**PROGRAM CHANGES**

WEBER STATE UNIVERSITY

**Submission Date:**

**Submitter Name: Ryan H. Pace, M.Tax, J.D., LL.M.**

**Director of MAcc and MTax Programs**

**College: Goddard School of Business & Economics**

**Department**: School of Accounting & Taxation

**Program Title:** Master of Taxation

Check all that apply:

\_\_x\_\_New course(s) required for major, minor, emphasis, or concentration.

\_\_x\_\_Modified course(s) required for major, minor, emphasis, or concentration.

\_\_\_\_Credit hour change(s) required for major, minor, emphasis, or concentration.

\_\_\_\_Credit hour change(s) for a course which is required for the major, minor, emphasis, or concentration.

\_\_\_\_Attribute change(s) for any course.

\_\_\_\_Program name change.

\_\_x\_\_Deletion of required course(s).

\_\_\_\_Program mode of delivery/format change (Graduate Programs ONLY)

\_\_\_\_Other changes (specify) \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**JUSTIFICATION:**

These proposed changes to the MTax program reflect feedback from alumni and public accounting firms as to areas where the program can be strengthened. The addition of a new tenure-track faculty with knowledge and skills in particular areas of tax also supports these changes. All MTax faculty members believe these changes significantly strengthen the MTax program.

**(MTAX)**

**Program Director:** Ryan Pace, 801-626-7562

The tax laws are vast, complex, and dynamic. Basic tax

courses at the undergraduate level do not provide sufficient

breadth or depth of coverage for future CPAs and tax

consultants. Consequently, instruction at the graduate

level is necessary. Tax law is a major branch of accounting.

The Master of Taxation degree gives more recognition to a

graduate as a tax specialist than does a Master of Accounting

degree. The program is designed to provide students with

the highly technical and demanding skills necessary to be

effective tax and business consultants. Students will also

acquire important tools necessary for effective research and

communication in taxation.

**Master of Taxation (MTAX)**

• **Grade Requirements:** A Master of Taxation

student must complete all MTAX program courses,

including electives, and any leveling courses, with

a grade of “C” or higher. In addition, the overall

program GPA must be 3.0 or higher.

• **Credit Hour Requirements:** The program

requires a minimum of 30 semester hours beyond a

bachelor’s degree in accounting.

**Admissions Requirements**

• A four year Bachelor’s degree. If the degree is not in

Accounting, leveling courses will be required after

acceptance into the program.

• An acceptable GMAT score.

• Acceptable grade point average in each of the

following three areas:

a. Overall GPA

b. The last 60 credit hours of undergraduate work

c. Accounting course work only

Applicants must submit an online application, GMAT,

current resume, and transcripts from every institution of

higher education attended. Two letters of recommendation

are required. At least one of those letters should come from

individuals who can evaluate the applicant’s academic

abilities. All letters should address the applicant’s potential

for successful graduate study. Each applicant is considered on

an individual basis.

**Additional Admission Requirements for**

**International Students:**

All international students and any applicant educated outside

the U.S. must demonstrate proficiency in English. Those

whose native language is not English, or whose language of

instruction for their undergraduate degree was not English,

will be required to submit a score from the Test of English

as a Foreign Language (TOEFL) or International Language

Testing System (IELTS) which is not more than two years

old. The TOEFL must have a minimum score of 80 (Internet-

Based), and the IELTS must have a minimum of 6.5 with a

minimum of 5.0 on each section.

**Application**

Application for admission to the Master of Taxation Program

should normally be made by **August 1** (fall semester),

**December 1** (spring semester), and **April 1** (summer

semester) of the year during which admission is sought.

Application for admission must include GMAT scores,

official undergraduate transcripts, resume, and two letters of

recommendation.

It is expected that the Master of Taxation Program will

entail approximately two semesters of full-time study for a

student with a bachelor’s degree in accounting. Students with

other business-related degrees can expect to spend about

two years in the program. Those with non-business related

undergraduate degrees should plan to spend at least three

years in the program.

Contact the School of Accounting & Taxation for a separate

and detailed bulletin on the Master of Taxation Program.

**Advisement**

For questions concerning academic advisement, the primary

source of contact will be the Master of Taxation program

director. For issues regarding registration and scheduling,

students will contact the School of Accounting & Taxation

Office Specialist. Career services will be offered through the

Goddard School of Business & Economics.

