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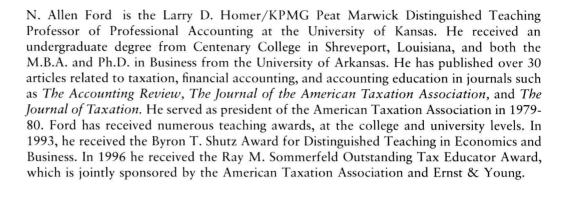


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OBJECTIVES AND USE

This text is designed for use in a first course in federal taxation for undergraduate accounting and business students. The text materials have been updated to reflect recent legislative, judicial, and administrative changes in the tax law through January 1, 2000.

A companion volume, *Prentice Hall's Federal Taxation*, 2001: Corporations, *Partnerships*, *Estates*, and *Trusts*, is published for use in the second course in federal taxation. A combined two-semester volume, *Prentice Hall's Federal Taxation*, 2001: Comprehensive, joins 14 chapters of the *Individuals* volume with 14 chapters of the *Corporations*, *Partnerships*, *Estates*, and *Trusts* volume. Either the *Individuals* text or the *Comprehensive* volume may be used with a one-term survey course for undergraduate or graduate students.

Our objective is to provide a readable format with a high level of technical content. We accomplish this through a process of continuous review, improvement, and clarification of the text, examples, and problem material. If you find what you believe is an error, please provide the item to one of the editors along with your comments. We maintain this level of content by focusing on primary topics and relegating minor exceptions to footnotes.

FEATURES

- ▶ The 2001 Edition of *Prentice Hall's Federal Taxation* continues to include an online Multistate Income Taxation chapter. This chapter provides tax instructors with a vehicle to introduce students to a topic of increasing importance among tax practitioners. It provides an overview of state and local tax systems, as well as a more in-depth discussion of state income tax issues such as nexus, corporate filing options, the definition of state taxable income, allocation and apportionment, and state taxation of S Corporations, partnerships and limited liability companies. A complete set of assignment material is available with the chapter in addition to links to related Internet resources. Instructors and students may download the chapter, free of charge, from the web site that accompanies the book www.prenhall.com/phtax.
- ► Chapter 15: Tax Research. This chapter has been extensively updated to (1) provide more information on the steps in the research process and (2) explain the role of computers in tax research. A special supplement called *How To Do Tax Research* is available from the website at www.prenhall.com/phtax. This downloadable supplement further enhances coverage by explaining how to electronically research a problem based on an actual case.
- ▶ A careful choice of topics. Users have found favor with the choice of topics and the extent of detail presented throughout the text. They are particularly pleased with our balance between exhaustive detail and too little detail for topics such as tax research, passive activity losses, and the alternative minimum tax.
- ▶ Unique chapter organization. The *Individuals* volume differs from other texts on the market with its early coverage of property transactions, two chapters on the taxation of business entities, and a highly acclaimed chapter on tax planning using the Scholes and Wolfson approach.
- ► Clear examples. Users regularly praise the clarity and number of examples in this text.
- ▶ Margin notes. Students appreciate learning about more than just tax rules so we developed a series of comments in the margin to enrich their learning experience.

Key Points emphasize areas where students require repetition and reinforcement.

Typical Misconceptions identify concepts that students are likely to misunderstand and help them correct their thinking before they take a wrong approach.

Real World Examples provide facts and anecdotes about actual companies and real-life strategies.

Additional Comments elaborate on material presented in the text.

Self-Study Questions provide an in-text study guide. Each question is accompanied by a full solution.

Historical Notes offer a comprehensive understanding of concepts by examining them in their historical context.



Ethical Points focus on ethical questions that confront the tax practitioner, and are designated with an ethics icon.

