1. MODE OF INSTRUCTION:

Class Schedule:
This class is an independent study that will meet online during the 8-week semester that begins June 6 and ends July 29.

Online Resources.
This course uses the TAMUCT Blackboard Learning system described below and later in this Syllabus in Section 7(c) titled: “Technology Requirements.” Students should check the Blackboard site frequently throughout the semester for Communication and other helpful information. You will use the Blackboard username and password communicated to you separately to log on to this system. See http://tamuct.blackboard.com.

2. INSTRUCTOR CONTACT INFO:

Name: Dr. Mary H. Kelly; Assistant Professor of Finance
Office: Founder’s Hall 323F
Phone: 254-501-5846
Email: mhkelley@tamuct.edu

Office Hours On-Campus: By appointment for nearly any day and time to meet on-campus or by phone; I will be out of town at conferences for several weeks this summer.

Online Office Hours: Generally every day and evening except Sundays.

Communication between Instructor and Student: The best way to reach me is email in Bb or at my university email of mhkelley@tamuct.edu. Be sure to put FINK 590-125 in the subject line. I generally respond within a day or two, or sooner if I am online for virtual office hours or related matters.

Administrator for Course, Department, and the College of Business Administration (COBA):
1) Ms. Jennifer Perez-Rivera at j.perez@tamuct.edu or 254-519-5437.
   Appointments and other information can be obtained via email or phone.

2) COBA (College of Business Administration) general assistance:
   254-519-5437 or cobainfo@tamuct.edu.
3.0 COURSE DESCRIPTION:

3.1 Catalog Description
Selected Topics in Finance. An examination of different topics in finance from areas such as investments, corporate financial management, and financial markets and institutions. This course may be repeated for credit up to two times when the topic changes.

Prerequisites: Graduate standing and FIN 301 or FIN 507 or approval of instructor.

3.2 Expanded Description
This course explores income inequality and a range of issues associated with this topic. Research will be conducted with an interdisciplinary focus to accommodate a wide range of backgrounds in finance.

4.0 COURSE OBJECTIVES AND OUTCOMES

4.1 Student Learning Outcomes (“SLOs”)
SLOs are measurable and the Course Calendar states which SLO listed below is addressed in each Assessment.
1. Read real-world financial data and draw conclusions about the data.
2. Construct and interpret important financial metrics.
3. Describe global, historical trends relevant to income inequality.
4. Analyze the impact of behavioral finance on income inequality.
5. Describe how changes in the external environment can impact income inequality.
6. Analyze relevant instances of private governance vs. governmental regulations.

5.0 REQUIRED READINGS, MATERIALS, AND TEXTBOOKS:
Select readings from published research by academicians and practitioners that is available through the electronic library in the database JSTOR.

6.0 COURSE CALENDAR:
Attached to the end of this syllabus is the Course Calendar - a schedule of course topics and assignments that are required to complete this course. Changes may be made at the discretion of the instructor.

7.0 GRADING CRITERIA AND RUBRICS:
The grade is expected to come from two or three Assessments. Points will be determined at the beginning of the semester and posted in Blackboard with detailed requirements, due dates, and grading rubrics (when appropriate). Grades will be posted in Bb Gradebook, generally within a week of the due dates.

Late or Missed Assessments will count as zero unless prior arrangements have been made with the professor, who reserves the right to apply the weight of a late or missed Assessment to another one or to an average of certain completed Assessments. Factors considered will be timing and reason for request, as well as documentation of the reason – if appropriate.

Incomplete Grades can be given only according to university policy, which requires extenuating circumstances, such as serious illness or other necessary absences, and a grade-to-date in the course of at least a “C,” with most of the course completed. Also, an Incomplete must be completed in accordance with university policy. If this does not happen, then the “Incomplete” will change to an “F.” Requests should be submitted in writing and should include a detailed explanation and documentation, along with an address and/or telephone number where you may be contacted throughout the following full-term semester (i.e., Fall
or Spring). If an Incomplete is granted, the student will be required to enter into a contract with the professor to finish the course with specified requirements and within a timeframe determined by the professor.

**Grading Scale will be as described below.**
- A is 90% - 100% of total course points.
- B is 80% - 89% of total course points.
- C is 70% - 79% of total course points.
- D is 60% - 69% of total course points.
- F is less than 60% of total course points.

8. **UNIVERSITY POLICIES AND PROCEDURES FOR ACADEMIC SUPPORT**

8a). UNILERT – An Emergency Warning System for Texas A&M University – Central Texas. This notification service gives Texas A&M University-Central Texas the ability to communicate health and safety emergency information quickly via email and text message. By enrolling in UNILERT, university officials can quickly pass on safety-related information, regardless of your location. Please enroll today at http://TAMUCT.org/UNILERT.

8b). Important Dates this Semester:
Go to this link at the university: https://news.tamuct.edu/calendar/

8c). Technology Requirements:
This course will use the TAMUCT Blackboard learning management system. Logon to https://tamuct.blackboard.com to access the course.
Username: Your MyCT username (xx123 or everything before the "@" in your MyCT e-mail address).
Initial password: Your MyCT password.

Check browser and computer compatibility by using the “Test Your Browser” button, found in the “Check Your Browser” module on your Blackboard dashboard, once you have logged in.

Technology Support.
For technology issues, students should contact Help Desk Central. 24 hours a day, 7 days a week: Email: helpdesk@tamu.edu. Phone: (254) 519-5466. Web Chat: http://hdc.tamu.edu.

