



ACCA

# Advanced Taxation – United Kingdom (ATX-UK)

Syllabus and study guide

June 2023 to March 2024

Designed to help with planning study and to provide detailed information on what could be assessed in any examination session

Think Ahead

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## 1. Intellectual levels

The syllabus is designed to progressively broaden and deepen the knowledge, skills and professional values demonstrated by the student on their way through the qualification.

The specific capabilities within the detailed syllabuses and study guides are assessed at one of three intellectual or cognitive levels:

Level 1:	Knowledge and comprehension
Level 2:	Application and analysis
Level 3:	Synthesis and evaluation

Very broadly, these intellectual levels relate to the three cognitive levels at which the Applied Knowledge, the Applied Skills and the Strategic Professional exams are assessed.

Each subject area in the detailed study guide included in this document is given a 1, 2, or 3 superscript, denoting intellectual level, marked at the end of each relevant learning outcome. This gives an indication of the intellectual depth at which an area could be assessed within the examination. However, while level 1 broadly equates with Applied Knowledge, level 2 equates to Applied Skills and level 3 to Strategic Professional, some lower level skills can continue to be assessed as the student progresses through each level. This reflects that at each stage of study there will be a requirement to broaden, as well as deepen capabilities. It is also possible that occasionally some higher level capabilities may be assessed at lower levels.

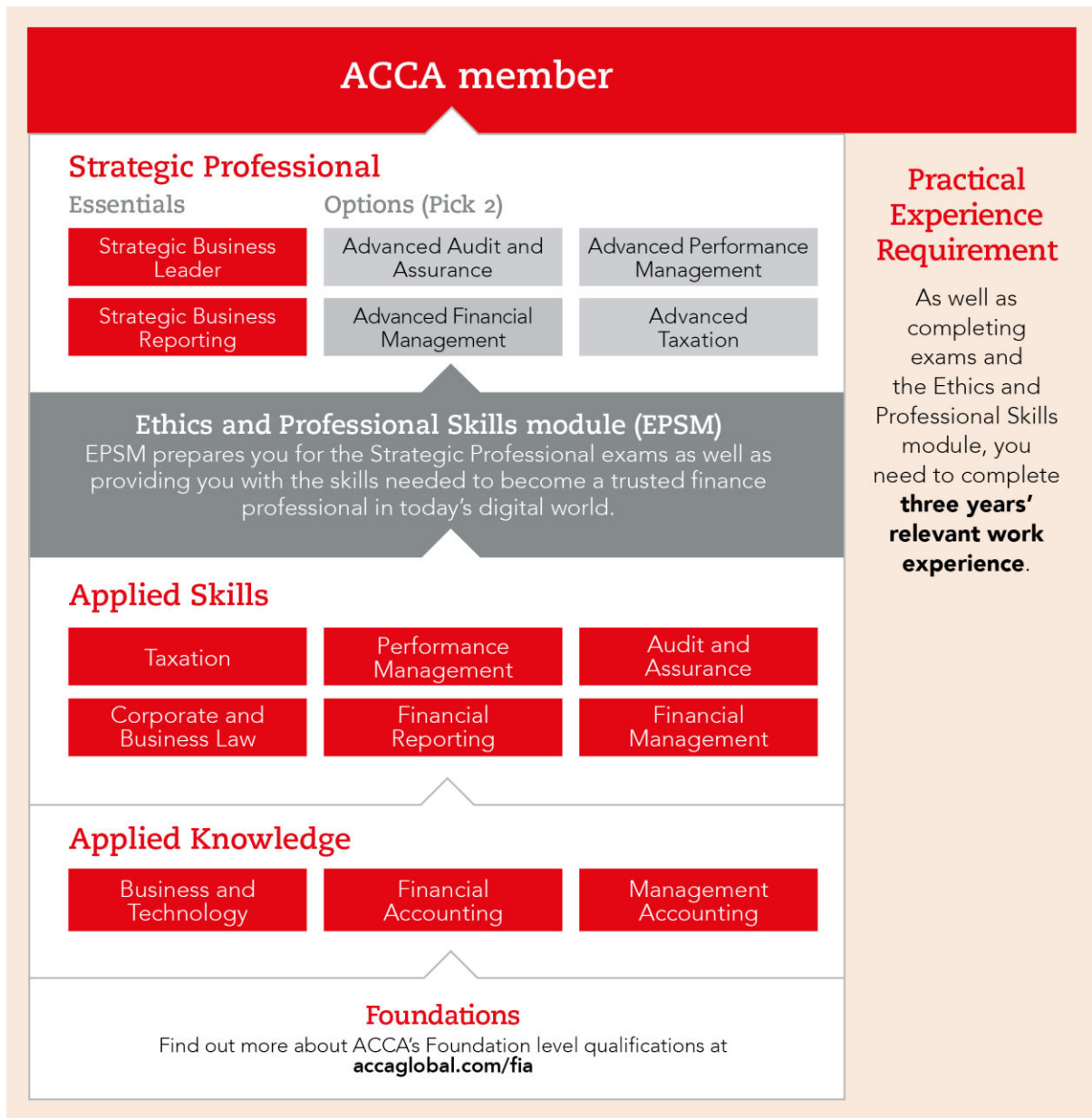
## 2. Learning hours and education recognition

The ACCA qualification does not prescribe or recommend any particular number of learning hours for examinations because study and learning patterns and styles vary greatly between people and organisations. This also recognises the wide diversity of personal, professional and educational circumstances in which ACCA students find themselves.

As a member of the International Federation of Accountants, ACCA seeks to enhance the education recognition of its qualification on both national and international education frameworks, and with educational authorities and partners globally. In doing so, ACCA aims to ensure that its qualification is recognised and valued by governments, regulatory authorities and employers across all sectors. To this end, ACCA qualification is currently recognised on the education frameworks in several countries. Please refer to your national education framework regulator for further information.