**Course Requirements for Master of**

**Taxation**

**All MTAX students are required to complete**

**the following courses (~~15~~ 18 credit hours):**

• MTAX 6400 - Tax Research & Communication

**Credits: (3)**

• MTAX 6405 – Accounting for Income Taxes

**Credits: (3)**

~~• MTAX 6425 - Tax Practice, Procedure & Ethics~~

**~~Credits: (3)~~**

• MTAX 6430 - Advanced Individual Taxation

**Credits: (3)**

• MTAX 6435 -State & Local Taxation/Federal Tax Practice

**Credits: (3)**

• MTAX 6460 - Advanced Corporate Taxation

**Credits: (3)**

• MTAX 6470 – Advanced Partnership Taxation

***MTAX students are also required to complete ~~15~~ 12 credit   
hours of electives as follows.***

**At least one of the following (3 credit**

**hours):**

• MTAX 6410 - International Taxation **Credits: (3)**

~~• MTAX 6440 – Exempt Entities & State & Local~~

~~Taxation~~ **~~Credits: (3)~~**

• MTAX 6445 – Gifts, Estates, Trusts and Exempt Organizations **Credits: (3)**

• MTAX 6450 - Real Estate Taxation **Credits: (3)**

• MTAX 6480 - Retirement Planning & Employee

Benefits **Credits: (3)**

• MTAX 6490 - Mergers, Acquisitions and

Consolidations **Credits: (3)**

**At least ~~two~~ one of the following (~~6~~ 3 credit**

**hours):**

• MACC 6120 - Financial Accounting & Reporting

**Credits: (3)**

• MACC 6130 - Governmental and Nonprofit

Accounting **Credits: (3)**

• MACC 6160 - Financial Statement Analysis **Credits:**

**(3)**

• MACC 6310 - Advanced Cost Accounting **Credits:**

**(3)**

• MACC 6330 - Strategic Management Accounting

**Credits: (3)**

• MACC 6560 - Advanced Auditing & Assurance

Services **Credits: (3)**

• MACC 6570 - Information Systems Auditing

**Credits: (3)**

• MACC 6580 - Internal Auditing **Credits: (3)**

• MACC 6610 - Advanced Accounting Information

Systems **Credits: (3)**

*The final 6 credits may be any other MACC or*

*MTAX course, or may include a maximum of*

*3 hours of non-MACC and non-MTAX courses*

*selected from approved 5000 or higher-numbered*

*courses which were not taken in the student’s*

*undergraduate program. The following MBA*

*courses may also be used.*

• MBA 6310 - Information Technology in the

Enterprise **Credits: (3)**

• MBA 6530 - E-Business **Credits: (3)**

• MBA 6540 - Negotiations **Credits: (3)**

• MBA 6580 - Project Management **Credits: (3)**

• MBA 6630 - Networking & Information Systems

**Credits: (3)**

• MBA 6640 - Information Assurance in the

Enterprise **Credits: (3)**

**Course Descriptions - MTAX**

**Master of Taxation (MTAX)**

**MTAX 6400 - Tax Research & Communication**

**Credits: (3)**

**Typically taught:**

**Fall [Full Sem]**

Techniques in effective tax research, planning and

communication. Also includes a discussion of tax policy.

**MTAX 6405 – Accounting for Income Taxes**

**Credits: (3)**

**Typically taught:**

**Fall [Full Sem]**

Cash and accrual methods of accounting, inventories, accounting for book/tax disparities, income statement tax provision, original issue discount, depreciation methods, amortization, long-term contracts, changes in methods of accounting, accounting periods, capitalization vs. expense, and other topics critical to bridging financial accounting and tax accounting.

**MTAX 6410 - International Taxation**

**Credits: (3)**

**Typically taught:**

**Spring [Full Sem]**

Principles of U.S. taxation applicable to inbound and

outbound international transactions. Also covers issues

related to international tax treaties.

**~~MTAX 6420 - Taxation of Gifts, Estates, & Trusts~~**

**~~Credits: (3)~~**

~~Principles of estate & gift taxation and valuation. Also~~

~~includes wills and intestate succession and income taxation of~~

~~estates and trusts.~~

**~~MTAX 6425 - Tax Practice, Procedure & Ethics~~**

**~~Credits: (3)~~**

**~~Typically taught:~~**

**~~Spring [Full Sem]~~**

~~Detailed study of tax procedure in the context of a tax~~

~~practice. Also covers legal and ethical requirements applicable~~

~~to tax practitioners and their clients in complying with tax~~

~~laws.~~

**MTAX 6430 - Advanced Individual Taxation**

**Credits: (3)**

**Typically taught:**

**Fall [Full Sem]**

In-depth coverage of advanced individual tax issues such

as alternative minimum tax, loss limitations, real estate

transactions, stock options, employment taxes, tax credits,

charitable contributions, interest classification, related-party

transactions, and timing of income/loss recognition.

**MTAX 6435 - State & Local Taxation/Federal Tax Practice**

**Credits: (3)**

**Typically taught:**

**Spring [Full Sem]**

State income taxation, nexus, multijurisdictional operations, constitutional limitations, sales tax, excise tax, property tax; federal tax procedure, handling IRS audits, appeals, petitions to U.S. Tax Court, and other issues related to tax practice.

**~~MTAX 6440 - Exempt Entities & State & Local Taxation~~**

**~~Credits: (3)~~**

**~~Typically taught:~~**

**~~Summer [Full Sem]~~**

~~Nonprofit corporations, public charities, private foundations,~~

~~excise taxes, unrelated business income, and compliance~~

~~issues for tax-exempt entities. State income taxation, nexus,~~

~~constitutional limitations, sales tax, excise tax, property tax,~~

~~and other current state and local tax issues.~~

**MTAX 6445 - Gifts, Estates, Trusts and Exempt Organizations**

**Taxation**

**Credits: (3)**

**Typically taught:**

**Summer [Full Sem]**

Principles of estate & gift taxation, exclusions, deductions, valuation issues, the unified credit, wills and intestate succession, income in respect of a decedent, income taxation of estates and trusts, income and estate/gift issues affecting donations to charity, nonprofit corporations, public charities, private foundations, excise taxes, unrelated business income, and compliance issues for tax-exempt entities.

