity Liaisons for each academic school, chronology, participation, and various resources for students.

USC Emergency - UPC: (213) 740-4321, HSC: (323) 442-1000 – 24/7 on call

dps.usc.edu, emergency.usc.edu

Emergency assistance and avenue to report a crime. Latest updates regarding safety, including ways in which instruction will be continued if an officially declared emergency makes travel to campus infeasible.

USC Department of Public Safety - UPC: (213) 740-6000, HSC: (323) 442-120 – 24/7 on call

dps.usc.edu

Non-emergency assistance or information.

Office of Disability Services and Programs - (213) 740-0776 dps.usc.edu, ability@usc.edu.

USC is committed to making reasonable accommodations to assist individuals with disabilities in reaching their academic potential. Services include assistance in providing readers/notetakers/interpreters, special accommodations for test taking needs, assistance with architectural barriers, assistive technology, and support for individual needs. If you have a disability which may impact your performance, attendance, or grades in this course and require accommodations, you must first register with the Office of Disability Services and Programs (dsp.usc.edu) provides certification for students with disabilities and helps arrange the relevant accommodations. Any student requesting academic accommodations based on a disability is required to register with Disability Services and Programs (DSP) each semester. A letter of verification for approved accommodations can be obtained from DSP. Please be sure the letter is delivered to me as early in the semester as possible. DSP is located in GFS (Grace Ford Salvatori Hall) 120 and is open 8:30 a.m.–5:00 p.m., Monday through Friday.

NO RECORDING AND COPYRIGHT NOTICE:

No student may record any lecture, class discussion or meeting with me without my prior express written permission. The word “record” or the act of recording includes, but is not limited to, any and all means by which sound or visual images can be stored, duplicated or retransmitted whether by an electro-mechanical, analog, digital, wire, electronic or other device or any other means of signal encoding. I reserve all rights, including copyright, to my lectures, course syllabi and related materials, including summaries, PowerPoints, prior exams, answer keys, and all supplementary course materials available to the students enrolled in my class whether posted on Blackboard or otherwise. They may not be reproduced, distributed, copied, or disseminated in any media or in any form, including but not limited to all course note-sharing websites. Exceptions are made for students who have made prior arrangements with DSP and me.

ACCOUNTING 584 FAMILY WEALTH PRESERVATION SPRING 2021

JOHN J. BARCAL, JD, (CPA Certificate from Illinois) Online Wed _____
CYNTHIA GENSLER, J.D. Online Thur _____

STUDENT INFORMATION SHEET **

LAST NAME: _____ OFFICE PHONE: _____

FIRST NAME: _____ HOME PHONE: _____

CELL PHONE: _____

email: _____

TIME ZONE/LOCATION ATTENDING CLASS FROM: _____

EXPERIENCE

POSITION: _____

FIRM NAME: _____

FIRM ADDRESS: _____

HOME ADDRESS: _____

PRIOR TAX COURSES:

UNIVERSITY	CLASS TITLE	INSTRUCTOR	GRADE
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UNDERGRAD UNIVERSITY AND MAJOR: _____

**Student must print form, fill in, and hand in for 1st class

584T FAMILY WEALTH PRESERVATION

SPRING 2021

JOHN J. BARCAL, J.D., (CPA Certificate from Illinois)

CALIF. BAR - CERTIFIED SPECIALIST - TAXATION

- CERTIFIED SPECIALIST - ESTATE PLANNING, PROBATE AND TRUST

THE STATE BAR OF CALIFORNIA BOARD OF LEGAL SPECIALIZATION

CLASS	DATE FOR ONLINE CLASS WEDNESDAY	TOPIC	CASE	REQUIRED READING: DOCUMENTS IN NOTEBOOK (IN BLACKBOARD)	HELPFUL? READING: CA GUIDE TO ESTATE PLANNING	ASSIGNMENTS; QUIZZES; EXAMS
1	1/20/21	Introduction to Estate Planning; Holding title to Assets	1	TAB 13 Intro Example Skim: TAB 1 Business Entities; FDIC Insurance	CH. 8 Property Tax p. 16-20 p. 32-37 p. 45-47 p. 122-129 p. 167-171 p. 178-190 p. 224-234 p. 309-312	
2	1/27/21	Overview of Tax Principles; Paraphrased Rules Intestate Succession	2	TAB 15 Skim: Terminology, History TAB 16 Skim: Paraphrased Rules TAB 2 Intestate Succession	p. 9-10 p. 61-63 Nolo Article re intestate succession in Blackboard	
3	2/3/21	Small Family Estate	3	TAB 3 Simple Will; Statutory Will	p. 20-24 CH. 2 CH. 4 p 129-150	QUIZ 1 ONLINE- Due by 5p.m. 2/3/21
4	2/10/21	Marital Deduction	4	TAB 4 Marital Deduction Clauses p.13-15	p. 173-175 p. 188-190 p. 242-246	
5	2/17/21	Bypassing the Second Tax	5	TAB 5 Lotus 123 computations	p.193-197 p.230-233	
6	2/24/21	Avoiding Probate Always? Never? Most of the time?	6	TAB 6 Pour Over Will	Probate p. 11-23; 30;49; 51-52;66-68; 87-89	QUIZ 2 ONLINE- Due by 5p.m. 2/24/21

