
INSTRUCTOR INFO:

Name: Dr. Mary Kelly, Associate Professor - Finance
Office: Founder’s Hall, 323-F
Phone: 254-501-5846
Email: mhkelly@tamuct.edu
Office Hours: On-campus: Tu from 2 – 6pm; W from 1 – 3pm.
           Online: 9 am – 9pm most days except Tu and weekends.
           By appointment for other days and times.

Communication between Instructor and Student: The best way to reach me is email in Canvas or at my university email of mhkelly@tamuct.edu. Be sure to put FIN 4388 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. Kathryn Field at kfield@tamuct.edu or at 254-519-5437.
   Appointments and other information can be obtained via email or phone.
2) COBA (College of Business Administration) general assistance at:
   254-519-5437 or cobainfo@tamuct.edu.

MODE OF INSTRUCTION:

Class Schedule: This class meets online during the 16-week semester that begins August 28, 2017, and ends Friday, December 15, 2017.

Online Resources. This course uses the A&M-Central Texas Canvas Learning Management System. It can be accessed at this link: https://tamuct.instructure.com. The Canvas Learning system is described later in this Syllabus in Section 7(c) titled: “Technology Requirements.” Students should check the Canvas site frequently throughout the semester for Communication and other helpful information. You will use the tamuct username and password communicated to you separately to log on to this system.
Course Materials:
(1) **Textbook**: Essentials of Investments 9th edition by Bodie, Kane, and Marcus. Published by McGraw Hill.

(2) **Financial Calculator**: I recommend the TI BAII Professional or the BAII Plus financial calculator because I will use this model. If you use another financial calculator, that is fine but, do not expect the solutions to provide keystrokes for any model other than that used in the course.

**COURSE OVERVIEW AND DESCRIPTION:**

The development of investment policy; the character of investment risk; a comparison of investment media; description and analysis of security markets and their operations. Prerequisite: ACC 204, FIN 3301.

This course will introduce you to the major issues of concern to investors. It will give you the skills you need to conduct a sophisticated assessment of current issues and debates covered by both the popular media and more specialized finance journals. Whether you plan to become an investment professional or simply a sophisticated individual investor, you will find these skills essential.

**Course Objective (SLO):**

Upon completion of this course, students should understand the following:

a. The major elements of investments.
b. The relevance of portfolio theory
c. The basics of various debt security markets.
d. The mechanics of security analysis
e. The nuts and bolts of derivative markets
f. The key components of active investment management.

**Course Competencies and Assessments (based on SLOs above)**

Upon completion of this course, students should be able to do the following:

a. Read real-world financial statements and draw conclusions about a firm's financial health.
b. Construct and interpret important financial metrics.
c. Describe the major steps in the construction of an investment portfolio.
d. Distinguish among the major assets that trade in money and capital markets.
e. Describe the role of investment bankers in primary issues.
f. Analyze mutual funds and other investment companies.
g. Characterize the risk and return features of different types of investments.
h. Construct efficient portfolios.
i. Construct and use the Security Market Line.
j. Cite evidence that supports and contradicts the efficient market hypothesis.
k. Demonstrate how the principles of behavioral finance can explain anomalies in stock market returns.
l. Analyze the features of bonds.
m. Value a firm using several equity valuation methods.
n. Formulate options market strategies for hedging or speculative purposes.
o. Formulate futures market strategies for hedging or speculative purposes.

Course Requirements:

Assignments: There will be 4 Assignments, which may include m/ch, short answer, and essay questions. The total points from all assignments will be 100 to align with Grading Rubric described below. The assignments may not appear to be comprehensive but, since much of the material builds on itself, you must understand earlier chapters to be able to show your understanding of later chapters.

Grading:
A is 90.0 – 100% of total points.
B is 80.0 – 89.99%
C is 70.0 – 79.99%
D is 60.0 – 69.99%
F is less than 60%

Late submissions will not be accepted. If, however, you are able to make acceptable arrangements with Dr. Kelly, then it is possible for missed points to apply to another assessment or an average of other course work. This decision will be at the discretion of the professor.

Extra Credit: There will be some opportunities for extra credit that will be announced in class and in Canvas.

Incomplete Grades: Incompletes will only be given in an emergency or other extreme circumstance. Requests should be submitted in written form that includes a detailed explanation and sufficient documentation, along with an address and/or telephone number where you may be contacted throughout the following full semester (Fall or Spring). The university requires that a substantial portion of the course work must have been completed with a passing score prior to receiving an incomplete grade. Also, a student will be required to enter into a contract with the professor to finish the course within a set timeframe in the next full semester.

Course Calendar: At the end of this Syllabus is a Course Calendar. It outlines the topics covered and is subject to change at the discretion of the instructor and upon consideration of class dynamics.
Posting of Grades.
All grades will be posted in Canvas. Grades can be provided in class, too. Grading will generally be within a few days to a week of the due date. If there are any questions about grades, email the instructor and be sure the subject line includes: FIN 5307.

