

HIDDEN Lab I-WIN VIP Syllabus

VIP2601/3601/3602/4601/4602/6600/6601/6602/6603, Variable Credits

Thursdays, 9:30-10:30, Location as noted in course plan (typically GTMI 114, but can vary)

Instructor Information

Instructor	Email
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General Course Information

Description

This interdisciplinary, project-based course challenges students to advance our existing research grade exoskeletons by transforming them into highly professional wearable exoskeletons. The team will focus on key aspects of successful wearables in the assistive technology space: user-friendliness, human factors, comfort, adjustability, alignment and aesthetics.

Pre- &/or Co-Requisites

There are no pre-requisites or co-requisites for this course.

Course Goals and Learning Outcomes

By the end of this course sequence, students will be able to:

- 1. Design and fabricate professional wearable components**
Use carbon fiber, silicone, thermoforming, sewing, and CAD/CAM tools to create comfortable, functional, and visually refined wearable interfaces.
- 2. Improve research prototypes for real-world use**
Redesign existing exoskeleton interfaces to enhance ergonomics, usability, and manufacturability using human-centered design principles.
- 3. Collaborate across design and engineering disciplines**
Work with peers from engineering and industrial design to integrate technical performance with streamlined, user-ready wearable form factors.
- 4. Develop proficiency in advanced prototyping methods**
Build skills in manual and digital fabrication, including carbon fiber processes, 3D printing, and soft-goods construction.

Course Requirements & Grading

VIP teams function like real-world project teams. Members work on different aspects of a shared project, ranging from sophomores to graduate students, and from first-time participants to those with multiple semesters of experience. Students may enroll for variable credit hours, which are considered in grading.

Note: Zero-credit enrollment is reserved for paid participants and follows the same grading criteria.

Grading Overview

Each student is evaluated across three core areas, with three mandatory requirements. Regardless of role or experience, students must demonstrate achievement in all three areas:

- 1. Documentation and Records (33%)**

- Maintain individual documentation (required).
 - Contribute to team documentation: uploaded into Team's HIDDEN lab dropbox folder
2. **Personal Contributions (33%)**
- Engage actively in the project.
 - Pursue knowledge relevant to the project.
 - Contribute to technical progress and communication of project via group presentations.
 - Experienced members may also contribute to project management.
3. **Teamwork and Interaction (33%)**
- Participate in peer evaluations. Failure to submit results in a full letter grade deduction.
 - Attend meetings on time.
 - Collaborate toward team goals.
 - Coordinate and assist teammates.
 - Contribute to team presentations.

Rubric

Grading

Student will be graded on whether specified expectations are: met or not met.

- A = meets expectations on **12** standards and meets all * expectations
- B = meets expectations on **10** standards
- C = meets expectations on **9** standards
- D= meets expectations **7** standards
- F= meets expectations on **less than 7** standards

Standard Met	Area	Details
	Documentation (1/3 of grade)	
	<i>Individual Documentation</i>	
___	Consistent to-do lists	Leaves each team meeting with tasks/work to be done; checks items off list as tasks/work are completed; progress and work completed can be tracked over time.
___*	Explanation of what was done	Sufficient explanation of work, progress, and next steps. Someone knowledgeable/skilled in the field would be able to understand decisions made, repeat what was done, and obtain the same result.
___*	Reflects on what did/did not go well	Discusses what did and did not go well.
	Team-level documentation	
___	Identifies team level work that was done	Sufficient explanation of work, progress, and next steps. Someone knowledgeable/skilled in the field would be able to understand decisions made, repeat what was done, and obtain the same result.
___	Identifies team to-dos	Discusses next steps and/or challenges for moving forward
	Contributions (1/3 of grade)	
___	Proactive	Identifies or asks for tasks to do; does not leave weekly meetings without work to do, suggests next steps; does not stop working and

	searches for solutions when obstacles arise - checks team documentation, searches online, reaches out to teammates, etc. (determined through notebook review)
___ Quality of contributions	Work is timely, thorough, and accurate; comes to meetings prepared.
___ * Appropriate level of contribution	Considering the course level and number of credit hours, contributions to the project were appropriate. Contributions may include obtaining skills needed to do the work.

Teamwork (1/3 of grade)

___ *	Attitude and participation	Demonstrates interest in the project; treats teammates with respect; pays attention to the people speaking during meetings; avoids distractions during meetings; participates in discussions around others' work; asks thoughtful, relevant questions; acknowledges the value of others' contributions.
___ *	Engages with teammates' work	Knows what others on the team/subteam are doing; checks in/stays abreast of their progress; gives teammates constructive feedback and suggestions; helps or provides guidance to teammates; helps keep the team/subteam moving forward.
___	Communicates well	Communicates clearly and in a timely manner; exchanges relevant information with teammates; facilitates communication within the team.
___	Adaptable	Able to pivot when plans change or problems arise.
___	Receptive to feedback, suggestions and help	Solicits and listens to suggestions and feedback; willing to accept help; uses suggestions and feedback to improve.

* Must meet expectation in order to earn an A.

Grading Scale

Your final grade will be assigned as a letter grade according to the following scale:

A	90-100%
B	80-89%
C	70-79%
D	60-69%
F	0-59%

Course Materials

Materials/Resources

Project materials will be provided to students as needed. Students are expected to produce a bill of materials including links for purchasing the materials and submit this through current Georgia Tech purchasing channels.

Course Website and Other Classroom Management Tools

All information and assignments for this course are posted through Canvas.

Peer evaluations are administered by the VIP Program [Click Here](#) to access peer-evaluations from off campus. [Click here](#) to access from on campus. You will be prompted to sign in. Users can only log in from on campus or via [VPN](#). Students can only access the peer evaluation portion of the system during active evaluation periods.

