Western Michigan University – College of Aviation

Program Mission Statements

Aviation Flight Science

The mission of the Aviation Flight Science Program (AFSJ) is to provide industry with a professional aviator that serves as a responsible leader within an organization. Graduates will exhibit high levels of technical skill, leadership ability and global awareness that will make them effective problem solvers in a diverse and safety-oriented aviation industry.

This curriculum prepares students for a career in aviation as a professional pilot. It emphasizes intellectual as well as technical competencies and is geared toward educating captains, not just training pilots. Flight training and prerequisite course work ensures that students learn essentials that are required by the commercial airline industry. Concepts emphasized include Crew Resource Management (CRM), Line Oriented Flight Training (LOFT), international flight, airline regulations, profitability, management, and administration. Equipment includes a modern fleet of single- and multi-engine aircraft and state- of-the-art Training Devices which provide exposure to current Electronic Flight Instrumentation Systems (EFIS) and Flight Management Systems (FMS). Graduates of this curriculum earn their Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) Commercial Pilot Certificate with Instrument and Multi-engine Land ratings.

Aviation Management and Operations

The mission of the Aviation Management and Operations Program (AMOJ) is to prepare students with the necessary knowledge, skills, and abilities to become professionals and leaders in a diverse, global aviation industry.

This curriculum is designed to prepare tomorrow's aviation business leaders, today. As a graduate of this program students will be poised to obtain a position in airline or airport management, operations management, safety management, aviation/aerospace administration, airport planning or many others. Coursework includes a focus of aviation-specific management courses and a foundation of business theory and practice. In addition, you will gain essential knowledge of aircraft systems, aerodynamics and performance, aviation law, and aviation safety. AMOJ students participate in a curriculum that blends aviation and business concepts and practices. Students obtain the knowledge and skills required for meaningful employment in the aviation industry.

Aviation Technical Operations

The mission of the Aviation Technical Operations Program (ATOJ) is to provide comprehensive, high-quality education and training to individuals who aspire to become skilled aviation maintenance technicians and leaders in the aviation industry.

The COA is committed to preparing our students to succeed in the competitive and everchanging aviation industry by imparting knowledge, skills, and values that align with the highest standards of the industry. The Aviation Technical Operations curriculum provides preparation for a variety of positions in the demanding field of aircraft maintenance and support. Options include such areas as: aircraft maintenance and repair, performance testing, engineering/maintenance liaison, maintenance logistics, flight test engineering, product technical support, aircraft maintenance engineering, aircraft systems reliability and maintainability, licensing requirements, and repair facility management. Satisfactory completion of all requirements prepares one to take the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) Airframe and Powerplant written, oral and practical examinations.