

## **Independent Study MTHK 588-120 Thesis**

Fall 2017 rev. 05.27.2017

Texas A&M University - Central Texas

### **INSTRUCTOR AND CONTACT INFORMATION**

**Instructor: Christopher Thron**

**Office: 420C Warrior Hall**

**Phone: 512 293 0715 (cell)**

**Email: [thron@tamuct.edu](mailto:thron@tamuct.edu)**

**Skype: christopher.thron**

### **Office Hours:**

I am on campus every week on Tuesday-Thursday 10 a.m.-5 p.m. I am also available by cell phone every day from 9 a.m.-8 p.m. (leave a message if I don't answer).

### **Mode of instruction and course access:**

The student will conduct guided research. The instructor will provide guidance and feedback.

### **Student-instructor interaction:**

Weekly meetings will be scheduled as detailed in the "Course Requirements" section. Apart from this, frequent Skype or email contact is *strongly* encouraged. Math is a language, and languages are best learned by using them. For this reason, the instructor *strongly* encourages frequent communication outside the weekly meetings. Especially in research, clear and frequent communication is necessary in order to keep the student from going down rabbit trails.

### **UNILERT:**

Emergency Warning System for Texas A&M University – Central Texas

UNILERT is an emergency notification service that gives Texas A&M University-Central Texas the ability to communicate health and safety emergency information quickly via email, text message, and social media. All students are automatically enrolled in UNILERT through their myCT email account.

Connect at [Unilert](https://www.tamuct.edu/departments/security/unilert.php) [https://www.tamuct.edu/departments/security/unilert.php] to change where you receive your alerts or to opt out. By staying enrolled in UNILERT, university officials can quickly pass on safety-related information, regardless of your location.

## **COURSE INFORMATION**

**Course Overview and description:** This course is designed to provide experience in producing original research.

**Course Objective:** Upon successfully completing MATH 588, students will produce original research, of such quality as the material can be presented at professional mathematics conferences.

**Student Learning Outcomes:** The student will develop research and writing skills as needed. The student will deal with disappointments, setbacks, and false starts. The student will persevere despite all obstacles. The student will receive enormous satisfaction at a job well done.

**Competency Goals Statements (certification or standards):** N/A

**Required Reading and Textbook(s):** Independent research

## **COURSE REQUIREMENTS**

- The student will schedule 1 regular weekly Skype or in-person sessions with the instructor. The expected duration of each session is 1 hour, but may be more or less as needed. These hours are to be included within the hours mentioned above.
- During the first week of the course the student and instructor will develop a planned statement of work. This statement will include planned topics to be written about and planned outcomes. Since this is a research class the plans are subject to change throughout the semester.
- The student should allocate 36 total hours of working time per credit hour enrolled.
- The student will defend his/her thesis before a committee upon completion.
- The student will meet the thesis requirements of the Graduate Office

## **Grading Criteria Rubric and Conversion**

The student will receive a grade of S upon satisfactory completion of the thesis.

## **Posting of Grades**

The instructor will notify the student of her/his current grade status on request.

## **COURSE OUTLINE AND CALENDAR**

### **Complete Course Calendar**

Week 1: Student and instructor will work together to develop an action plan.

Weeks 2-10: Student and instructor will pursue action plan.

## **INSTRUCTOR POLICIES**

N/A

## **TECHNOLOGY REQUIREMENTS AND SUPPORT**

### **Technology Requirements.**

Materials under development will be placed in a folder either in Google Drive or Dropbox, as determined by the instructor and student.

This course will use the TAMUCT Instructure Canvas learning management system.

Logon to TAMUCT Canvas [<https://tamuct.instructure.com>]

Username: Your MyCT username

(xx123 or everything before the "@" in your MyCT e-mail address)

Password: Your MyCT password

Note that this class will use Canvas only for keeping the syllabus.

### **Technology Support.**

For technology issues, students should contact Help Desk Central.

24 hours a day, 7 days a week:

Email: [helpdesk@tamu.edu](mailto:helpdesk@tamu.edu)

Phone: (254) 519-5466

[Web Chat](http://hdc.tamu.edu): <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.