**MTAX 6450 - Real Estate Taxation**

**Credits: (3)**

**Typically taught:**

**Spring [Full Sem]**

In-depth study and analysis of the taxation of real estate

transactions. Covers topics such as like-kind exchanges,

personal residences, real estate development, passive loss

rules, involuntary conversions, casualty losses, and real estate

investment trusts.

**MTAX 6460 - Advanced Corporate Taxation**

**Credits: (3)**

**Typically taught:**

**Spring [Full Sem]**

**Summer [Full Sem]**

Income taxation of corporations and shareholders.

Includes in-depth analysis of tax issues related to corporate

formations, operations, distributions and liquidations. Also

covers the taxation of S corporations.

**MTAX 6470 - Advanced Partnership Taxation**

**Credits: (3)**

**Typically taught:**

**Fall [Full Sem]**

**Summer [Full Sem]**

Income taxation of partnerships and partners. Includes indepth

analysis of tax issues related to partnership formations,

operations, distributions and liquidations. Also covers issues

related to limited liability companies.

**MTAX 6480 - Retirement Planning & Employee**

**Benefits**

**Credits: (3)**

**Typically taught:**

**Fall [Full Sem]**

Consideration of tax, insurance, investment and estate

planning principles from a retirement perspective. Includes

discussion of sources of retirement income and anticipated

retirement expenses.

**MTAX 6490 - Mergers, Acquisitions and**

**Consolidations**

**Credits: (3)**

**Typically taught:**

**Summer [Full Sem]**

In-depth coverage of advanced corporate tax topics

such as tax-free corporate reorganizations, taxable stock

acquisitions, taxable asset acquisitions, affiliated groups,

consolidated returns, and corporate tax shelters. Prerequisite:

(Recommended) MTAX 6460 .

**MTAX 6495 – Graduate Tax Internship**

**Credits: (1-3)**

**Typically taught:**

**Various**

A significant professional-level field experience in the area of accounting or taxation. The student will be counseled and supervised as he/she applies and integrates the knowledge and skills obtained through MAcc/MTax courses. Prerequisities: Admission to the MAcc or MTax program; approval by department chair and program director.

**Submit the original (and 20 copies) to the Faculty Senate Office, MC 1033,** and an **electronic copy (Word Doc) to** bstockberger @weber.edu

**INFORMATION PAGE**

Did this program change receive unanimous approval within the Department? \_yes\_\_ If not, what are the major concerns raised by the opponents?

Explain any effects this program change will have on program requirements or enrollments in other departments including the Bachelor of Integrated Studies Program. In the case of similar offerings or affected programs, **you should include letters from the departments in question stating their support or opposition to the proposed program**.

None

Indicate the number of credit hoursfor course work within the program. (Do not include credit hours for General Education, Diversity, or other courses unless those courses fulfill requirements within the proposed program.)

30 credit hours

Indicate the number of credit hours for course work within the current program. (Do not include credit hours for General Education, Diversity, or other courses unless those courses fulfill requirements within the current program.) \_30\_\_\_

**Graduate Programs only**: Describe any proposed changes in the instructional mode of delivery or course format that are program-wide in nature or that affect more than one-third of the course taught in the program (e. g. changing from in-class to online instruction).

None APPROVAL PAGE

for: Master of Taxation (Program Title) Date submitted online \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

For new course proposals, excluding Experimental and Variable Title courses, the following must be completed by the Library bibliographer:

\_\_x\_\_ The WSU Library has adequate information resources to support this proposal.

\_\_\_\_ Currently, the WSU Library does not have adequate information resources to support this course. However, if this proposal is approved, a Library bibliographer will work closely with departmental faculty to acquire the information resources needed. Funding for the new resources will come from the library’s budget.

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ WSU Librarian/Date

**Approval Sequence**:

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Department Chair/Date (or BIS Director)

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

College Curriculum Committee/Date (Signature not needed on Experimental or Variable Title courses.)

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Career and Technical Education Director. (Needed on new or deleted courses required in a 2-year program.)

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Dean of College/Date

|  |
| --- |
| Courses required in programs leading to secondary undergraduate teacher certification must be approved by the University Council on Teacher Education before being submitted to the Curriculum Committee.  \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_  University Council on Teacher Education/Date |

|  |
| --- |
| Graduate course proposals must be reviewed by the University Graduate Council before being submitted to the Curriculum Committee.  I have read the proposal and discussed it with the program director.  \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_  University Graduate Council Representative/Date |

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Effective Semester\_\_\_\_\_\_Fall 2014\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

University Curriculum Committee/Date

Passed by Faculty Senate \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_Date