Instructor Policies and Copyright Notice.
Students should assume that all course material is copyrighted by the instructor or stated respective author(s). Reproduction of course material is prohibited without consent by the course instructor and/or other author(s). Violation of copyright is against the law and Texas A&M University-Central Texas’ Code of Academic Honesty. All alleged violations will be reported to the Office of Student Conduct.

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TECHNOLOGY REQUIREMENTS AND SUPPORT

In this online course, a student needs to be familiar with technology requirements for access to certain information that could impact successful completion of the course. This course will use the TAMUCT Canvas learning management system. To access Canvas, logon to TAMUCT and click on “Quick Links,” where Canvas is listed as one of the quick links. The website for the university is: www.tamuct.edu.

Canvas can also be accessed at: https://tamuct.instructure.com/login/ldap.

Then, be prepared to enter the password restricted site of Canvas with the following:
Username: Your MyCT username
(xx123 or everything before the "@" in your MyCT e-mail address
Initial password: Your MyCT password 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

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

Important Dates this Semester: http://www.tamuct.edu/departments/news/dates.php
August 28, Add/Drop/Late Registration begins
August 30, Add/Drop/Late Registration ends, 16-week and 1st 8-week classes
September 1, Priority Deadline to Submit Graduation Application
September 4, Labor Day, CAMPUS CLOSED
September 5, Last day to drop 1st 8-week classes with no record
September 13, Last day to drop 16-week classes with no record
September 22, Last day to drop a 1st 8-week class with a Q or withdraw with a W
October 6, Deadline to submit graduation
October 20, Last day to withdraw from the University (1st 8-week classes WF)
October 23, Add/Drop/Late Registration begins, 2nd 8-week classes
October 26, Add/Drop/Late Registration ends, 2nd 8-week classes
October 30, Last day to drop 2nd 8-week classes with no record
November 10, Veteran’s Day
November 10, Last day to drop with a Q or withdraw with a W (16-week classes)
November 17, Last day to drop a 2nd 8-week class with a Q or withdraw with a W
November 23-24, Thanksgiving, CAMPUS CLOSED
December 15, Last day to withdraw from the University (16-week and 2nd 8-week classes)
December 15, Last day to file for Degree Conferral (Registrar’s Office)
December 15, Commencement (End of Fall Term)
December 25-January 1, WINTER BREAK

Drop Policy. If you discover that you need to drop this class, you must go to the Registrar’s Office and complete a Drop Request Form. It should be available in Canvas. Instructors 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.

911 Cellular: The Emergency Warning System for Texas A&M University – Central Texas. 911Cellular 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 911 Cellular through their myCT email account. Connect at 911Cellular [https://portal.publicsafetycloud.net/Texas-AM-Central/alert-management] to change where you receive your alerts or to opt out. By staying enrolled in 911Cellular, university officials can quickly pass on safety-related information, regardless of your location.

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 University-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](https://www.tamuct.edu/studentaffairs/access-inclusion.html).

Texas A&M University-Central Texas 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](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 online, please visit the website [http://www2.ed.gov/about/offices/list/ocr/docs/pregnancy.pdf](http://www2.ed.gov/about/offices/list/ocr/docs/pregnancy.pdf).

**Tutoring.**
Tutoring is available to all A&M-Central Texas 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 Larry Davis at lmdavis@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 A&M-Central Texas 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-5pm Monday-Thursday with satellite hours in the University Library on Mondays from 6:00-9:00pm. 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) or by making an appointment via WConline.
In addition, you can email Dr. Bruce Bowles Jr. at bruce.bowles@tamuct.edu to schedule an online tutoring session. 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.

**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 A&M-Central Texas 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 A&M-Central Texas 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 [Library website](https://tamuct.libguides.com/).

**OPTIONAL POLICY STATEMENTS:**
**A Note about Sexual Violence at A&M-Central Texas**
Sexual violence is a serious safety, social justice, and public health issue. The university offers support for anyone struggling with these issues. University faculty are mandated reporters, so if someone discloses that they were sexually assaulted (or a victim of Domestic/Dating Violence or Stalking) while a student at A&M-Central Texas, faculty members are required to inform the Title IX Office. If you want to discuss any of these issues confidentially, you can do so through Counseling Services (254-501-5956) located on the second floor of Warrior Hall.
Sexual violence can occur on our campus because predators often feel emboldened, and victims often feel silenced or shamed. It is incumbent on ALL of us to find ways to actively create environments that tell predators we don’t agree with their behaviors and tell survivors we will support them. Your actions matter. Don’t be a bystander; be an agent of change. For additional information on campus policy and resources visit the Title IX webpage [https://www.tamuct.edu/departments/compliance/titleix.php].

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 several established financial theories and to demonstrate a thorough understanding of valuation techniques applied to the risk-return relationship. 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 email in Canvas or my university email with FIN 4388 in the subject line to mhkelly@tamuct.edu.

COURSE CALENDAR
This calendar is tentative and may change throughout the semester at the discretion of the professor.

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