Aviation

+ Parks College of Engineering, Aviation and Technology

Saint Louis University is a Catholic, Jesuit institution that values academic excellence, life-changing research, compassionate health care, and a strong commitment to faith and service.

Founded in 1818, the University fosters the intellectual and character development of nearly 14,000 students on two campuses in St. Louis, Missouri, and Madrid, Spain. Building on a legacy of nearly 200 years, Saint Louis University continues to move forward with an unwavering commitment to a higher purpose, a greater good.

OVERVIEW ///

The graduate program in aviation at Saint Louis University's Parks College of Engineering, Aviation and Technology provides students with the depth of knowledge necessary to pursue advanced academic or industrial work in a modern, ever-changing world. Students learn enhanced analytical skills through an in-depth understanding of major theoretical and practical concepts, written and oral communication skills as applied to technical areas, and the critical and creative thinking skills required to conduct state-of-the-art research.

M.S.:
The Master of Science in aviation provides a competitive and rigorous program that prepares professionals to excel in one of three areas of professional pilot development:

• The collegiate flight education track prepares students for careers in flight training and education.
• The flight operations administration track prepares students for careers as aviation-related managers.
• The aviation safety track prepares students to work as safety professionals in aviation and other high-consequences organizations.

Each program shares a common core and includes a graduate-level internship experience. All courses are offered online. The program consist of 32 credit hours of graduate-level work. Each M.S. student prepares a program of study that must be approved by their faculty advisor, the department chair and the associate dean for graduate education and research for Parks College. This program of study is developed within the context of the student's background and career goals, allowing students to customize their graduate program to suit their professional goals.

Ph.D.:
The Doctor of Philosophy in aviation requires a total of 63 credit hours beyond a bachelor's degree, including a minimum of 12 credit hours of dissertation research. The curriculum will include at least 12 credit hours of coursework in research methodologies and 12 credit hours in a secondary discipline intended to complement the student's knowledge of aviation.

Students will work with their advisor and Ph.D. committee to determine the specific coursework to complete the program. Those students holding an appropriate Master of Science degree may include a maximum of 27 credit hours of the associated M.S. degree course credits, but not the thesis or project credits, in the 63 credit hours required for the Ph.D. degree.

Research Areas:
The expert faculty of Parks College collaborate with graduate students in ground-breaking research in the following areas:

• Flight control systems
• Flight education
• Human factors/physiology
• Safety
• Unmanned aerial systems

Additional areas can be found online at parks.slu.edu/research.

DEGREES AND PROGRAMS OFFERED ///

• Master of Science (M.S.) in Aviation
• Doctor of Philosophy (Ph.D.) in Aviation

COURSES AVAILABLE ///

APPLICATION DEADLINE ///

M.S.       Ph.D.
FALL | May 31           May 31
SPRING | N/A             N/A
SUMMER | N/A             N/A

Deadlines for assistantships are listed online.

APPLICATION REQUIREMENTS ///

• Online application form and fee
• Official transcript(s) of all previous degrees
• Three letters of recommendation
• GRE scores
• CV or résumé
• Professional goal statement

ADMISSION CRITERIA ///

International students whose native language is not English must provide evidence of English language proficiency by submitting their TOEFL or IELTS results.

Minimum scores required:
• TOEFL PBT 550
• TOEFL IBT 80
• IELTS 6.5
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FACULTY

Stephen Belt, Ph.D.: Aviation education, humanitarian action

Bruce Hoover, M.S.: Applied ethics in aviation, problem-based learning

Terrence Kelly, Ph.D.: Aviation safety, aircraft and fluid power systems, technical training, applied technology, organizational psychology, accident prevention, human factors, manufacturing/quality

Stephen Magoc, M.B.A.: Airworthiness of aging aircraft, computer-based training applications

Manoj Patankar, Ph.D.: Aviation safety and security

Saul Robinson, M.M.E.: International aviation programs, aviation safety

CONTACT INFORMATION

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PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS

- SLU is the only Jesuit university with an aviation science program.
- All aviation M.S. courses are offered online.
- We offer program flexibility.

FINANCIAL SUPPORT

Parks College offers graduate fellowship awards and assistantships each year. Assistantships provide tuition, stipend and health insurance. The deadline to apply is March 1 for consideration for the following fall semester.

There are also many opportunities for students to receive funding through external research grants that are managed directly by individual faculty.

More information can be found online at parks.slu.edu. Information on other financial aid opportunities can be found by visiting the student financial aid office at finaid.slu.edu.