- ▶ Topic Reviews. Each chapter contains several topic reviews to help students organize their understanding of the material and aid in preparing for exams. Many of these reviews are in tabular form for easy reference.
- ► Tax Planning Considerations. For the forward-looking part of the tax profession, students need to learn how to offer tax-saving advice for their clients. Our Tax Planning Considerations offer this insight once the basics of the rules have been established.
- ▶ Compliance and Procedural Considerations. Forms, procedures, and timing are addressed in the Compliance and Procedural Consideration section at the end of each chapter.
- ► Footnotes. An important component of "learning to learn" is knowing where to turn for authoritative information. We collected important references to the tax authorities in the footnotes for students to use as sources.
- ▶ A full complement of assignment material. The typical format for each chapter includes: discussion questions, issue identification questions, problems, comprehensive problems, tax form/return preparation problems, case study problems, and tax research problems. Tax return problems that can be solved using TaxCut software are marked with an icon.
- ▶ Oral and written communications. More emphasis is being placed on oral and written communication skills by the various accounting professional organizations (e.g., the American Institute of CPAs and the Accounting Education Change Commission). The case study problems at the end of each chapter are designed to meet this need by requiring students to consider a number of alternatives and present a written or oral solution to the problem. None of these case studies require the student to research the tax law.
- ► Expanded coverage of ethics. Most chapters contain boxes labeled "What Would You Do in This Situation?" and a reprinting of the AICPA's Statements on Responsibilities in Tax Practice appears in an appendix expands our coverage of ethics. The boxes include many controversies that are as yet unresolved or currently being considered by the courts. They represent choices that may put the practitioner at odds with the client, and are grounded on ethical parameters discussed in various standards, codes of conduct, or Treasury Department circulars. Students are asked to indicate what they would do if they found themselves in the same situation as well as the ethical implications of their actions. The boxes and the Statements on Responsibilities enhance the Ethical Point margin notes and the Case Studies already found in the text.



- ▶ Stop & Think feature. These "speedbumps" ask students to stop and think about a business application of tax, or an extension of the basic material, at various points in the chapter. These are not "boxes," which typically fall outside the running text and can be bypassed. They are part of the text, complete with solutions to show students "how to do it," and identified by the icon you see here in the margin.
- ▶ Issue identification questions. Part of the process of learning involves sorting out important information from unimportant details. In an area as detail-oriented as taxation, developing the ability to identify key issues is of paramount importance. We include questions at the end of each chapter that ask students to focus on the important questions that practitioners face on a daily basis.
- ▶ Improvements in the Test Bank.

SUPPLEMENTAL MATERIALS

The text includes a full complement of supplementary materials. Adopters are encouraged to use these materials to enhance their teaching effectiveness and the students' learning experience. The following aids are available for instructor and student use:

INSTRUCTOR AIDS

- ► Loose-Leaf Edition—All text versions are available in a three-hole punched, shrink-wrapped format.
- ▶ Instructor's Guide—This specially crafted instructor's guide includes sample syllabi, instructor's outlines, a series of interesting court cases to teach, a summary of modifications, deletions, and additions to the end-of-chapter problems, and selected teaching assignments. The instructor's outlines are also available on diskettes and may be downloaded from the faculty resources link at www.prenhall.com/phtax. Faculty password and user i.d. may be obtained from your Prentice Hall Representative.



- ► Solutions Manual—This volume includes solutions to the discussion questions, problems, and comprehensive problems. The solutions to the tax form/tax return preparation problems, case studies, and the research problems are included in the instructor's guide. The solutions manual is also available on disk and new to this edition: the solutions manual may be downloaded from the faculty resource link at www.prenhall.com/phtax. Faculty password and user i.d. may be obtained from your Prentice Hall representative.
- ► Test Bank—An extensive array of true-false, multiple choice, essay questions, and calculative problems are included.
- ▶ Prentice Hall Test Manager by ESA, Inc.—This easy-to-use computerized testing program can create exams, evaluate, and track student results. PH Test Manager also provides on-line testing capabilities. Test items are drawn from the test item file. Call-in testing at 1-800-550-1701 is also available on this title Monday-Friday, 8:00 a.m.-8:00 p.m., EST.
- ▶ PowerPoint Transparencies Approximately 300 full color electronic transparencies are available for each book to enrich the teaching experience. Instructors can make additions or modifications to the transparencies prior to using them in class. The PowerPoint transparencies may also be downloaded from the faculty resource link www.prenhall.com/phtax site. Faculty password and user i.d. may be obtained from your Prentice Hall representative.
- ▶ Web Site—Prentice Hall has created a unique Web site designed to meet the needs of students and faculty. This website www.prenhall.com/phtax contains free student resources, free faculty resources, and premium student resources. These resources are described below:
- 1. Free Student Resources include:

