

College of San Mateo
Official Course Outline

1. **COURSE ID:** ACTG 183 **TITLE:** Taxation of Trusts, Gifts, and Estates Using Tax Software
Units: 2.0 units **Hours/Semester:** 32.0-36.0 Lecture hours; and 64.0-72.0 Homework hours
Method of Grading: Grade Option (Letter Grade or Pass/No Pass)

2. **COURSE DESIGNATION:**

Degree Credit
Transfer credit: CSU

3. **COURSE DESCRIPTIONS:**

Catalog Description:

Preparation of Federal and California income tax returns for trusts, estates, and gifts using tax software and manually. Topics include income tax law, theory, and practice, and preparation of Forms 1041 (Fiduciary), 706 (Estate) and 709 (Gift) and the related California tax forms. This course is part of the Enrolled Agent Exam Preparation Series. Taxation of Trusts, Gifts, and Estates includes topics tested on the Regulation (REG) section of the CPA exam. This course is part of the CPA Exam Preparation Series, which is intended to meet the education requirement to sit for the CPA exam.

4. **STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOME(S) (SLO'S):**

Upon successful completion of this course, a student will meet the following outcomes:

1. Discuss the terminology, concepts, principles, and ethics used to prepare trust, gift, and estate tax returns.
2. Using the proper formats, perform the calculations and explain the steps to prepare trust, gift, and estate tax returns.

5. **SPECIFIC INSTRUCTIONAL OBJECTIVES:**

Upon successful completion of this course, a student will be able to:

1. Explain the role and expectations of a fiduciary for a trust or estate
2. Demonstrate understanding of the necessary tax decisions for a decedent's estate
3. Describe the requirements for a trust and the major types of trusts that tax professionals will encounter
4. Demonstrate competency in preparing federal Forms 1041 and CA Form 541 for both an estate and a trust
5. Explain when a reportable gift has occurred and the need for a gift tax return
6. Demonstrate competency in preparing federal Form 709 for reportable gifts made by a donor

6. **COURSE CONTENT:**

Lecture Content:

1. What is a Trust?
 - A. Characteristics of a Trust
 - B. Major Types of Trusts
 - C. Preparation of Form 1041 Reporting Income for a Trust
2. Creation of an Estate
 - A. The Decedent's Final Tax Return
 - B. Treatment of Income to an Estate
 - C. Preparation of Form 1041 Reporting Income for an Estate
 - D. Preparation of Form 706 to Determine Estate Tax Liability
3. Taxation of Gifts
 - A. Determining Whether a Gift Must Be Reported and Taxed
 - B. Preparation of Form 709 to Report Gifts
4. California Trust and Estate Tax Returns and Conformity to Federal Taxation
5. Affordable Care Act in relation to a Trust or Estate
6. Estate Tax Portability rules from the American Tax Relief Act

7. **REPRESENTATIVE METHODS OF INSTRUCTION:**

Typical methods of instruction may include:

- A. Lecture
- B. Discussion

8. **REPRESENTATIVE ASSIGNMENTS**

Representative assignments in this course may include, but are not limited to the following:

Writing Assignments:

Preparation of trust and estate income tax returns at variable levels of difficulty using tax software and manual preparation.

Reading Assignments:

Weekly readings on taxation theory, practice and problem solving techniques from textbook.

9. REPRESENTATIVE METHODS OF EVALUATION

Representative methods of evaluation may include:

- A. Exams/Tests
- B. Homework
- C. Oral Presentation
- D. Projects
- E. Quizzes

10. REPRESENTATIVE TEXT(S):

Possible textbooks include:

- A. Rupert, Anderson, Hulse. *Federal Taxation Comprehensive*, 35th ed. Pearson, 2021

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Course Originator: Rosemary Nurre