

San José State University
Lucas College and Graduate School of Business
BUS 227C

Tax Symposium: California Taxation –
Essential Compliance, Planning and
Developments

Semester: Early Spring
Year: 2016

Instructor:	Prof. Joel Busch, CPA, Esq.
Office Location:	Lucas Graduate School of Business
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Office Hours:	30 minutes before class and by appointment
Class Days/Time:	Thursdays, 1/7, 14 and 21; 6:00 – 10:00P
Classroom: -	Lucas Graduate School of Business Silicon Valley Site 2933 Bunker Hill Lane - Suite 120 - Santa Clara, CA 95054
Prerequisites:	Graduate standing in the MST Program or enrolled via Open University (for course credit – 1 unit). Also available to take for continuing education credit only (CA CPA credit), if desired (no course units).

Course Description

This symposium provides participants with a critical and practical examination of compliance, planning and tax audit rules and procedures for a wide-array of California taxes affecting individuals and businesses.

MST Program Administrative Guidelines:

Students are responsible for understanding the policies and procedures about add/drops, academic renewal, etc. Please see the Fall 2015 MST New Student Handbook at:

http://www.sjsu.edu/lucasgsb/docs/MST-New%20Student%20Handbook%20Fall%202015_Final_Updated.pdf

Assignments and Grading Policy

READING ASSIGNMENTS:

Class readings for each class session will be posted on the Canvas website and/or provided in class. Students are to read the assigned materials *before* the beginning of the applicable class session. No formal textbook is required for this course.

EXAMS:

There is a final exam which will be administered in the last class session. The final is based on the material presented in class and assigned in the readings/videos. Under almost all circumstances there are no make-up exams. On rare occasions and at my discretion, students may be allowed to make up an exam. Students must give advance notification with documentation in order for me to make a decision regarding a make-up exam. If an exam is missed without prior consent, the exam grade will be zero under almost all circumstances. Point adjustments may be applied to exams not taken on the last class session.

CANVAS ONLINE QUIZZES

There will be two quizzes that will be taken on the Canvas website outside of class hours. Each quiz is to be completed *individually*. The quizzes will be undertaken online via the course Canvas website.

The due dates for the two quizzes are as follows:

- Quiz #1 - Thursday, January 14, 2016 @ 6:00 p.m.
- Quiz #2 - Thursday, January 21, 2016 @ 6:00 p.m.

A significant loss of points may apply for quizzes submitted after the deadline.

POINTS:	Quizzes	40 (20 points each x 2)
	Final	<u>60</u>
	Total	100

GRADING POLICY:

Grades will follow the pattern of 90% or higher for an A, 80% or higher for a B, 70% or higher for a C, etc.. Plus and minus grades will be used for scores within two percentage points (rounded) of the grade breakpoint. I may lower the percentage required to earn a certain grade, however, the percentage needed to earn a certain grade will not be increased.

Class Participation: While you are encouraged to ask or answer questions in - class, points will not be awarded for class participation. -

University Policies

Consent for Recording of Class and Public Sharing of Instructor Material

University Policy S12-7, <http://www.sjsu.edu/senate/docs/S12-7.pdf>, requires students to obtain the instructor's permission to record the course.

- Common courtesy and professional behavior dictate that you notify someone when you are recording him/her. You must obtain the instructor's permission to make audio or video recordings in this class. Such permission allows the recordings to be used for your private, study purposes only. The recordings are the intellectual property of the instructor; you have not been given any rights to reproduce or distribute the material.
- Course material developed by the instructor is the intellectual property of the instructor and cannot be shared publicly without his/her approval. You may not publicly share or upload instructor generated material for this course such as exam questions, lecture notes, or homework solutions without instructor consent.

Academic integrity

Your commitment, as a student, to learning is evidenced by your enrollment at San Jose State University. The University Academic Integrity Policy S07-2 at <http://www.sjsu.edu/senate/docs/S07-2.pdf> requires you to be honest in all your academic course work. Faculty members are required to report all infractions to the office of Student Conduct and Ethical Development. The Student Conduct and Ethical Development website is available at <http://www.sjsu.edu/studentconduct/>.

Campus Policy in Compliance with the American Disabilities Act

If you need course adaptations or accommodations because of a disability, or if you need to make special arrangements in case the building must be evacuated, please make an appointment with me as soon as possible, or see me during office hours. Presidential Directive 97-03 at http://www.sjsu.edu/president/docs/directives/PD_1997-03.pdf requires that students with disabilities requesting accommodations must register with the Accessible Education Center (AEC) at <http://www.sjsu.edu/aec> to establish a record of their disability.

Course Learning Outcomes

- CLO 1: To understand and identify certain California tax incentives that may be applicable to certain taxpayers. -
- CLO 2: To be aware of certain California-based tax compliance rules – including those - recently enacted. -
- CLO 3: Understand the basic procedures and elements of a tax audit undertaken by the Board of Equalization (Sales/Use Tax); Franchise Tax Board (Income/Franchise Tax) and County Assessors (Property Tax). -
- CLO 4: Develop conceptual and analytic skills with real world applications. -
- CLO 5: To identify, understand and resolve complex and multijurisdictional tax issues within the context of our global economy and society. -
- CLO 6: To learn and acquire research skills for exploring both familiar and novel areas of the tax law and to communicate the findings using clear terms. -
- CLO 7: To appreciate tax policy issues and foundations of the tax law. -
- CLO 8: To understand the ethical implications of tax practice. -
- CLO 9: To develop skills for effective tax practice including keeping current, interacting with others, and career advancement. -

Schedule

(Subject to Change with Fair Notice)

Topic	Presenter	Time (Est.)
Thursday January 7, 2016		
Introduction to the Course	Joel Busch, San Jose State University	6:00 – 6:15
California Tax Incentives: California Competes, California Employment Credits and Employment Training Panel Grants	Nancy Foster (Deloitte) Bruce Kessler (Deloitte)	6:15 – 7:15
California Property Taxation: Audits, Best Practices and Assessment Guidelines	Alan Schultz (Paradigm Tax Group) Joel Busch (San Jose State University)	7:30 – 8:30
Often Overlooked California Tax Compliance Items	Joel Busch (San Jose State University)	8:45 – 10:00
Thursday January 14, 2016		
California Sales/Use Tax: BOE Audits, Best Practices and Important Exemptions	Galina Philipovitch (Deloitte)	6:00 – 7:15
California Income Taxes: Unitary Filings and the Water's-Edge Election	Nina Bitaiwaz (Deloitte)	7:30 – 8:45
California Taxation in the Digital World	Brian Pedersen (Alvarez and Marsal)	9:00 – 10:00
Thursday January 21, 2016		
Review of Prior Class Sessions	Joel Busch (San Jose State Univ.)	6:00 – 6:15
Apportionment and Sourcing: How Current California Rules Compare to UDITPA and Selected States; Planning: Current Issues and Pending Challenges to California's Apportionment Rules	Toni Lewis (Deloitte)	6:15 – 7:45
FTB Process, Procedures and Hot Topics	Paul Klopping (PwC)	8:00 – 9:00
Final Exam	Joel Busch	9:00 – 10:00