Each syllabus is organised into main subject area headings which are further broken down to provide greater detail on each area.

### 3.The structure of ACCA qualification



\*See accaglobal.com for details

## 4. Guide to ACCA examination structure and delivery mode

The pass mark for all ACCA Qualification examinations is 50%.

The structure and delivery mode of examinations varies.

### Applied Knowledge

The Applied Knowledge examinations contain 100% compulsory questions to encourage students to study across the breadth of each syllabus. These are assessed by a two-hour computer based examination.

### Applied Skills

The Corporate and Business Law exam is a two-hour computer-based objective test examination for English and Global.

For the format and structure of the Corporate and Business Law or Taxation variant exams, refer to the 'Approach to examining the syllabus' section of the relevant syllabus and study guide.

The other Applied Skills examinations (PM, TX-UK, FR, AA, and FM) contain a mix of objective and longer type questions with a duration of three hours for 100 marks. These are assessed by a three-hour computer-based exam. Prior to the start of each exam there will be time allocated for students to be informed of the exam instructions.

The longer (constructed response) question types used in the Applied Skills exams (excluding Corporate and Business Law) require students to effectively mimic what they do in the workplace. Students will need to use a range of digital skills and demonstrate their ability to use spread sheets and word processing tools in producing their answers, just as they would use these tools in the workplace. These assessment methods allow ACCA to focus on testing students' technical and application skills, rather than, for example, their ability to perform simple calculations.

### Strategic Professional

Essentials:

Strategic Business Leader is ACCA's case study examination at Strategic Professional and from September 2023 is examined as a closed book exam of 3 hours and 15 minutes, including reading, planning and reflection time which can be used flexibly within the examination.

Pre-seen information for the Strategic Business Leader exam will be released two weeks before the exam sitting. The pre-seen information contains background and contextual details in order for students to familiarise themselves with the fictitious organisation that they will be examined on and the industry in which it operates.

The Strategic Business Leader exam will contain new information in the form of exhibits and students are required to complete several tasks. All questions are compulsory and each examination will contain a total of 80 technical marks and 20 professional skills marks.

As this is a closed book exam, the pre-seen information is also available within the examination.

Strategic Business Reporting is a three hour 15 minutes exam. It contains two sections and all questions are compulsory. This exam contains four professional marks.

Options:

The Strategic Professional Options are all three hours 15 minutes computer-based exams. All contain two sections and all questions are compulsory.

All option exams contain a total of 80 technical marks and 20 professional skills marks.

The question types used at Strategic Professional require students to effectively mimic what they would do in the workplace.

These exams offer ACCA the opportunity to focus on the application of knowledge to scenarios, using a range of tools including word processor, spreadsheets and presentation slides - not only enabling

students to demonstrate their technical and professional skills but also their use of the technology available to today's accountants.

Time management

ACCA encourages students to take time to read questions carefully and to plan answers but once the exam time has started, there are no additional restrictions as to when students may start producing their answer.

Students should ensure that all the information and exam requirements are properly read and understood.

## 5. Guide to ACCA examination assessment

ACCA reserves the right to examine any learning outcome contained within the study guide. This includes knowledge, techniques, principles, theories, and concepts as specified. For the financial accounting, audit and assurance, law, and tax exams except where indicated otherwise, ACCA will publish *examinable documents* once a year to indicate exactly what regulations and legislation could potentially be assessed within identified examination sessions.

For most examinations (not tax), regulations **issued** or legislation **passed** on or before 31 August annually, will be examinable from 1 September of the following year to 31 August of the year after that. Please refer to the examinable documents for the exam (where relevant) for further information.

Regulations issued or legislation passed in accordance with the above dates will not be examinable if the **effective** date is in the future, unless explicitly stated otherwise in this syllabus and study guide or examinable documents.

The term issued or passed relates to when regulation or legislation has been formally approved.

The term effective relates to when regulation or legislation must be applied to an entity's transactions and business practices.

The study guide offers more detailed guidance on the depth and level at which the examinable documents will be examined. The study guide should therefore be read in conjunction with the examinable documents list.

For **UK** tax exams, examinations falling within the period 1 June to 31 March will generally examine the Finance Act which was passed in the previous year. Therefore, exams falling in the period 1 June 2023 to 31 March 2024 will examine the Finance Act 2022 and any examinable legislation which is passed outside of the Finance Act before 31 May 2022.

For additional guidance on the examinability of specific tax rules and the depth in which they are likely to be examined, reference should be made to the relevant Finance Act article written by the examining team and published on the ACCA website.

None of the current or impending devolved taxes for Scotland, Wales, and Northern Ireland is, or will be, examinable.

## 6. Relational diagram linking Advanced Taxation – United Kingdom (ATX-UK) with other exams

This diagram shows links between this exam and other exams preceding or following it. Some exams are directly underpinned by other exams such as Advanced Taxation – United Kingdom (ATX-UK) by Taxation – United Kingdom (TX-UK).



## 7. Approach to examining the syllabus

The Advanced Taxation (UK) exam builds upon the skills and knowledge examined in the Taxation (UK) exam. At this stage students will be expected to demonstrate a comprehensive knowledge of the taxes included in the syllabus and the ability to consider the application of more than one tax in a given scenario. The study guide specifies the wide range of technical understanding that is required to achieve a satisfactory standard at this level.

The examination will also focus on the following professional skills and behaviours:

- Communication
- Analysis and evaluation
- Scepticism
- Commercial Acumen

### Examination structure

The syllabus is assessed by a three hours 15 minutes examination, consisting of two sections. In both sections students will be expected to undertake both calculation and narrative work. The questions will be scenario-based and may involve consideration of more than one tax, some elements of planning and the interaction of taxes.

