

# ID 8900 Special Problems

## Course Information

**Course Prefix and Number:** ID 8900 90331/ 93751

**Credit Hours:** 1-12 Credits

**Fall 2026**

## Instructor Information

**Instructor Name:** Abigale Stangl

**Email:** [astangl3@gatech.edu](mailto:astangl3@gatech.edu)

**Research Groups:** Multisense.Studio, Tactile Media Alliance, Tactile Technology Lab.

## Course Description

This course supports independent study under the direction of Dr. Abigale Stangl in connection with MultiSense.Studio, an interdisciplinary research group at Georgia Tech. MultiSense.Studio focuses on the ethical design and development of inclusive services, products, and experiences through accessibility innovation and personalization. Students will pursue a self-directed program of study related to accessibility, inclusive design, multimodal interaction, assistive technologies, human-centered computing, and/or personalized user experiences.

## Course Learning Outcomes

By enrolling in this course, students will:

- Develop an independent line of inquiry related to accessibility, inclusive design, or personalization.
- Critically examine ethical, social, and technical issues in the design of inclusive services, products, and experiences.
- Apply interdisciplinary research and design methods to a topic aligned with MultiSense.Studio's mission.
- Produce scholarly, design, or technical work that advances accessibility innovation.
- Communicate research or design findings clearly to academic, professional, and/or community audiences.

## Required Course Materials

PhD Handbook and Resources

Readings, tools, and research materials will be determined in consultation with the instructor and may include scholarly articles, case studies, design methods resources, accessibility guidelines, and project-specific materials relevant to the student's area of inquiry.

### Grading Policy and Weighting

Grades will be based on the quality, rigor, and completion of work defined in consultation with the instructor. Evaluation may include a learning plan, literature review, design explorations, research memos, prototypes, regular progress updates, and a final deliverable. Emphasis will be placed on intellectual engagement, ethical reflection, initiative, and alignment with the goals of the independent study.

### Attendance Policy

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

### Additional Criteria for Successful Completion of the Course

Each student has a \$500 budget to use on their Master Thesis/Project. Please see the MID Handbook for spending and reimbursement guidelines.

### 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](#).

### 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.

#### [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.

#### Core IMPACTS

Not applicable.