

**LAW 7911: 2 CREDIT HOURS**  
**TAX SEMINAR**  
**FALL 2024 SYLLABUS**  
**PROF. WILLIS**

OFFICE: 331

PHONE: 352-514-1394. (This is my cell. If I do not answer, it is because you are not yet in my contacts. Leave a message, please). If you call, please do so after 8 am and before 11 pm (unless you have a tax emergency).

OFFICE HOURS: Monday 11:00 – 12:45; 3:15 – 4:30. Early Monday is for TEO and for what we are covering that day. You are welcome to join me as I prepare (but this is a time for that day's TEO topics). Tuesday 11:00 – 12:45; 3:30-4:30. I will likely be available in my office on W 10:30 – 4:30. Appointments are fine if you prefer (I tend to be forgetful, so if you have an appointment, please remind me).

EMAIL: willis@law.ufl.edu; best way to contact is through Canvas.

**MEETING TIME:** 1:30-3:30 on Tuesday.

**LOCATION:** Room 359

**REQUIRED:**

- Internal Revenue Code and Regulations.
- Please be sure to register for the Canvas course and have any required materials with you in print or easily accessible electronic form in class. You are responsible for checking your Canvas page and the e-mail connected to the page on a regular basis for any class announcements or adjustments.

**COURSE DESCRIPTION AND OBJECTIVES:**

- The Objective of this course is for you to write a substantial paper regarding a tax topic of your choice, as approved by me.
- Student Learning Outcomes:
  - You should learn:
    - To write an acceptable paper.
    - Whatever the subject matter of your topic.

**PREPARATION:**

- Students should expect to spend, on average, approximately two hours preparing for every hour of class, according to ABA and University guidelines. ABA Standard 310 requires that students devote 120 minutes to out-of-class preparation for every “classroom hour” of in-class instruction. Essentially, you should spend two hours for each credit hour (2) times 13 (the allotted number of weeks) for a total of 52 hours.

**PARTICIPATION AND ATTENDANCE:**

- I enjoy questions and try to answer all. Canvas has easy-to-use ways to communicate with me: *please use them*.
- Canvas *may* have DISCUSSION topics. Strong participation can affect your grade.
- Students requesting classroom accommodation must first register with the Office of Disability Resources. The UF Office of Disability Resources will provide documentation to the student who must then provide this documentation to the Law School Office of Student Affairs when requesting accommodation.

- Both the ABA and the College of Law require class attendance. If you miss more than six classes, your semester grade may be adversely affected. If you have a legitimate reason for missing class, you should contact me so that your absence may be excused.

**UF LEVIN COLLEGE OF LAW STANDARD SYLLABUS POLICIES:**

- Other information about UF Levin College of Law policies, including compliance with the UF Honor Code, Grading, Accommodations, Class Recordings, and Course Evaluations can be found at this link: <https://ufl.instructure.com/courses/427635/files/74674656?wrap=1>

**COURSE EXPECTATIONS AND GRADING EVALUATION:**

- There is no final examination.
- Your grade will be based 80% on your paper and 20% on class participation.

**ACADEMIC HONESTY AND INTEGRITY:**

- Academic honesty and integrity are fundamental values of the University community. Students should understand the UF Student Honor Code at <http://www.dso.ufl.edu/students.php>
- Students may not take, circulate, or post photos or videos of classroom discussions, whether they are in-person, hybrid, or completely online. Students failing to follow this rule will be referred to the College of Law Honor Code Council and the University's Office of Student Conduct and Conflict Resolution.

**STUDENT COURSE EVALUATIONS:**

- Students should provide professional and respectful feedback on the quality of instruction in this course by completing course evaluations online via GatorEvals. Click here for guidance on how to give feedback in a professional and respectful manner. Students will be notified when the evaluation period opens and may complete evaluations through the email they receive from GatorEvals, in their Canvas course menu under GatorEvals, or via <https://ufl.bluera.com/ufl/>. Summaries of course evaluation results are available to students here.

**COURSE CONTENT:**

- During the first class, we will discuss my expectations regarding the paper, as well as how to choose a topic. I can be of substantial help. We will likely also discuss a recent paper I wrote (I have not yet decided which one, but I will provide it to you with plenty of notice).
- In the remaining classes, I will have each of you announce your topic or proposed topic (this may take several weeks before anyone has chosen one, but who knows). Everyone should know what others are working on, as you can provide substantial help to each other. Initially, I will lead a discussion on any topic brought up.
- I will make my Introduction to Tax School data base available to you. We will go through this during the semester (if we are not discussing your topics). I will help you learn what I think you should know before the semester starts (of course, few students do).
- Look for Announcements from Canvas and Module postings.