### Section A

Section A will comprise a case-study worth 50 marks and testing multiple taxes. The 50 marks will comprise of 35 technical marks, 5 ethics marks and 10 professional skills marks. All four professional skills will be examined in Section A.



## Section B

Section B will contain two compulsory 25-mark questions, together covering both business and personal tax issues. The 25 marks will comprise of 20 technical marks and five professional skills marks. Section B questions will examine a combination of professional skills appropriate to that question. Each question will examine a minimum of two professional skills from analysis and evaluation, professional scepticism and commercial acumen. Communication skills will not be examined in Section B.

Tax rates, allowances and information on certain reliefs will be given in the exam.

## 8. Introduction to the syllabus

The aim of the syllabus is to apply relevant knowledge and skills and exercise professional judgement in providing relevant information and advice to individuals and businesses on the impact of the major taxes on financial decisions and situations.

The Advanced Taxation - United Kingdom (ATX-UK) syllabus further develops the key aspects of taxation introduced in the compulsory Taxation – United Kingdom (TX-UK) syllabus within the Applied Skills module and extends the student's knowledge of the tax system, together with their ability to apply that knowledge to the issues commonly encountered by individuals and businesses, such that successful students should have the ability to interpret and analyse the information provided and communicate the outcomes in a manner appropriate to the intended audience.

The syllabus builds on the basic knowledge of core taxes from the earlier taxation exam and introduces students to stamp taxes. As this is an optional exam, aimed at those requiring/desiring more than basic tax knowledge for their future professional lives, the syllabus also extends the knowledge of income tax, corporation tax, capital gains tax and inheritance tax to encompass further overseas aspects of taxation, the taxation of trusts and additional exemptions and reliefs.

Students at this level are expected to go beyond just the computational aspects of taxation. Whilst it remains important that they are able to display a thorough understanding of the calculative elements of the syllabus, this exam also seeks to develop their skills of analysis, interpretation and communication. Students are expected to be able to use established tax planning methods and consider current issues in taxation.

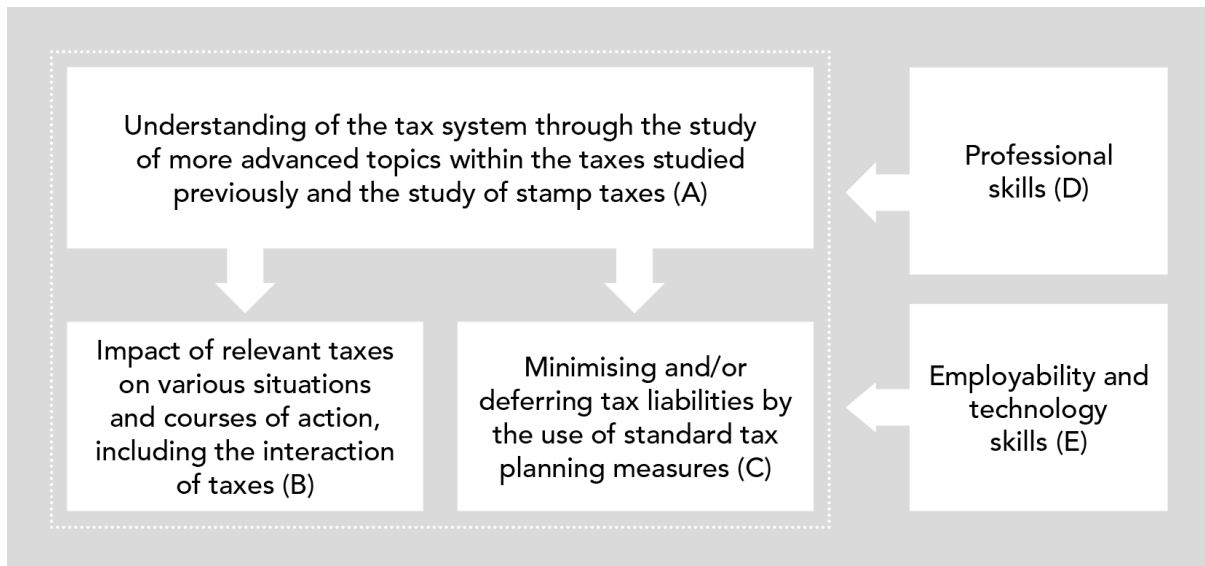
Computations will often only be required in support of explanations or advice and not in isolation. However, purely calculative requirements may still feature as part of questions.

Section E of the syllabus contains outcomes relating to the demonstration of appropriate digital and employability skills in preparing for and taking the ATX-UK examination. This includes being able to access and open exhibits, requirements and response options from different sources and being able to use the relevant functionality and technology to prepare and present response options in a professional manner. These skills are specifically developed by practising and preparing for the ATX-UK exam, using the learning support content for computer-based exams available via the practice platform and the ACCA website, and will need to be demonstrated during the live exam.

## 9. Main capabilities

On successful completion of this exam, students should be able to:

- A Apply further knowledge and understanding of the UK tax system through the study of more advanced topics within the taxes studied previously and the study of stamp taxes
- B Identify and evaluate the impact of relevant taxes on various situations and courses of action, including the interaction of taxes
- C Provide advice on minimising and/or deferring tax liabilities by the use of standard tax planning measures
- D Apply a range of professional skills in addressing requirements within the ATX-UK examination in preparation for, or to support, current work experience
- E Demonstrate employability and technology skills.



This diagram illustrates the flows and links between the main capabilities of the syllabus and should be used as an aid to planning, teaching and learning in a structured way.