Current events

Internet resources

Tax Law updates

Inflation adjusted figures

Student study tips

These tools are not password protected

A free preview of the study guide allows students to try out the study guide for the first two chapters of each text and access to two cases each from the on-line cases for Individual and Corporations.

2. Free Faculty Resources include downloadable files for:

PowerPoint transparencies

Instructor's outlines

Instructor solutions manual

New problems

Teaching tips

Solutions for on-line tax practice problems

These tools are provided at no charge to adopting faculty members and **are** password protected (Faculty password and user i.d. may be obtained from your Prentice Hall representative.)

- 3. Premium Student Resources:
 - ▶ On-line "Study Guide"—Students can check their understanding of chapter topics with a variety of multiple-choice and true/false questions, computational problems, case study problems, and tax return preparation problems. Each quiz includes "hints", immediate scoring, graphical results reporter, explanation of incorrect answers, and the ability to e-mail results to a faculty member or other designated individual.
 - ► On-line tax cases for Individuals and Corporations
 - a) "Life of Riley" tax cases require the student to research specific questions in order to complete the tax return for a given individual. Forms are available in a downloadable format.
 - b) "Endorphin USA" tax cases require the student to research specific questions in order to complete the entire tax return for Endorphin USA as a C corporation, S corporation, or partnership. Forms are available in a downloadable format.

Students wishing to purchase the premium student resources can purchase directly through the Web site by clicking the buy subscription link, or they can order the passcode for online supplements through their bookstore by using ISBN 0-13-026029-0.

- ► TaxCut Software—This software allows you to easily prepare your individual tax return by asking you questions just like a tax professional would and filling in the form for you. TaxCut audits you return before you file, allows you to print IRS-approved forms on your own printer and offers context sensitive IRS instructions. The software is free to professors adopting a Prentice Hall tax text and students can purchase copies for \$19.95 directly from Block Financial Corp. by using the coupons found in the book.
- ► Tax Analysts' OneDisc CD-ROM—Provides all the tools used by tax professionals to do research—Code, regulations, revenue rulings and procedures, court decisions and more! The software is free to professors adopting a Prentice Hall tax text and students can purchase copies for \$19.99 directly from Tax Analysts by using the coupon found in the book.

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Thomas R. Pope Kenneth E. Anderson John L. Kramer

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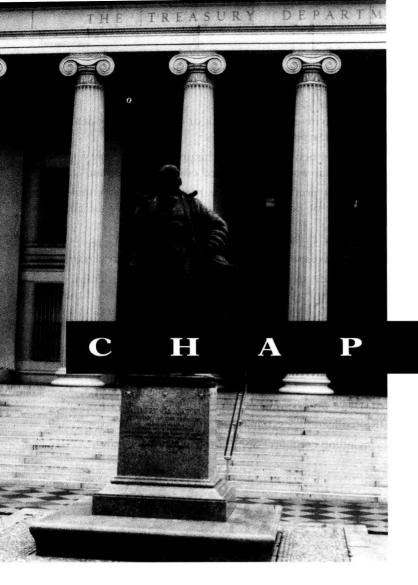
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1

AN INTRODUCTION TO TAXATION

LEARNING OBJECTIVES

After studying this chapter, you should be able to

- Discuss the history of taxation in the United States
- ▶ Differentiate between the three types of tax rate structures
- Describe the various types of taxes
- Discuss what constitutes a "good" tax structure and the objectives of the federal income tax law
- Identify the various tax law sources and understand their implications for tax practice
- Describe the legislative process for the enactment of the tax law
- Describe the administrative procedures under the tax law
- Describe the components of a tax practice and understand the importance of computer applications in taxation