CLASS	DATE FOR ONLINE CLASS WEDNESDAY	TOPIC	CASE	REQUIRED READING: DOCUMENTS IN NOTEBOOK (IN BLACKBOARD)	HELPFUL? READING: CA GUIDE TO ESTATE PLANNING	ASSIGNMENTS; QUIZZES; EXAMS
7	3/3/21	Revocable Living Trust	7	TAB 7 Living Trust	p.22-24 p. 54-56 CH. 3 CH 7 p.	
		Durable Power of Atty - General and Health Care; Living Will	7A	TAB 7 DPAHC - AHCD POLST; DPAP CP Agreement; Dec of Ownership	CH.11	
8	3/10/21	Gifts and GST	8	TAB 8 Property taxes TAB 14 Form 706 and Form 709 Sample pages	CH. 8 p. 167-168 p. 224-229 p. 235-242	
9	3/17/21	Lifetime Transfer Devices	9	TAB 9 QPRT; GRAT		
10	3/24/21	Life Insurance	10	TAB 10 Insurance Trust; Tax Facts; General Summary	p. 150-159 p. 247-250 p. 272-276	QUIZ 3 ONLINE - Due by 5p.m. 3/24/21
11	3/31/21	Asset Protection	11	TAB 11 FLP; LLC		
	4/7/21	Wellness Day		NO CLASS	Wellness	Day
12	4/14/21	Business Interests	12	TAB 12 Buy Sell Agreements		QUIZ 4 ONLINE - Due by 5p.m. 4/14/21
13	4/21/21	Employee Benefits	13	TAB 13	CH 10 p. 233-234 p. 248-276	
14	4/28/21	Gifts to Charity;	14	TAB 8 CRT Forms; Types of Charitable Trusts	p. 228 p. 234 p. 246 p. 255-258, p. 266-268 ,	
		Residency	15	TAB 15	CH 6	
	5/5/21	FINAL EXAM		FINAL EXAM	FINAL EXAM	FINAL EXAM ONLINE - Details later*

**Please note: The date/time of the Final Exam is determined by the University. For spring 2021, the last day of class is Friday, April 30th. Study days will be May 1-4. Final exams will be held during your scheduled class time May 5-12. Consult the USC Schedule of Classes at <https://classes.usc.edu/term-20211/finals/>.*

WARNING! ANY FORMS PROVIDED ARE PRESENTED ONLY FOR DISCUSSION PURPOSES IN CONJUNCTION WITH THE CLASS IN WHICH THEY ARE INCLUDED AND WILL NOT BE APPROPRIATE OR APPLICABLE FOR ANY SPECIFIC SITUATION. DO NOT USE FOR PERSONAL OR CLIENT USE.

584T FAMILY WEALTH PRESERVATION

SPRING 2021

JOHN J. BARCAL, J.D., (CPA Certificate from Illinois)

CALIF. BAR - CERTIFIED SPECIALIST - TAXATION

- CERTIFIED SPECIALIST - ESTATE PLANNING, PROBATE AND TRUST

THE STATE BAR OF CALIFORNIA BOARD OF LEGAL SPECIALIZATION

SECTION #14309R - **ONLINE, Zoom Meetings**
 - **START time:5:30 p.m. PT**
 - **END time: as needed**

ZOOM MEETING	DATE FOR ZOOM MEETINGS THURSDAY	COVERS	ASSIGNMENTS; QUIZZES; EXAMS
1	1/21/21	Introduction	
2	2/4/21	Recorded Lectures 1 & 2	QUIZ 1 ONLINE- Due by 5p.m. 2/11/21
3	2/18/21	Recorded Lectures 3 & 4	
4	3/4/21	Recorded Lectures 5 & 6	QUIZ 2 ONLINE- Due by 5p.m. 2/25/21
5	3/18/21	Recorded Lectures 7 & 8	
6	4/1/21	Recorded Lectures 9 & 10	QUIZ 3 ONLINE - Due by 5p.m. 4/1/21
7	4/15/21	Recorded Lectures 11 & 12	QUIZ 4 ONLINE - Due by 5p.m. 4/21/21
8	4/22/21	WELLNESS DAY (NO CLASS)	
9	4/29/21	Recorded Lectures 13 & 14	
FINAL EXAM	5/5/21	FINAL EXAM	FINAL EXAM ONLINE Details later

Please note that a Zoom meeting invitation will be generated for every Thursday during the Spring 2021 term for a 5:30 pm meeting. However, we will only be meeting on the designated Thursdays.

WARNING! ANY FORMS PROVIDED ARE PRESENTED ONLY FOR DISCUSSION PURPOSES IN CONJUNCTION WITH THE CLASS IN WHICH THEY ARE INCLUDED AND WILL NOT BE APPROPRIATE OR APPLICABLE FOR ANY SPECIFIC SITUATION. DO NOT USE FOR PERSONAL OR CLIENT USE.