## 10. The syllabus

### A Knowledge and understanding of the UK tax system through the study of more advanced topics within the taxes studied previously and the study of stamp taxes

1. Income and income tax liabilities in situations involving further overseas aspects and in relation to trusts, and the application of additional exemptions and reliefs.
2. Chargeable gains and capital gains tax liabilities in situations involving further overseas aspects and in relation to closely related persons and trusts, and the application of additional exemptions and reliefs.
3. Inheritance tax in situations involving further aspects of the scope of the tax and the calculation of the liabilities arising, the principles of valuation and the reliefs available, transfers of property to and from trusts, overseas aspects and further aspects of administration.
4. Corporation tax liabilities in situations involving overseas and further group aspects and in relation to special types of company, and the application of additional exemptions and reliefs.
5. Stamp taxes
6. Value added tax, tax administration and the UK tax system

### B The impact of relevant taxes on various situations and courses of action, including the interaction of taxes

1. Taxes applicable to a given situation or course of action and their impact.
2. Alternative ways of achieving personal or business outcomes may lead to different tax consequences.

3. Taxation effects of the financial decisions made by businesses (corporate and unincorporated) and by individuals.
4. Tax advantages and/or disadvantages of alternative courses of action.
5. Statutory obligations imposed in a given situation, including any time limits for action and the implications of non-compliance.

### C Minimising and/or deferring tax liabilities by the use of standard tax planning measures

1. Types of investment and other expenditure that will result in a reduction in tax liabilities for an individual and/or a business.
2. Legitimate tax planning measures, by which the tax liabilities arising from a particular situation or course of action can be mitigated.
3. The appropriateness of such investment, expenditure or measures, given a particular taxpayer's circumstances or stated objectives.
4. The mitigation of tax in the manner recommended, by reference to numerical analysis and/or reasoned argument.
5. Ethical and professional issues arising from the giving of tax planning advice.

### D Professional skills

1. Communication
2. Analysis and evaluation
3. Scepticism
4. Commercial acumen

## **E Employability and technology skills**

1. Use computer technology to efficiently access and manipulate relevant information.
2. Work on relevant response options, using available functions and technology, as would be required in the workplace.
3. Navigate windows and computer screens to create and amend responses to exam requirements, using the appropriate tools.
4. Present data and information effectively, using the appropriate tools.

## 11. Detailed study guide

### A Apply further knowledge and understanding of the UK tax system through the study of more advanced topics within the taxes studied previously and the study of stamp taxes

#### 1. Income and income tax liabilities in situations involving further overseas aspects and in relation to trusts, and the application of exemptions and reliefs.

- a) The contents of the Taxation - United Kingdom (TX-UK) study guide for income tax and national insurance, under headings:<sup>[2]</sup>
- B1 The scope of income tax
  - B2 Income from employment
  - B3 Income from self-employment
  - B4 Property and investment income
  - B5 The comprehensive computation of taxable income and income tax liability
  - B6 National insurance contributions for employed and self-employed persons
  - B7 The use of exemptions and reliefs in deferring and minimising income tax liabilities

The following additional material is also examinable:

- b) The scope of income tax:<sup>[3]</sup>
- i) Explain and apply the concepts of residence, domicile and deemed domicile and advise on the relevance to income tax.
  - ii) Advise on the availability of the remittance basis to UK resident individuals.
  - iii) Advise on the tax position of individuals coming to and leaving the UK.
  - iv) Determine the income tax treatment of overseas income.
- v) Understand the relevance of the OECD model double tax treaty to given situations.
- vi) Calculate and advise on the double taxation relief available to individuals.
- c) Income from employment:<sup>[3]</sup>
- i) Advise on the tax treatment of share option and share incentive schemes.
  - ii) Advise on the tax treatment of lump sum receipts.
  - iii) Identify personal service companies and advise on the tax consequences of providing services via a personal service company.
- d) Income from self employment:<sup>[3]</sup>
- i) Advise on a change of accounting date.
  - ii) Advise on the relief available for trading losses following the transfer of a business to a company.
  - iii) Advise on the allocation of the annual investment allowance between related businesses.
- e) Property and investment income:<sup>[3]</sup>
- i) Advise on the tax implications of jointly held assets.
  - ii) Recognise the tax treatment of savings income paid net of tax.
  - iii) Income from trusts and settlements: Understand the income tax position of trust beneficiaries.
- f) The comprehensive computation of taxable income and the income tax liability:<sup>[3]</sup>
- i) Understand the allocation of the personal allowance to different categories of income.
  - ii) Advise on the income tax position of the income of minor children.
- g) The use of exemptions and reliefs in deferring and minimising income tax liabilities:
- i) Understand and apply the rules relating to investments in the seed

- enterprise investment scheme and the enterprise investment scheme.<sup>[3]</sup>
- ii) Understand and apply the rules relating to investments in venture capital trusts.<sup>[3]</sup>
- iii) Recognise the threshold level of income below which tapering of the pensions annual allowance does not apply.<sup>[2]</sup>

### Excluded topics

#### *The scope of income tax:*

- *Details of specific anti-avoidance provisions, except as stated in the study guide.*
- *Details of what constitutes a remittance.*
- *Profits of non-residents from a trade of dealing in or developing land in the UK.*
- *Offshore receipts in respect of intangible property.*

#### *Income from employment:*

- *Explanation of the PAYE system.*
- *The overseas aspects of income from employment, including travelling and subsistence expenses.*

#### *Income from self employment:*

- *Details of specific anti-avoidance provisions, except as stated in the study guide.*
- *The tax treatment of overseas travelling expenses.*

#### *Property and investment income:*

- *Pre-owned assets.*
- *The accrued income scheme.*
- *The computation of income tax payable by trustees.*
- *Overseas aspects of income from trusts and settlement.*

#### *The comprehensive computation of taxable income and the income tax liability:*

- *The child benefit tax charge.*
- *Charitable donations.*
- *Social security benefits apart from the State Retirement Pension.*