CHAPTER OUTLINE

History of Taxation in the United States...1-2
Types of Tax Rate Structures...1-3
Types of Taxes...1-7
Criteria for a Tax Structure...1-11
Objectives of the Federal Income Tax Law...1-13
Tax Law Sources...1-14
Enactment of a Tax Law...1-15
Administration of the Tax Law and Tax Practice Issues...1-17
Components of a Tax
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KEY POINT

In many situations, the use of the tax laws to influence human behavior is deliberate. As will be seen later in this chapter, tax laws are often used to achieve social and economic objectives.

The federal tax system has a substantial effect on investor, business, and personal decisions in the United States. The following examples illustrate the impact of the tax law on various decisions in our society:

- ▶ A business decision about whether to invest in a new plant or equipment may depend, in part, on the existence of favorable tax provisions.
- An employee may decide to accept a new job because the prospective employer offers favorable tax-free fringe benefits or an attractive deferred compensation plan.
- ▶ An individual may decide to buy a principal residence rather than rent comparable property because of the availability of tax deductions for mortgage interest and real estate taxes.
- ▶ The terms of a property settlement agreement pursuant to a divorce decree may be structured to take into account the tax laws governing alimony and property settlements.

The purpose of this text is to provide an introduction to the study of federal income taxation as applicable to individuals. However, before discussing the specifics of the U.S. federal income tax law, it is helpful to have a broad conceptual understanding of the taxation process. This chapter provides an overview of the following topics:

- ▶ Historical developments of the federal tax system
- ▶ Types of taxes levied and structural considerations
- ▶ Objectives of the tax law
- ► Tax law sources and the legislative process
- ▶ Internal Revenue Service (IRS) collection, examination, and appeals processes
- ▶ The nature of tax practice, including computer applications and tax research

HISTORY OF TAXATION IN THE UNITED STATES

OBJECTIVE 1

Discuss the history of taxation in the United States

HISTORICAL NOTE

The reinstatement of the income tax in 1894 was the subject of heated political controversy. In general, the representatives in Congress from the agricultural South and West favored the income tax in lieu of customs duties. Representatives from the industrial eastern states were against the income tax and favored protective tariff legislation.

EARLY PERIODS

The federal income tax is the dominant form of taxation in the United States. In addition, most states and some cities and counties also impose an income tax. Both corporations and individuals are subject to such taxes.

Before 1913 (the date of enactment of the modern-day federal income tax), the federal government relied predominantly on customs duties and excise taxes to finance its operations. The first federal income tax on individuals was enacted in 1861 to finance the Civil War but was repealed after the war. The federal income tax was reinstated in 1894, however, that tax was challenged in the courts because the U.S. Constitution required that an income tax be apportioned among the states in proportion to their populations. This type of tax system, which would be both impractical and difficult to administer, would mean that different tax rates would apply to individual taxpayers depending on their states of residence.

In 1895, the Supreme Court ruled that the tax was in violation of the U.S. Constitution.¹ Therefore, it was necessary to amend the U.S. Constitution to permit the passage of a federal income tax law. This was accomplished by the Sixteenth Amendment, which was ratified in 1913. The Sixteenth Amendment, while being an extraordinarily important amendment, consists of one sentence.

Sixteenth Amendment to the Constitution of the United States

The Congress shall have power to lay and collect taxes on incomes, from whatever source derived, without apportionment among the several States, and without regard to any census or enumeration.

was held to be constitutional because it was treated as an excise tax. See *Flint v. Stone Tracy Co.*, 3 AFTR 2834, (USSC, 1911).

¹ Pollock v. Farmers' Loan & Trust Co., 3 AFTR 2602, (USSC, 1895). Note, however, that a federal income tax on corporations that was enacted in 1909