

# Special Problems Course Syllabus

## Course Information

**Course Prefix and Number:** MGT 8903

**Credit Hours:** 3 credits

**Instructor:** Dr. Katie Badura

## Course Description

This course provides academic credit for independent studies under the direction of a faculty member. The scope and direction of the studies are determined by the student (or small group of students) in consultation with the course instructor.

## Course Learning Outcomes

By enrolling in this course, students will:

1. Gain experience in performing independent studies on topics that are not taught in a formalized course setting.

## Required Course Materials

No textbooks or materials are required. Resources for research are determined in consultation with the instructor.

## Grading Policy

<b>Deliverable</b>	<b>Percent</b>
Preparation for Meetings	10%
Progress on Research Projects	45%
Progress on Ph.D. Program Milestones	45%

*Preparation for Meetings.* As a part of this independent study, leadership on behalf of the student is important. Students are expected to arrive at meetings on time, ready to communicate what they need from the faculty to continue making progress toward their various research projects. This may include (but is not limited to): having surveys or writing ready for review – or questions prepared in the event they have been unable to independently find the answer. The most important element for success on this dimension is being a good steward of time, while recognizing that research is a collaborative endeavor that often requires input and support from other stakeholders.

*Progress on Research Projects.* A key element of the independent study is making progress on research projects in the student's chosen area of research. This may include different elements of the research process including, but not limited to: reviewing the literature, submitting IRBs, collecting data, analyzing data, writing, and/or presenting research. Because deliverables may change throughout the semester based on the nature of the project, deliverables will be set on a regular basis with students throughout the semester—and progress will be assessed through meetings and/or by email.

*Progress on Ph.D. Program Milestones.* A key element of the independent study is making progress on Ph.D. program milestones. Throughout the Ph.D. program, there are several milestones for students, including: (a) proposing the first-year paper topic, (b) the submission/presentation of the first year paper, (c) proposing the second-year paper topic, (d) the submission/presentation of the second year paper, (e) comprehensive exams, (f) the submission/presentation of the Ph.D. Dissertation proposal, and (g) the submission/presentation for the final Ph.D. Dissertation Defense. For milestones related to the first-year paper, second year paper, and dissertation proposal/defense – students should regularly correspond with their faculty chair and build in time to receive feedback from their committee. A doodle poll should be obtained from faculty at least three weeks in advanced of the presentation date, and a college-wide announcement must be made 2 weeks before the presentation. Students should adhere to all deadlines outlined by the Scheller Ph.D. Director. For comprehensive exams, students should be devoting time to studying for the exam.

A - 90-100%, B - 80-89%, C - 70-79%, D - 60-69%, F-Below 60%

## Attendance Policy

This course does not include scheduled class meetings. The frequency and format of student–faculty contact are determined by mutual agreement and are consistent with the number of credit hours for which the student is enrolled.

## Academic and Research Honesty/Integrity Statement

Georgia Tech aims to cultivate a community based on trust, academic integrity, and honor. Students are expected to act according to the highest ethical standards. Review the [Student Code of Conduct](#) and the [Academic Honor Code](#), especially [Appendix A: Graduate Addendum to the Academic Honor Code](#).

Students are expected to perform research in an ethical and responsible manner. All Doctoral and Master's Thesis students are required to take the [Responsible Conduct of Research training](#), and it is expected that students abide by the principles taught in that training while performing research.

Any student suspected of cheating or plagiarizing on a quiz, exam, or assignment will be reported to the Office of Student Integrity, who will investigate the incident and identify the appropriate penalty for violations.

Allegations of scientific or scholarly misconduct are handled in accordance with the procedures outlined by the [Policy for Responding to Allegations of Scientific or Other Scholarly Misconduct](#).

## Core IMPACTS

Not applicable

## Accommodations for Students with Disabilities

If you are a student with learning needs that require special accommodation, [contact the Office of Disability Services](#) as soon as possible to make an appointment to discuss your special needs and to obtain an accommodations letter. Please also e-mail me as soon as possible in order to set up a time to discuss your learning needs.

## Student-Faculty Expectations

At Georgia Tech, we believe that it is important to strive for an atmosphere of mutual respect, acknowledgement, and responsibility between faculty members and the student body. [The Student-Faculty Expectations](#) articulates some basic expectations that you can have of me and that I have of you. Additional information for research-related work is given in [The Expectations of Advisors and Advisees](#). In the end, simple respect for knowledge, hard work, and cordial interactions will help build the environment we seek. Therefore, I encourage you to remain committed to the ideals of Georgia Tech while in this class.