

Graduate Special Problems

Course Information

Instructor: Shreyas Kousik (shreyas.kousik@me.gatech.edu)

Course Prefix and Number: ME 8943

Term: Fall 2026

Course Description

This course provides academic credit for a graduate research project conducted under the supervision of a Georgia Tech instructor as an advisor. The course does not involve regular class meetings, assignments, or examinations. The scope and direction of research are determined by the student in consultation with the instructor, consistent with the requirements of the degree program.

Course Learning Outcomes

By enrolling in this course, students will:

1. Engage in research project work under faculty supervision.
2. Gain experience in formulating research questions and applying methods appropriate to their discipline.
3. Communicate research activity through interactions with their advisor and, as applicable, collaborating students.

Required Course Materials

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

Grading Policy

This course is graded on a **letter grade** basis.

- **A:** student completed significant progress towards the research project goals, and accurately and completely reported their progress with appropriate experiments, analysis, and writing

- **B:** student completed some progress towards research project goals, and somewhat reported progress
- **C:** student completed a minimum amount of progress towards research goals, and minimally report progress
- **D:** student completed very little progress on research goals, and provided little or no progress updates
- **F:** student completed no progress on research goals or reporting
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Attendance Policy

This course does not include scheduled class meetings. Students conduct independent research under the supervision of a faculty instructor, and are expected to schedule regular check-ins with the instructor. The frequency and format of contact are determined by mutual agreement.

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 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

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.

Expectations of Advisors and Advisees

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 [Expectations of Advisors and Advisees](#) articulates 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.