ANGELO STATE UNIVERSITY
Department of Accounting, Finance and Economics
FINC 4347 – Estate Planning
Fall 2018

PROFESSOR: Prof. Renee Foshee                TEL: 325-486-6407 (office/voice mail)
OFFICE: Rassman Hall Room 256               E-mail: renee.foshee@angelo.edu

OFFICE HOURS: Monday/Wednesday, 1:00pm to 1:30pm and 4:15pm to 5pm.
Other times by appointment (e-mail or call). You are welcome to stop by anytime
that I am in my office.

COURSE DESCRIPTION:
Various aspects of estate and gift tax planning – including the nature, valuation, transfer,
administration and taxation of property are discussed. Emphasis is given to a basic
understanding of the unified estate and gift tax system.

COURSE MATERIALS:
  Education. ISBN: 978-1-946711-51-9
• Other readings may be assigned in a timely manner as needed and will be provided
to you as a PDF, in MS Word format, or as a link to an online resource.

LEARNING OBJECTIVES:
At the completion of this course a student should be able to:
  • Understand and explain using relevant legal vocabulary and terms of many of the basic
    principles of law that apply to estate planning.
  • Identify, analyze, and evaluate potential legal issues that may be encountered in estate
    planning.

You will meet the objectives through a series of exams and homework.

PREREQUISITES:
A. Knowledge: None.
B. Technology: Internet access is necessary. Course materials may be found on the University’s
  Blackboard system at http://blackboard.angelo.edu.
C. Technical Support: The Technology Support Center can be contacted by calling 325-942-2911
  or email at helpdesk@angelo.edu for Blackboard or other ASU technology issues.

COURSE POLICIES:
A. INSTRUCTIONAL METHODOLOGY: This class will consist of lectures, problem
  solving of selected exercises, and case studies.
B. ATTENDANCE: ATTENDANCE IS EXPECTED. Attendance will not be taken for this
  class, but it will be necessary for you to come to class to pass the course. Attend every
  class. Come on time, stay until class is over. There is a lot of material to be
  covered and missing just one day can jeopardize your test grade.
C. COURSE REQUIREMENTS:

1. **Examinations:** There will be a total of three (3) exams in this course; two semester exams and a comprehensive final exam. Each exam is worth 100 points. This class will have a comprehensive final exam. This exam will consist of multiple choice questions only and cover all of the chapters that we cover during the course. All students must take the final examination.

Make-up Examinations: Make-ups are permitted only on rare occasions, with permission of the instructor.

Exams for this class will be scheduled during the regular class time (except for the final exam) on the following dates:

**Tentative Exam Schedule**

- Exam #1  Monday, October 22
- Exam #2  Wednesday, November 14
- Final Exam Monday, December 10 at 10:30 AM

D. GRADING POLICY: Your grade will be determined as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Components</th>
<th>Points</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Two semester exams</td>
<td>200 points</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Comprehensive final exam</td>
<td>100 points</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Homework and case studies</td>
<td>100 points</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td>400 points</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

- **A** ≥ 360 points
- **B** 300-359 points
- **C** 280-299 points
- **D** 235-279 points
- **F** <235 points

All final point totals are rounded up to the next highest whole number (i.e., 289.03 = 290).

**I do not curve individual assignments, exams or the final course grades.** It is my policy to strictly adhere to the course grading scale; in other words, 359 points is a “B” not an “A”.

**I do not give grades. You earn your grade.** I merely record your scores. If you need a particular grade in this class to maintain a scholarship, to make the Dean's List, to graduate, or for whatever reason, plan now to DO THE WORK TO EARN THE POINTS that equals that grade. **There are absolutely NO extra credit or grade improvement opportunities offered in this course.**

E. CLASSROOM POLICIES: Students are expected to display professional conduct during class. You should arrive on time and be in your seat at the scheduled class start time and when we return from breaks. In general I will start exactly on time at the beginning of class and following breaks. However, if you must be late, please still come to class. I would rather you come in late than miss the material.

In addition to the above the following rules will also apply:

1. Programmable calculators, cell phone calculators, and mp3 players cannot be used during exams in this course. There are no exceptions to this rule.
2. Please do not disrupt the class by talking to others. If you have a question please ask me.
3. Please turn off your cell phones so that it does not distract others. Also refrain from checking your phone (for texts, emails, etc.) during class. If you feel the need to do this please leave the room and do not distract those around you.
4. You are the only one that can drop you from this course. I cannot drop you from the course. The last day to drop this class is Thursday, November 1, 2018. Do not just quit coming to class. If you do you will receive an “F” in the course. You are tentatively scheduled to take your 2nd exam before the last day to drop. I will do my best to get these exams graded in time for you to make an informed decision regarding dropping or staying in the course.
5. Don’t assume the class period after the exam will be used only to go over the exam. We will discuss the exam; however, after going over the test, we will start new material. In-depth questions will have to be addressed during office hours because there is so much material to cover and this is a fast-moving course.

