

THE UNIVERSITY OF NORTH CAROLINA AT ASHEVILLE

FACULTY SENATE

Senate Document Number 3217S

Date of Senate Approval 03/02/17

Statement of Faculty Senate Action:

APC Document 29 (ACCT): **Add new elective: ACCT 342, VITA Service Learning**

Effective Date: Fall 2017

1. Add: On page 216, new course, ACCT 342, VITA Service Learning:

342 VITA Service Learning (3)

Students will participate in the Internal Revenue Service's VITA (Volunteer Income Tax Assistance) program, which is designed to help low to moderate-income households prepare and file their tax returns. No experience with the tax code is necessary. Grading is S/U. Prerequisite: instructor permission. Spring.

Resource Statement: This course will provide more choices for students to gain experience within the accounting profession in the form of income tax preparation. The resource impact for faculty is low given that the professor who will be teaching the course also teaches tax. In the past, we regularly offered this course as a special topics elective with the Department of Economics with great success in terms of enrollment and impact. The Department of Economics may consider offering a cross-listed special topics or a new catalog cross-listed course with ACCT 342 in the future.

Rationale: The course benefits students by giving them an opportunity to get academic credit while engaging in service learning and as mentioned above, gaining additional professional experience. It is the intention to apply for this course to be listed as a diversity intensive. The course brings students into contact with a diverse client base who come to the VITA to have their taxes prepared. The opportunity to enroll and experience service learning inherent to this new course are consistent with the department and university missions.