Aviation Technology
Bachelor of Science
2025-2026

General Areas of Service:
Pilots are highly trained professionals who fly airplanes and helicopters to carry out a wide variety of tasks. Although most pilots transport passengers and cargo, others can be involved in more unusual tasks, such as dusting crops, spreading seed for reforestation, testing aircraft, performing or directing fire-fighting efforts, tracking criminals, monitoring traffic, transporting medical patients, and rescuing and evacuating injured persons. Except on small aircraft, two pilots usually make up the cockpit crew. Generally, the most experienced pilot (the captain) is in command and supervises all other crewmembers. The copilot assists in communication with air traffic controllers, monitoring the instruments, and flying the aircraft.
Aviation majors are prepared to serve in a variety of capacities where management skills in combination with aviation skills are needed.

Professional Training:
All pilots who are paid to transport passengers or cargo must have at least a commercial pilot's license with an instrument rating issued by the FAA. To qualify for these licenses, applicants must be at least 18 years old and have a minimum of 250 hours of flight experience. A high school diploma and four years of college training are preferred.

Job Outlook:
According to the Bureau of Labor Statistics, "employment of airline and commercial pilots is projected to grow 4 percent from 2022 to 2032, about as fast as the average for all occupations. About 16,800 openings for airline and commercial pilots are projected each year, on average, over the decade. Many of those openings are expected to result from the need to replace workers who transfer to different occupations or exit the labor force, such as to retire. Employment of airline and commercial pilots is projected to grow as the demand for air travel increases. The post-pandemic expansion of hybrid and remote work arrangements is likely to increase demand for trips that combine business and personal travel, also known as "bleisure" travel, supporting employment demand for pilots. Continued demand for private

Earnings:
Earnings of aircraft pilots and flight engineers vary greatly depending on whether they work as airline or commercial pilots. Earnings also rely on factors such as rank, seniority, and the size and type of aircraft flown. According to the Bureau of Labor Statistics, in May 2023 "the median annual wage for airline pilots, copilots, and flight engineers was $219,140," while "the median annual wage for commercial pilots was $113,080." (See www.bls.gov)

TECHNOLOGY DEPARTMENT

Canaday Technology Center
(509) 527-2712

Websites
Walla Walla University
University Bulletin

Aviation Program
Technology Department

Faculty
Chair
Rob Holm

Advisor
Shawn Dietrich

Professional Organizations
American Historical Association

U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics Airline & Commercial Pilots
Airline Pilots Association International
Federal Aviation Administration
Career Opportunities

Suggested Degree Path

TOTAL CREDITS REQUIRED: 192 cr. GENERAL STUDIES REQUIREMENTS: 64-69 cr. See the Undergraduate Bulletin for Details
The chart below details one suggested path a student may take to complete a bachelor's degree in Aviation Technology.
Cognates are listed in *italics*.

Freshman Year

Fall Courses	Hours
Survey of Aviation (AVIA 140)	1
Private Pilot Lectures I (AVIA 151)	3
Private Pilot Flight Training I (AVIA 155)	2
Principles of Accounting (ACCT 201)	4
Introduction to Analytical Writing (ENGL 121)	3
- Air Traffic Control & Airspace (AVIA 125)	2
Total	15

Winter Courses	Hours
Private Pilot Flight Training II (AVIA 156)	2
Private Pilot Lectures II (AVIA 152)	3
Introduction to Research Writing (ENGL 122)	3
General Studies	8
Total	16

Spring Courses	Hours
Private Pilot Flight Training III (AVIA 157)	2
Computer Business Applications (CIS 140)	4
+ Aircraft Systems and Basic Maintenance (AVIA 256)	4
General Studies	6
Total	16

Sophomore Year

Fall Courses	Hours
Instrument Pilot Lectures I (AVIA 271)	3
Instrument Flight Training (AVIA 275)	3
Cross Country Flight (AVIA 277)	2
Research Writing (ENGL 223)	3
Conceptual Physics & Lab (PHYS 201, 204)	4
Total	15

Winter Courses	Hours
- Aviation Weather (AVIA 234)	2
Instrument Pilot Lectures II (AVIA 272)	3
Advanced Instrument Flight Training (AVIA 276)	3
General Studies	8
Total	16

Spring Courses	Hours
Advanced Cross-Country Flight (AVIA 325)	2
Commercial Pilot Lectures (AVIA 334)	4
Commercial Flight Training (AVIA 335)	3
Conceptual Physics & Lab (PHYS 202, 205)	4
General Studies	3
Total	16

Junior Year

Fall Courses	Hours
Aviation Human Factors (AVIA 270)	2
Business Law I (GBUS 361)	4
General Studies	10
Total	16

Winter Courses	Hours
Advanced Commercial Flight Training (AVIA 336)	3
Principles of Flight Instruction (AVIA 356)	2
Flight Instructor Training (AVIA 357)	2
General Studies	9
Total	16

Spring Courses	Hours
Management Option (MGMT 375 OR 371)	4
Advanced Flight Instructor Training (AVIA 358)	3
Aviation Law and Regulations (AVIA 450)	2
General Studies	7
Total	16

Senior Year

Fall Courses	Hours
Mission/Humanitarian Flight Training (AVIA 337)	2
Oxyacetylene Welding & Cutting (TECH 137)	2
General Studies	12
Total	16

Winter Courses	Hours
Aviation Safety (AVIA 355)	2
Crew Resource Management (AVIA 455)	2
Aviation Senior Seminar (AVIA 496)	2
Shielded Metal Arc Welding (TECH 138)	2
General Studies	8
Total	16

Spring Courses	Hours
Multi-Engine Flight Training (AVIA 340)	3
*Choose 4 credits from the following	4
Senior Project (TECH 499)	1
General Studies	8
Total	16

+ Offered even years only

- Offered odd years only

*AVIA 280, 458, 460, OR 480

Office of Academic Advisement
Canaday Technology Center, Room 311 • (800) 558-2132 • (509) 527-2132