

# Teaching Assistantship

## Course Information

- **Instructor:** Matthew McDowell (mattmcdowell@gatech.edu)
- **Course Prefix and Number:** MSE 8997 MM
- **Term:** Summer 2026

## Course Description

This course is for students holding graduate teaching assistantships (GTAs) as recognition of the academic contributions of GTA positions to a student's overall educational experience.

## Course Learning Outcomes

By enrolling in this course, students will:

1. Gain experience in teaching-related activities

## Required Course Materials

No textbooks or materials are required.

## Grading Policy

This course is taken on an Audit basis and is not graded.

## Attendance Policy

This course does not include scheduled class meetings.

## 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](#).

A Teaching Assistant (TA) at Georgia Tech holds a dual role, serving both as a student and an instructional team member. Because of this, TAs are held to the same standards of academic integrity that govern all students at the Institute. These expectations extend to every aspect of their TA responsibilities, including,

but not limited to, grading, handling course materials, supporting instruction, and interacting with students. Any breach of academic integrity while fulfilling TA duties is subject to the same institutional policies, procedures, and consequences that apply to students in their academic work.

## **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 for Graduate Teaching Assistants**

At Georgia Tech, we believe that it is important to strive for an atmosphere of mutual respect, acknowledgment, and responsibility between faculty members and the student body. [The Student-Faculty Expectations](#) articulates some basic expectations that students have of instructors and that instructors have of students. In addition, a TA must meet the employment performance expectations and conduct outlined in the [Graduate Student Employment Manual](#). 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.