



COURSE SYLLABUS

EMPOWERING FINANCIAL INCLUSION: STRATEGIES, POLICIES, AND SOLUTIONS

Professor

Sergio Castellanos-Gamboa

Instituto Tecnológico de Estudios Superiores de
Monterrey (Tec de Monterrey)



sergio.castellanos@tec.mx

SHORT BIOGRAPHY

With a PhD in Banking and Finance from Prifysgol Bangor University, I bring extensive experience as a professor in banking, finance, and econometrics. My role as a Full-time Professor at Tecnológico de Monterrey underscores my expertise in financial markets and data analysis. Furthermore, I hold the position of Central-South Regional Lead at the FAIR Center for Financial Access, Inclusion, and Research. This role reflects my dedication to producing world-class research promoting fair financial inclusion for vulnerable households in Latin America. My commitment to cutting-edge research in areas like FinTech, household finance, monetary economics, and financial history ensures a forward-thinking approach to teaching. Additionally, I have played a pivotal role in consultancy projects for FinTech startups and green technology initiatives. As an adjunct professor at universities in the UK and Colombia (Pontificia Universidad Javeriana), I have a strong track record of teaching in advanced business analytics, banking, corporate governance, and more.

INTRODUCTION/COURSE DESCRIPTION

Immerse yourself in the world of financial inclusion through experiential learning and policy simulations. This course leverages gamification and interactive workshops to explore the intricacies of inclusive financial systems. Engage in problem-based learning hackathons to design and present innovative financial products that maximize household welfare while promoting financial stability. Gain firsthand insights into policy-making processes and emerging technologies that are revolutionizing fair financial inclusion and household financial resilience.

This course immerses students in the world of financial inclusion through experiential learning, policy simulations, and problem-based learning hackathons. Gamification and interactive workshops will be used to explore the intricacies of inclusive financial systems. Students will engage in designing and presenting innovative financial products while gaining firsthand insights into policy-making processes and emerging technologies.

COURSE OBJECTIVES

- Apply gamification and experiential learning to understand the impact of financial inclusion.
- Design inclusive financial products through problem-based learning hackathons.
- Analyze the role of policy frameworks in advancing financial access for marginalized populations.
- Evaluate the influence of emerging technologies, such as blockchain and AI, on financial inclusion.

COURSE METHODOLOGY

Gamification, experiential learning, and problem-based learning hackathons are integrated to offer students practical exposure to the complexities of financial inclusion and policymaking.

EVALUATION SYSTEM

Class Participation and Experiential Exercises:	20%
Problem-Based Learning Hackathon (Financial Product Design):	30%
Policy Simulation and Analysis:	25%
Quizzes and Reflections:	25%

COURSE PREREQUISITES

None. Open to students with a keen interest in economics, finance, and policy making.