- *The reduced anti-avoidance annual allowance applicable to taxpayers accessing their pension flexibly.*

#### *The use of exemptions and reliefs in deferring and minimising income tax liabilities:*

- *The conditions that a company must meet in order to qualify as an EIS/SEIS/VCT company.*
- *The EIS as it applies to knowledge intensive companies.*
- *The transfer of pension benefits on death.*

## **2. Chargeable gains and capital gains tax liabilities in situations involving further overseas aspects and in relation to closely related persons and trusts together with the application of additional exemptions and reliefs.**

The contents of the Taxation - United Kingdom (TX-UK) study guide for chargeable gains for individuals under headings:<sup>[2]</sup>

- C1 The scope of the taxation of capital gains
- C2 The basic principles of computing gains and losses
- C3 Gains and losses on the disposal of movable and immovable property
- C4 Gains and losses on the disposal of shares and securities
- C5 The computation of capital gains tax
- C6 The use of exemptions and reliefs in deferring and minimising tax liabilities arising on the disposal of capital assets

The following additional material is also examinable:

- b) The scope of the taxation of capital gains:<sup>[3]</sup>
  - i) Determine the tax implications of independent taxation and transfers between spouses.
  - ii) Identify the concepts of residence, domicile and deemed

- domicile, and determine their relevance to capital gains tax.
- iii) Advise on the availability of the remittance basis to non-UK domiciled individuals.
  - iv) Determine the UK taxation of foreign gains, including double taxation relief.
  - v) Conclude on the capital gains tax position of individuals coming to and leaving the UK.
  - vi) Advise on the UK taxation of gains on the disposal of UK land and buildings owned by non-residents.
  - vii) Identify the occasions when a chargeable gain would arise on a partner in a partnership on the disposal of a partnership asset.
- c) Capital gains tax and trusts:
- i) Advise on the capital gains tax implications of transfers of property into trust.<sup>[3]</sup>
  - ii) Advise on the capital gains tax implications of property passing absolutely from a trust to a beneficiary.<sup>[2]</sup>
- d) The basic principles of computing gains and losses:<sup>[3]</sup>
- i) Identify connected persons for capital gains tax purposes and advise on the tax implications of transfers between connected persons.
  - ii) Advise on the impact of dates of disposal.
  - iii) Evaluate the use of capital losses in the year of death.
- e) Gains and losses on the disposal of movable and immovable property:<sup>[3]</sup>
- i) Extend the explanation of part disposals to include small part disposals of land.
  - ii) Determine the gain on the disposal of leases and wasting assets.
  - iii) Extend the explanation of the treatment of assets damaged, lost or destroyed to include capital sums received.
  - iv) Advise on the tax effect of making negligible value claims.
- f) Gains and losses on the disposal of shares and securities:<sup>[3]</sup>
- i) Extend the explanation of the treatment of rights issues to include the small part disposal rules applicable to rights issues.
  - ii) Define a qualifying corporate bond (QCB), and understand what makes a corporate bond non-qualifying. Understand the capital gains tax implications of the disposal of QCBs in exchange for cash or shares.
  - iii) Apply the rules relating to reorganisations, reconstructions and amalgamations and advise on the most tax efficient options available in given circumstances.
  - iv) Establish the relief for capital losses on shares in unquoted trading companies.
- g) The use of exemptions and reliefs in deferring and minimising tax liabilities arising on the disposal of capital assets:<sup>[3]</sup>
- i) Understand and apply enterprise investment scheme reinvestment relief.
  - ii) Understand and apply seed enterprise investment scheme reinvestment relief.
  - iii) Advise on the availability of business asset disposal relief in relation to associated disposals.
  - iv) Understand and apply the relief that is available on the transfer of an unincorporated business to a limited company.
  - v) Understand the capital gains tax implications of the variation of wills.

### Excluded topics

*The scope of the taxation of capital gains:*

- *Detailed knowledge of the statements of practice on partnership capital gains.*
- *Deemed disposals on a change in the profit sharing ratio (PSR) of a partnership.*

- *Capital gains tax on disposals of indirect interests in UK land and buildings by non-residents.*

*Capital gains tax and trusts:*

- *Overseas aspects of capital gains tax and trusts.*
- *The computation of capital gains tax payable by trustees.*
- *Transfers of property to or from trustees prior to 22 March 2006.*
- *Knowledge of situations where property is transferred between trusts or where the terms or nature of the trust is altered.*
- *Immediate post-death interest trusts.*
- *Knowledge of the special rules concerning trusts for the disabled, trusts for bereaved minors, transitional serial interest trusts and age 18 to 25 trusts.*

*The basic principles of computing gains and losses:*

- *Conditional contracts.*
- *Rebasing of foreign assets held at 5 April 2017.*

*Gains and losses on the disposal of movable and immovable property:*

- *The detailed calculations for chattels where the cost or proceeds are less than £6,000, other than knowledge of the exemption where both cost and proceeds are less than £6,000.*
- *Sets of chattels in relation to the chattels exemption.*
- *The grant of a lease or sub-lease out of either a freehold, long lease or short lease.*
- *Appropriations to and from trading stock (inventory).*
- *Mixed use property.*
- *Payment of capital gains tax by instalments (payments on account on disposals of residential property are examinable).*

*Gains and losses on the disposal of shares and securities:*

- *Computation of cost and indexed cost within the s.104 TCGA 1992 share pool.*

**3. Inheritance tax in situations involving further aspects of the scope of the tax and the calculation of the liabilities arising, the principles of valuation and the reliefs available, transfers of property to and from trusts, overseas aspects and further aspects of administration.**