## **COURSE AND UNIVERSITY RESOURCES, PROCEDURES, AND POLICIES**

### **Drop Policy.**

If you discover that you need to drop this class, you must complete a Drop Request Form, found through the [Registrar's web page](#):

<https://www.tamuct.edu/departments/business-office/droppolicy.php>

Professors cannot drop students; this is always the responsibility of the student. The Registrar's Office will provide a deadline on the University Calendar for which the form must be completed, signed and returned. Once you return the signed form to the Registrar's Office, you must go into Warrior Web and confirm that you are no longer enrolled. If you still show as enrolled, FOLLOW-UP with the Registrar's Office immediately. You are to attend class until the procedure is complete to avoid penalty for absence. Should you miss the drop deadline or fail to follow the procedure, you will receive an F in the course, which may affect your financial aid and/or VA educational benefits.

### **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.

### **Academic Accommodations.**

At Texas A&M-Central Texas, we value an inclusive learning environment where every student has an equal chance to succeed and has the right to a barrier free education. The Department of Access and Inclusion is responsible for ensuring that students with a disability receive equal access to the University's programs, services and activities. If you believe you have a disability requiring reasonable accommodations please contact the Department of Access and Inclusion at (254) 501-5831. Any information you provide is private and confidential and will be treated as such.

For more information please visit our [Access & Inclusion webpage](http://www.tamuct.edu/departments/access-inclusion):  
<http://www.tamuct.edu/departments/access-inclusion>.

TAMUCT supports students who are pregnant and/or parenting. In accordance with requirements of Title IX and guidance from US Department of Education's Office of Civil Rights, the Dean of Student Affairs' Office can assist students who are pregnant and/or parenting in seeking accommodations related to pregnancy and/or parenting. For more information, please visit <https://www.tamuct.departments/index.php>. Students may also contact the institution's Title IX Coordinator. If you would like to read more about these [requirements and guidelines](http://www2.ed.gov/about/offices/list/ocr/docs/pregnancy.pdf), please visit: <http://www2.ed.gov/about/offices/list/ocr/docs/pregnancy.pdf>.

### **Tutoring.**

Tutoring is available to all TAMUCT students, both on-campus and online. On-campus subjects tutored include Accounting, Advanced Math, Biology, Finance, Statistics, Mathematics, and Study Skills. Tutors are available at the Tutoring Center in Warrior Hall, Suite 111. If you have a question regarding tutor schedules, need to schedule a tutoring session, are interested in becoming a tutor, or any other question, contact Academic Support Programs at 254-519-5796, or by emailing Kim Wood at [k.wood@tamuct.edu](mailto:k.wood@tamuct.edu).

Chat live with a tutor 24/7 for almost any subject on your computer! Tutor.com is an online tutoring platform that enables TAMUCT students to log-in and receive FREE online tutoring and writing support. This tool provides tutoring in over forty subject areas. Access Tutor.com through Canvas.

### **The University Writing Center.**

Located in 416 Warrior Hall, the University Writing Center (UWC) at Texas A&M University – Central Texas is a free workspace open to all TAMUCT students from 10am-4pm Monday-Thursday during the Summer semester (June 5, 2017 to July 27, 2017). Students may arrange a one-on-one session with a trained and experienced writing tutor by visiting the UWC during normal operating hours (both half-hour and hour sessions are available). Tutors are prepared to help writers of all levels and abilities at any stage of the writing process.

While tutors will not write, edit, or grade papers, they will assist students in developing more effective composing practices. By providing a practice audience for students' ideas and writing, our tutors highlight the ways in which they read and interpret students' texts, offering guidance and support throughout the various stages of the writing process. In addition, 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. Whether you need help brainstorming ideas, organizing an essay, proofreading, understanding proper citation practices, or just want a quiet place to work, the University Writing Center is here to help!

If you have any questions about the University Writing Center, please do not hesitate to contact Dr. Bruce Bowles Jr. at [bruce.bowles@tamuct.edu](mailto:bruce.bowles@tamuct.edu).

### **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](https://tamuct.libguides.com/): <https://tamuct.libguides.com/>