Course Policies, Expectations, & Guidelines

VIP is a collaborative, multidisciplinary, project-based learning and research experience. Your success in this course depends not only on your technical contributions but also on your active engagement with your team and the broader learning process.

Your Role in the Learning Process

As a VIP student, you are expected to:

- Take initiative in exploring and applying knowledge relevant to your project.
- Collaborate effectively with team members across disciplines and experience levels.
- Document your work thoroughly.
- Reflect on your learning and contributions throughout the semester.

This course is a real-world team environment, where learning is dynamic, self-directed, and collaborative. Your growth depends on your willingness to engage, contribute, and learn from others.

Team Meetings and Participation

Attendance and active participation in **team meetings** and **sub-team meetings** are required. These meetings are essential for:

- Coordinating project tasks and timelines.
- Sharing progress and receiving feedback.
- Learning from peers and mentors.
- Contributing to team decisions and direction.

Failure to attend meetings without valid reason may negatively impact your grade and your team's progress. If you anticipate missing a meeting, communicate with your team and advisor in advance.

Use of External Resources

You are encouraged to consult external sources to support your learning and project work. However:

- **Do not present someone else's work as your own.**
- Always **cite and reference** external materials used in your notebook, code, presentations, or other deliverables.
- Proper attribution is essential to maintain transparency and integrity in a collaborative research environment.

Academic Integrity

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 Georgia Tech's Honor Code](#) and the [student Code of Conduct](#).

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.

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.

Attendance and/or Participation

I-WIN VIP Team members are expected to attend all sub-team meetings and all full team meetings posted in the course schedule. Each student is expected to present at least once during the semester through midterm or final presentations.

Extensions, Late Assignments, & Re-Scheduled/Missed Exams

Work received within 24 hours of the deadline will be graded but will only receive half credit. Work received 24 hours after the deadline is not accepted.

Late VIP peer evals are not accepted and result in a full letter grade deduction per VIP course policy. AKA: Get your work done by the deadlines posted.

Inclement Weather and Digital Learning Days

In the event of inclement weather, any changes to class plans, schedules, or assignments will be communicated through an announcement on Canvas.

Student-Faculty Expectations Agreement

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](#) articulate some basic expectations that you can have of me and that I have of you. 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.

Student Use of Mobile Devices in the Classroom

Instructor Choice of Policy

Additional Course Policies

VIP Room and Equipment Use Policy

VIP rooms and equipment are shared resources used by multiple teams. To ensure a productive and respectful working environment, the following rules apply:

1. Room Usage Priorities

Room use is prioritized as follows:

1. Scheduled team meetings, lectures, and learning modules
2. Weekly sub-team meetings (multiple groups may share the space)
3. Video conferences or special meetings with VIP stakeholders
4. Other project-related work (multiple groups may share the space)

Room schedules are available on the VIP website.

Note: A “good neighbor” policy applies—students may use rooms during other activities as long as they do not cause disruption. Quiet individual work or studying is allowed when it does not interfere with scheduled uses. Similarly, multiple groups may use a VIP room at the same time.

2. Cleanliness and Conduct

- Everyone is responsible for keeping rooms clean.
- Food is allowed, but spills must be cleaned immediately.
- **Gum must be disposed of properly—do not stick it under desks or on carpets.**
- Rooms are monitored by cameras; violations may be reviewed via video.

3. Equipment Use

- Equipment may be designated for general use or assigned to specific teams.
 - General use examples: Projector in Klaus 1440, monitors in VL 465 and VL 463B.
 - Equipment assignments may change each semester.
- If unsure about equipment access, contact: vip-request@ece.gatech.edu
- Use equipment only for its intended purpose. Misuse may pose safety risks.

Important Equipment Rules:

- Equipment may not be removed from VIP rooms without a signed loan agreement approved by a VIP Director.
- You are financially responsible for any equipment not returned in good condition.

- You must know how to operate equipment safely. Approval to use equipment does not imply safety training has been provided.

4. Computer Accounts

- Accounts are for individual use only—do not share with others.
- All usage must comply with Georgia Tech, USG Board of Regents, and State of Georgia policies.
- Respect privacy and data integrity. Having access to a file does not mean you are authorized to read or modify it.

5. BuzzCard Access

- Access is a privilege and is logged.
- Rooms are under video surveillance. In cases of theft, vandalism, or messes, logs and footage will be reviewed.
- Do not allow unauthorized individuals into VIP spaces.
- Always secure the room (close the door) when leaving.

Campus Resources for Students

Undergraduate Student Academic Success Resources:

A list of resources for undergraduate students' academic success and information about advising can be found at Success at Tech.

- 1:1 Tutoring: Students looking for additional assistance outside of the classroom are advised to consider working with a peer tutor through Knack. Georgia Institute of Technology has partnered with Knack to provide students with access to verified peer tutors who have previously aced this course. To view available tutors, visit gatech.joinknack.com and sign in with your student account.

Graduate Student Academic and Professional Success Resources:

A list of resources for graduate students is given on the Office of Graduate and Postdoctoral Education website. Specific information for current graduate students includes

- Academic Resources such as the Communications Center, Language Institute, Library, Catalog, Registrar, resources for conducting research, Advocacy and Conflict Resolution resources, and how to manage unexpected situations that may impact your academic performance;
- Student Resources such as Campus Services, Child Care/Family programs, Health & Wellness, Career Services, and the Student Resource Guide; and
- Professional Development such as the programming from the Career Center and other professional development resources and events”]

Student Well-Being:

At Georgia Tech, we are concerned about your overall physical, social, and mental well-being. A comprehensive list of wellness related resources has been compiled and maintained by the Office of the Vice President for Student Engagement and Well-being (student-resource-guide.gatech.edu)