

Doctoral Thesis

Course Information

Instructor: Alexandra Boldyreva

Course Prefix and Number: CS 8999

Term: Summer 2026

Course Description

This course is designed to allow doctoral students to synthesize relevant knowledge and apply skills developed in previous courses to their doctoral dissertation.

Course Learning Outcomes

Learning in this course will occur by completing the work as specified. You are expected to work actively on the assigned activities each week. As a general guideline, one credit hour equals roughly three hours of work per week.

This course provides academic credit for independent project conducted under the supervision of a Georgia Tech faculty advisor. The course does not involve regular class meetings, assignments, or examinations. The scope and deliverables of the project are determined by the student in consultation with the supervising faculty member, consistent with the requirements of the degree program.

Required Course Materials

No textbooks or materials are required. Resources are determined in consultation with the faculty supervisor.

Grading Policy

This course is graded on a **Satisfactory (S)** / **Unsatisfactory (U)** basis.

- A grade of **Satisfactory (S)** indicates that the student has made acceptable progress in their study, consistent with the number of credit hours for which the student is enrolled in the course for the semester.
- A grade of **Unsatisfactory (U)** indicates that the student did not meet the expectations for satisfactory performance during the term.

Attendance Policy

This course does not include scheduled class meetings. Students complete independent work under the supervision of a faculty supervisor. The frequency and format of student-supervisor 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](#).

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.