- a) The contents of the Taxation - United Kingdom (TX-UK) study guide for inheritance tax under headings:<sup>[2]</sup>
- D1 The basic principles of computing transfers of value
  - D2 The liabilities arising on the chargeable lifetime transfers and on the death of an individual
  - D3 The use of exemptions in deferring and minimising inheritance tax liabilities
  - D4 Payment of inheritance tax

The following additional material is also examinable:

- b) The scope of inheritance tax:
- Explain the concepts of domicile and deemed domicile and understand the application of these concepts to inheritance tax.<sup>[2]</sup>
  - Identify excluded property.<sup>[2]</sup>
  - Identify and advise on the tax implications of the location of assets.<sup>[3]</sup>
  - Identify and advise on gifts with reservation of benefit.<sup>[3]</sup>
- c) The basic principles of computing transfers of value:
- Advise on the principles of valuation including the related property rules.<sup>[3]</sup>
  - Advise on the availability of business property relief and agricultural property relief.<sup>[3]</sup>
  - Identify exempt transfers.<sup>[2]</sup>
- d) The liabilities arising on chargeable lifetime transfers and on the death of an individual:<sup>[3]</sup>



- i) Advise on the tax implications of chargeable lifetime transfers.
  - ii) Advise on the tax implications of transfers within seven years of death.
  - iii) Advise on the tax liability arising on a death estate.
  - iv) Understand and apply the tapered withdrawal of the residence nil rate band where the net value of the estate exceeds £2 million.
  - v) Advise on the relief for the fall in value of lifetime gifts.
  - vi) Advise on the operation of quick succession relief.
  - vii) Advise on the operation of double tax relief for inheritance tax.
  - viii) Advise on the inheritance tax effects and advantages of the variation of wills.
  - ix) Advise on the reduced rate of inheritance tax payable when a proportion of a person's estate is bequeathed to charity.
- e) The liabilities arising in respect of transfers to and from trusts and on property within trusts:
- i) Define a trust. <sup>[2]</sup>
  - ii) Distinguish between different types of trust. <sup>[3]</sup>
  - iii) Advise on the inheritance tax implications of transfers of property into trust. <sup>[3]</sup>
  - iv) Advise on the inheritance tax implications of property passing absolutely from a trust to a beneficiary. <sup>[2]</sup>
  - v) Identify the occasions on which inheritance tax is payable by trustees. <sup>[3]</sup>
- f) The use of exemptions and reliefs in deferring and minimising inheritance tax liabilities: <sup>[3]</sup>
- i) Advise on the use of reliefs and exemptions to minimise inheritance tax liabilities, as mentioned in the sections above.
- g) The system by which inheritance tax is administered, including the instalment option for the payment of tax:
- i) Identify the occasions on which inheritance tax may be paid by instalments. <sup>[2]</sup>

- ii) Advise on the due dates, interest and penalties for inheritance tax purposes. <sup>[3]</sup>

### Excluded topics

#### *The scope of inheritance tax:*

- *Transfers of value by close companies.*

#### *The liabilities arising on chargeable lifetime transfers and on the death of an individual:*

- *Immediate post death interest trusts.*
- *Double grossing up on death.*
- *Relief on relevant business property and agricultural property given as exempt legacies.*
- *Detailed knowledge of the double charges legislation.*

#### *The basic principles of computing transfers of value:*

- *Valuation of an annuity or an interest in possession where the trust interest is subject to an annuity.*
- *Woodlands relief.*
- *Conditional exemption for heritage property.*

#### *Inheritance tax and trusts:*

- *IHT aspects of discretionary trusts prior to 27 March 1974.*
- *Trusts created prior to 22 March 2006.*
- *Computation of ten year charges and exit charges.*
- *Overseas aspects of inheritance tax and trusts.*
- *The conditions that had to be satisfied for a trust to be an accumulation and maintenance trust.*
- *Knowledge of situations where property is transferred between trusts or where the terms or nature of the trust is altered.*
- *Knowledge of the special rules concerning trusts for the disabled, trusts for bereaved minors, transitional serial interest trusts and age 18 to 25 trusts.*

#### *The system by which inheritance tax is administered:*

- *Knowledge that instalment payments may carry interest and the criteria to be met for instalment payments to be interest-bearing.*

**4. Corporation tax liabilities in situations involving further overseas and group aspects and in relation to special types of company, and the application of additional exemptions and reliefs.**

- a) The contents of the Taxation - United Kingdom (TX-UK) study guide, for corporation tax, under headings:<sup>[2]</sup>
- E1 The scope of corporation tax
  - E2 Taxable total profits
  - E3 Chargeable gains for companies
  - E4 The comprehensive computation of corporation tax liability
  - E5 The effect of a group corporate structure for corporation tax purposes
  - E6 The use of exemptions and reliefs in deferring and minimising corporation tax liabilities

The following additional material is also examinable:

- b) The scope of corporation tax:<sup>[3]</sup>
- Identify and calculate corporation tax for companies with investment business.
  - Close companies:
    - Apply the definition of a close company to given situations
    - Conclude on the tax implications of a company being a close company or a close investment holding company
  - Identify and evaluate the significance of accounting periods on administration or winding up.
  - Conclude on the tax treatment of returns to shareholders after winding up has commenced.
  - Advise on the tax implications of a purchase by a company of its own shares.
  - Identify personal service companies and advise on the tax consequences of services being provided via a personal service company.

- c) Taxable total profits:<sup>[3]</sup>
- Identify qualifying research and development expenditure, both capital and revenue, and determine the relief available for small or medium sized enterprises (SMEs).
  - Determine the tax treatment of non trading deficits on loan relationships.
  - Recognise the alternative tax treatments of intangible assets and conclude on the best treatment for a given company.
  - Advise on the impact of the transfer pricing and thin capitalisation rules on companies.
  - Advise on the restriction on the use of losses on a change in ownership of a company.
  - Identify the restriction on carried forward trading losses and capital losses for companies with profits over £5 million.