When calling for support please let your support technician know you are a TAMUCT student. For issues related to course content and requirements, contact your instructor. Technology issues are not an excuse for missing a course requirement – make sure your computer is configured correctly and address issues well in advance of deadlines.

8d). Drop Policy.
If you discover that you need to drop this class, you must contact the Records Office and ask for the necessary paperwork. Professors cannot drop students; this is always the responsibility of the student. The record’s office will provide a deadline for which the form must be returned, completed and signed. Once you return the signed form to the records office and wait 24 hours, you must go into Warrior Web and confirm that you are no longer enrolled. Should you still be enrolled, FOLLOW-UP with the records office immediately. You are to attend class until the procedure is complete to avoid penalty for absence. Should you miss the deadline or fail to follow the procedure, you will receive an F in the course.
8e). Academic Integrity.
Texas A&M University - Central Texas values the integrity of the academic enterprise and strives for the highest standards of academic conduct. A&M Central Texas expects its students, faculty, and staff to support the adherence to high standards of personal and scholarly conduct to preserve the honor and integrity of the creative community. Academic integrity is defined as a commitment to honesty, trust, fairness, respect, and responsibility. Any deviation by students from this expectation may result in a failing grade for the assignment and potentially a failing grade for the course.

Academic misconduct is any act that improperly affects a true and honest evaluation of a student’s academic performance and includes, but is not limited to, cheating on an examination or other academic work, plagiarism and improper citation of sources, using another student’s work, collusion, and the abuse of resource materials. All academic misconduct concerns will be reported to the university’s Office of Student Conduct. Ignorance of the university’s standards and expectations is never an excuse to act with a lack of integrity. When in doubt on collaboration, citation, or any issue, please contact your instructor before taking a course of action. More information can be found at http://www.tamuct.edu/departments/studentconduct/academicintegrity.php.

8f). Disability Support and Access Services.
At Texas A&M University – Central Texas, we value an inclusive learning environment where every student has an equal chance to succeed and has the right to an education that is barrier-free. The Office of Disability Support and Access is responsible for ensuring that students with a disability enjoy equal access to the University's programs, services and activities. Some aspects of this course or the way the course is taught may present barriers to learning due to a disability. If you feel this is the case, please contact Disability Support and Access at (254) 501-5831 in Warrior Hall, Ste. 212. Any information you provide is private and confidential and will be treated as such. Please call (254) 501-5831 or visit Founder's Hall 114, Suite 114. Additional information can be found at http://www.tamuct.edu/departments/disabilitysupport/index.php.

8g). Tutoring.
Tutoring is available to all TAMUCT students, both on-campus and online. Subjects tutored include Finance, Accounting, Statistics, Mathematics, Writing, and APA formatting. Tutors are available at the Tutoring Center in Warrior Hall (Room 111) and online tutoring can be arranged in Bb. Visit the following website for tutor schedules and contact information: http://www.tamuct.edu/departments/academicsupport/tutoring-services.php. If you have questions or need to schedule a tutoring session contact: Christine Garza at (254) 501-5836 or email: c.garza@tamuct.edu. If you are interested in becoming a tutor, the website provides information about that, too.

8h). The University Writing Center.
The University Writing Center at Texas A&M University-Central Texas is a free workspace open to all TAMUCT students. The UWC is located in 416 Warrior Hall. The center is open 1pm-6pm Monday-Thursday during the summer semester. Students may work independently in the UWC by checking out a laptop that runs the Microsoft Office suite and connects to WIFI, or by consulting our resources on writing, including all of the relevant style guides. Students may also arrange a one-on-one session with a trained and experienced writing tutor. Tutorials can be arranged by visiting the UWC. Tutors are prepared to help writers of all levels and abilities at any stage of the writing process. Sessions typically last between 20-30 minutes. While tutors will not write, edit, or grade papers, they will help students develop more effective invention and revision strategies.

8i). University Library.
The University Library provides many services in support of research across campus and at a distance. We offer over 200 electronic databases containing approximately 250,000 eBooks and 82,000 journals, in addition to the 72,000 items in our print collection, which can be mailed to students who live more
than 50 miles from campus. Research guides for each subject taught at TAMUCT are available through our website to help students navigate these resources. On campus, the library offers technology including cameras, laptops, microphones, webcams, and digital sound recorders.

Research assistance from a librarian is also available twenty-four hours a day through our online chat service, and at the reference desk when the library is open. Research sessions can be scheduled for more comprehensive assistance, and may take place on Skype or in person at the library. Assistance may cover many topics, including how to find articles in peer-reviewed journals, how to cite resources, and how to piece together research for written assignments. Our 27,000-square-foot facility on the TAMUCT main campus includes student lounges, private study rooms, group work spaces, computer labs, family areas suitable for all ages, and many other features. Services such as interlibrary loan, TexShare, binding, and laminating are available. The library frequently offers workshops, tours, readings, and other events. For more information, please visit our homepage:
http://www.tamuct.edu/departments/library/index.php

9. ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:

An important component of a learner-centered syllabus is a section directed to you - the student - that explains the instructor’s teaching philosophy for this course. Here it is:

My expectations are for you to develop reasonable proficiency with the topic of this course by conducting appropriate research and analyzing the information in a thorough, coherent manner. Please don’t hesitate to discuss the course or professional development with me, as I am always enthusiastic about teaching finance and discussing related matters with students!

Remember: **the best way to reach me is Bb email or my university email of mhkelly@tamuct.edu with FINK 590-125 in the subject line.**

10. COURSE CALENDAR

Will be posted in Bb.