F. ACADEMIC HONESTY:
Angelo State University expects its students to maintain complete honesty and integrity in their academic pursuits. Students are responsible for understanding the university Academic Honor Code, which is found on pages 15 to 17 in both the print and web versions of the Student Handbook. The web version of the honor code can be reached at:


Academic integrity is expected. This includes, but is not limited to, any form of cheating, plagiarism, unauthorized sharing of work, or unauthorized possession of course materials. The professor assumes that all students can be trusted. Please do not violate this trust. Violation of academic integrity will result in a failing grade for the course.

It is the professor’s intention to be as fair and impartial as is humanly possible. Therefore, all students will be asked to adhere to the same set of guidelines and rules UNLESS there are disabilities or documented extenuating circumstances that have been discussed with the professor and the Student Life Office. Please make sure you inform the professor as soon as any situation arises. Do NOT wait until the problem is compounded by poor class performance, poor attendance, etc.

G. STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES:
ASU is committed to the principle that no qualified individual with a disability shall, on the basis of disability, be excluded from participation in or be denied the benefits of the services, programs or activities of the university, or be subjected to discrimination by the university, as provided by the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 (ADA), the Americans with Disabilities Act Amendments of 2008 (ADAAA), and subsequent legislation.

Student Affairs is the designated campus department charged with the responsibility of reviewing and authorizing requests for reasonable accommodations based on a disability, and it is the student’s responsibility to initiate such a request by emailing studentservices@angelo.edu, or by contacting:

Mrs. Dallas Swafford
Director of Student Development
Office of Student Affairs
University Center, Suite 112
325-942-2047 Office
325-942-2211 FAX
Dallas.Swafford@angelo.edu

H. COLLEGE OF BUSINESS CODE OF ETHICS:
Students, faculty, administrators and professional staff of the College of Business should always:

- Be forthright and truthful in dealings with all stakeholders
- Take responsibility for one's actions and decisions
- Serve as an example of ethical decision-making and behavior to others
- Admit errors when they occur, without trying to conceal them
- Respect the basic dignity of others by treating them as one would wish to be treated

I. TENTATIVE COURSE SCHEDULE: This schedule may change. So listen in class for any changes.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Class Number</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Day</th>
<th>Chapter</th>
<th>Notes</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>9/24</td>
<td>M</td>
<td>Introduction</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>9/26</td>
<td>W</td>
<td>Ch 2 Estate Planning Documents</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>10/1</td>
<td>M</td>
<td>Ch 2 (con't)</td>
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<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>10/3</td>
<td>W</td>
<td>Ch 3 Property Interests</td>
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<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>10/8</td>
<td>M</td>
<td>Ch 3 (con't)</td>
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<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>10/10</td>
<td>W</td>
<td>Ch 7 Transfers</td>
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<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>10/15</td>
<td>M</td>
<td>Ch 7 (con't)</td>
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<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>10/17</td>
<td>W</td>
<td>Guest Speaker</td>
<td>Estate Planning Atty</td>
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<tr>
<td>9</td>
<td>10/22</td>
<td>M</td>
<td>Exam #1</td>
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<tr>
<td>10</td>
<td>10/24</td>
<td>W</td>
<td>Ch 5 Gift Tax</td>
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<td>11</td>
<td>10/29</td>
<td>M</td>
<td>Ch 5 (con't)</td>
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<td>12</td>
<td>10/31</td>
<td>W</td>
<td>Ch 6 Estate Tax</td>
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<td>13</td>
<td>11/1</td>
<td>Th</td>
<td>Last Day to drop</td>
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<td>14</td>
<td>11/5</td>
<td>M</td>
<td>Ch 6 (con't)</td>
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<td>15</td>
<td>11/7</td>
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<td>Financial Planner/CPA</td>
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<td>16</td>
<td>11/12</td>
<td>M</td>
<td>Ch 8 Trusts</td>
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<td>17</td>
<td>11/14</td>
<td>W</td>
<td>Exam #2</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>18</td>
<td>11/19</td>
<td>M</td>
<td>Guest Speaker</td>
<td>Financial Planner/Investments</td>
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<tr>
<td>19</td>
<td>11/21</td>
<td>W</td>
<td>Thanksgiving Holiday</td>
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<tr>
<td>20</td>
<td>11/26</td>
<td>M</td>
<td>Ch 9 Charitable giving</td>
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<td>11/28</td>
<td>W</td>
<td>Case study</td>
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<td>21</td>
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<tr>
<td>23</td>
<td>12/10</td>
<td>M</td>
<td>Final Exam</td>
<td>Final Exam 10:30 to 12:30</td>
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Important Dates:

10/22/2018, Monday Exam #1 over Chapters 1 to 4
11/1/2018, Thursday Last Day to Drop
11/14/2018, Wednesday Exam #2 over Chapters 5, 6, and 8
11/21/2018, Wednesday Thanksgiving Holiday
12/10/2018, Monday Comprehensive Final Exam from 10:30 to 12:30