- d) The comprehensive calculation of the corporation tax liability:<sup>[3]</sup>
- Assess the impact of the OECD model double tax treaty on corporation tax.
  - Evaluate the meaning and implications of a permanent establishment.
  - Identify and advise on the tax implications of controlled foreign companies.
  - Advise on the tax position of overseas companies trading in the UK.
  - Calculate double taxation relief.
- e) The effect of a group structure for corporation tax purposes:<sup>[3]</sup>
- Advise on the allocation of the annual investment allowance between group or related companies.
  - Advise on the tax consequences of a transfer of intangible assets.
  - Advise on the tax consequences of a transfer of a trade and assets where there is common control.
  - Understand the meaning of consortium owned company and consortium member.

- v) Advise on the operation of consortium relief.
  - vi) Determine pre-entry losses and understand their tax treatment.
  - vii) Determine the degrouping charge where a company leaves a group within six years of receiving an asset by way of a no gain/no loss transfer.
  - viii) Determine the effects of the anti-avoidance provisions, where arrangements exist for a company to leave a group.
  - ix) Advise on the tax treatment of an overseas branch.
- f) The use of exemptions and reliefs in deferring and minimising corporation tax liabilities:<sup>[3]</sup>
- i) Determine the application of the substantial shareholdings exemption.

**Excluded topics**

*The scope of corporation tax:*

- *Details of specific anti-avoidance provisions, except as stated in the Study Guide.*
- *Profits of non-residents from a trade of dealing in or developing land in the UK.*
- *Responsibility of senior accounting officers (SAOs) in relation to accounting systems.*

*Taxable total profits:*

- *Profits attributable to patents.*
- *Pre-2002 intangible fixed assets.*
- *Tax avoidance involving carry forward losses.*
- *Restriction of the deduction of interest expenses for groups with a net interest expense of £2 million*
- *Diverted profits tax.*
- *The disposal of investments in UK land and buildings by non-resident companies.*
- *Chargeable gains on disposals of indirect interests in UK land and buildings by non-resident companies.*
- *Tax relief available in respect of goodwill and customer related intangibles on a business*

*acquisition where qualifying intellectual property is also acquired.*

*The comprehensive calculation of the corporation tax liability:*

- *Corporation tax rates for companies in the process of winding up.*
- *Relief for overseas tax as an expense.*
- *Detailed knowledge of specific double taxation agreements.*
- *Migration of a UK resident company.*
- *Mixer companies.*
- *Detailed computational questions on the carry back and carry forward of unrelieved foreign tax.*
- *The reduction of double tax relief where losses have been group relieved.*
- *Offshore receipts in respect of intangible property.*
- *Restrictions on the repayment of losses incurred by small and medium sized enterprises (SMEs) arising from research and development expenditure.*
- *Reliefs available to large companies arising from research and development expenditure.*

*The effect of a group structure for corporation tax purposes:*

- *The relief for trading losses incurred by an overseas subsidiary.*

*The use of exemptions and reliefs in deferring and minimising corporation tax liabilities:*

- *The substantial shareholdings exemption as it applies to institutional investors.*

**5. Stamp taxes (stamp duty, stamp duty reserve tax, and stamp duty land tax).**

- a) The scope of stamp taxes:<sup>[3]</sup>
  - i) Identify the property in respect of which stamp taxes are payable.
- b) Identify and advise on the liabilities arising on transfers.<sup>[3]</sup>

- i) Advise on the stamp taxes payable on transfers of shares and securities.
  - ii) Advise on the stamp taxes payable on transfers of land.
- c) The use of exemptions and reliefs in deferring and minimising stamp taxes:<sup>[3]</sup>
- i) Identify transfers involving no consideration.
  - ii) Advise on group transactions.

**Excluded topics**

*The scope of stamp taxes:*

- *Leases.*
- *Land and Buildings Transaction Tax (LBTT).*

*The liabilities arising on transfers:*

- *The contingency principle.*
- *Residential property.*
- *The systems by which stamp taxes are administered.*

**6. Value added tax, tax administration and the UK tax system:**

- a) The contents of the Taxation - United Kingdom (TX-UK) study guide for value added tax (VAT) under headings:<sup>[2]</sup>
- F1 The VAT registration requirements
  - F2 The computation of VAT liabilities
  - F3 The effect of special schemes

The following additional material is also examinable:<sup>[3]</sup>

- i) Advise on the VAT implications of the supply of land and buildings in the UK.
  - ii) Advise on the VAT implications of partial exemption.
  - iii) Advise on the application of the capital goods scheme.
- b) The contents of the Taxation - United Kingdom (TX-UK) study guide for the UK tax system and its administration under headings:<sup>[2]</sup>
- A1 The overall function and purpose of taxation in a modern economy

- A2 Principal sources of revenue law and practice
- A3 The systems for self assessment and the making of returns
- A4 The time limits for the submission of information, claims and payment of tax, including payments on account
- A5 The procedures relating to compliance checks, appeals and disputes
- A6 Penalties for non-compliance

The following additional material is also examinable:<sup>[2]</sup>

- i) Advise on the increased penalties which apply in relation to offshore matters.

