

George W. Woodruff School of Mechanical Engineering

Georgia Institute of Technology

Syllabus

**ME4903-LG3
(CRN: 83993)**

Special Prob

Fall 2026

(Revised 4/7/2026)

Course Description: This course provides academic credit for independent studies under the direction of Professor Steven Y. Liang. The scope and direction of the studies are determined by the student (or a group of students) in consultation with Professor Liang.

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. 2. Learn the process of doing academic research, from background reading and skill development, to pursuing a research problem, and writing up results for publication.

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

Grading Policy: Grading will be based on reading assignments, writing detailed notes, and making progress on research problems.

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 research 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: Students with learning needs that require special accommodation shall 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 the instructor as soon as possible in order to set up a time to discuss your learning needs.

Student-Faculty Expectations At Georgia Tech: It is important to strive for an atmosphere of mutual respect, acknowledgement, and responsibility between faculty members and the student body. Simple respect for knowledge, hard work, and cordial interactions will help build the environment sought. Therefore, students are encouraged to remain committed to the ideals of Georgia Tech while in this course.