

School of Architecture | Georgia Tech | Summer 2026

ARCH 4903: Undergraduate Research Assistantship (1-3 credits)

ARCH 4903 Syllabus

Instructor Information

Instructor: Danielle S. Willkens, PhD

General Course Information

Course Description

Undergraduate research conducted under the guidance of a faculty mentor.

Course Learning Outcomes

Your learning outcomes here:

- Discipline-specific communication using correct grammar, spelling, syntax, and sentence structure
- Demonstrates an ability to interpret, evaluate, and create visual representations of ideas
- Shows ability to approach problems from different perspectives
- Uses information in ways that demonstrate intellectual resourcefulness
- Effectively connects multiple ideas/approaches
- Demonstrates an ability to work independently and identify when guidance is needed
- Accepts constructive criticism and uses feedback effectively
- Uses time well to ensure work gets accomplished

Required Course Materials

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

Grading Policy

Letter grade based on active engagement with research meetings and final product, decided upon in the course agreement. Faculty research mentors and student(s) will discuss and agree on expectations before beginning an undergraduate research course. Expectations will include the student's weekly time commitment; methods and frequency of communication; how research will be recorded, stored, and shared; and when and how students will reflect on their successes and challenges.

Grading Scale

- A 90–100% thorough and intrepid research; inventive project delivery

- B 80–89% successful research and project communication
- C 70–79% satisfactory research and project communication; meeting requirements
- D 60–69% unsatisfactory research and project communication; lacking requirements
- F Below 60% incomplete or missing

Attendance Policy

This course does not include scheduled class meetings. Students conduct independent research under the supervision of a thesis advisor. The frequency and format of student– advisor contact are determined by mutual agreement.

Academic 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 for this thesis course.

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

Note applicable.

Accommodations for Students with Disabilities

If you are a student with learning needs that require special accommodation, contact the Office of Disability Services (404-894-2563) 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.

Campus Resources

The Undergraduate Research Opportunities Program (UROP) provides resources and support for undergraduate research students and their mentors. Visit <https://undergradresearch.gatech.edu/> or contact UROP at urop@gatech.edu for more information.