**Excluded topics**

*Value added tax:*

- *The determination of the tax point.*
- *The contents of a valid VAT invoice.*
- *Special place of supply rules for business to consumer supplies of telecommunications, broadcasting and e-services.*
- *Disaggregation of business activities for VAT purposes.*
- *Divisional registration.*
- *Making tax digital.*

*The UK tax system and its Administration:*

- *Extension of offshore assessment time limits.*

**B The impact of relevant taxes on various situations and courses of action, including the interaction of taxes**

1. **Identify and advise on the taxes applicable to a given course of action and their impact.<sup>[3]</sup>**
2. **Identify and understand that the alternative ways of achieving personal or business outcomes may lead to different tax consequences.**

- a) Calculate the receipts from a transaction, net of tax and compare the results of alternative scenarios and advise on the most tax efficient course of action.<sup>[3]</sup>

**3. Advise how taxation can affect the financial decisions made by businesses (corporate and unincorporated) and by individuals.**

- a) Understand and compare and contrast the tax treatment of the sources of finance and investment products available to individuals.<sup>[3]</sup>
- b) Understand and explain the tax implications of the raising of equity and loan finance.<sup>[3]</sup>
- c) Explain the tax differences between decisions to lease, use hire purchase or purchase outright.<sup>[3]</sup>
- d) Understand and explain the impact of taxation on the cash flows of a business.<sup>[3]</sup>

**4. Assess the tax advantages and disadvantages of alternative courses of action.<sup>[3]</sup>**

**5. Understand the statutory obligations imposed in a given situation, including any time limits for action and advise on the implications of non-compliance.<sup>[3]</sup>**

**C Minimise and/or defer tax liabilities by the use of standard tax planning measures**

- 1. Identify and advise on the types of investment and other expenditure that will result in a reduction in tax liabilities for an individual and/or a business.<sup>[3]</sup>**
- 2. Advise on legitimate tax planning measures, by which the tax liabilities arising from a particular situation or course of action can be mitigated.<sup>[3]</sup>**

**3. Advise on the appropriateness of such investment, expenditure or measures given a particular taxpayer’s circumstances or stated objectives.<sup>[3]</sup>**

**4. Advise on the mitigation of tax in the manner recommended by reference to numerical analysis and/or reasoned argument.<sup>[3]</sup>**

**5. Be aware of the ethical and professional issues arising from the giving of tax planning advice.<sup>[3]</sup>**

**D Professional skills**

**1. Communication.**

- a) Inform concisely, objectively and unambiguously, adopting a suitable style and format, using appropriate technology.<sup>[3]</sup>
- b) Advise using compelling and logical arguments, demonstrating the ability to counter argue where appropriate.<sup>[3]</sup>
- c) Clarify and simplify complex issues to convey relevant information in a way that adopts an appropriate tone and is easily understood by and reflects the requirements of the intended audience.<sup>[3]</sup>

**2. Analysis and evaluation.**

- a) Investigate relevant information from a range of sources, using appropriate analytical techniques to establish reasons and causes of issues, assist in decision-making and to identify opportunities or solutions.<sup>[3]</sup>
- b) Consider information, evidence and findings carefully, reflecting on their implications and how they can be used to best support the interests of the individual, entity or wider business organisation.<sup>[3]</sup>
- c) Assess and apply appropriate judgement when considering ethical, professional or other technical issues;

when making conclusions or recommendations, taking into account the implications of such decisions on the entity or individual affected.<sup>[3]</sup>

- d) Appraise information objectively in order to effectively prioritise issues; identifying missing information and exploring suitable alternatives when making decisions, devising courses of action or providing conclusions or recommendations.
- e) Communicate conclusions reached, together, where necessary with relevant supporting computations.<sup>[3]</sup>

### 3. Scepticism.

- a) Explore the underlying reasons for issues, applying an attitude of a questioning mind where appropriate, beyond what is immediately apparent.<sup>[3]</sup>
- b) Question opinions, assertions and assumptions by seeking justifications and obtaining sufficient evidence for either their support and acceptance, or rejection.<sup>[3]</sup>
- c) Challenge and critically assess the information presented or decisions or recommendations made, where this is clearly justified, in the wider professional, ethical, organisational or public interest.<sup>[3]</sup>
- d) State and explain assumptions made or limitations in the analysis provided; together with any inadequacies in the information available and/or additional information required to provide a fuller analysis.<sup>[3]</sup>

### 4. Commercial acumen.

- a) Demonstrate awareness of organisational and external and other non-tax factors which will affect decisions with regard to tax taken by an individual or entity.<sup>[3]</sup>

- b) Recognise key issues in a given scenario and use judgement in proposing and recommending commercially viable solutions.<sup>[3]</sup>
- c) Offer solutions which are practical and commercial in the context of the scenario being considered
- d) Show insight and perception in understanding key tax drivers of an individual or entity, demonstrating acumen in arriving at appropriate recommendations.<sup>[3]</sup>

## E Employability and technology skills

1. Use computer technology to efficiently access and manipulate relevant information.
2. Work on relevant response options, using available functions and technology, as would be required in the workplace.
3. Navigate windows and computer screens to create and amend responses to exam requirements, using the appropriate tools.
4. Present data and information effectively, using the appropriate tools.

## 12. Summary of changes to Advanced Taxation (ATX-UK)

ACCA periodically reviews its qualification syllabuses so that they fully meet the needs of stakeholders such as employers, students, regulatory and advisory bodies and learning providers.

There are changes to the syllabus and these are summarised in the tables below.

**Table 1 – Additions**

	Section and subject area	Syllabus content and rationale
D	Professional skills	This section reflects the additional professional skills required for the ATX- UK examination. It replaces the previous Section D (Communicate with clients, HM Revenue and Customs and other professionals in an appropriate manner) which focussed solely on the skill of communication.

**Table 2 – Deletions**

	Section and subject area	Syllabus content and rationale
A4c(i)	Taxable total profits – <i>Excluded topics</i>	Research and development relief for large companies has been removed from the syllabus and now appears within the list of specific exclusions under A(4).
C	Minimise and/or defer tax liabilities by the use of standard tax planning measures	The following item has now been removed from the syllabus; Item C(6) - Current issues in taxation

There have been no other amendments to the syllabus