The University of Oklahoma Aviation Department offers degrees with four different concentrations. All tracks are business focused and aim to prepare students to function efficiently in the world of aviation.
PROFESSIONAL PILOT CONCENTRATION
Students who fly at OU train in a modern fleet of aircraft, which features the very latest in aviation technology. Students will be prepared through a multi-engine, commercial rating and a required turbine transition course.

AVIATION MANAGEMENT – FLYING CONCENTRATION
This concentration trains students to become commercial or corporate pilots and includes a general business minor to further diversify their skill sets. The aviation management concentration has options that span from the flight deck to the boardroom.

AVIATION MANAGEMENT – NON-FLYING CONCENTRATION
The Department of Aviation offers this option for students who don’t wish to fly, but are interested in meeting the growing demands for aviation management positions. This concentration also includes a general business minor upon completion.

AVIATION MANAGEMENT – AIR TRAFFIC MANAGEMENT CONCENTRATION
This concentration trains students for careers as air traffic controllers. Completion of this degree qualifies students to apply for positions with the FAA as an AT-CTI school graduate. This concentration also includes a general business minor upon graduation.

AVIATION MINORS
For students who wish to complete aviation coursework while pursuing another major, the Department of Aviation offers four minor options that are open to all OU students.
- Single-Engine Commercial Pilot
- Multi-Engine Commercial Pilot
- Aviation Management
- Air Traffic Control

* Must complete a B.S. degree with an OU aviation-related concentration to be recommended to the FAA Academy IAW AT-CTI provisions.

“I first learned about OU Aviation when I was 10 years old and attended Sooner Flight Academy. That’s when I knew that I wanted to fly. I would watch the planes coming and going at Tulsa International from my bedroom window, and my dad would frequently take me to watch from the terminal for a better view. I was fascinated by flying.

“I looked around at a lot of aviation programs, but, considering the cost, the high-quality equipment and having access to a real, functioning airport, you can’t beat the program at OU. The staff and students here are really close-knit and always willing to help you out, and the safety culture is one of participation and ensuring the students are part of the safety program. My parents don’t have to worry because they take safety seriously, with monthly readings, in addition to multiple safety courses.”

- Tyler Kubala
Aviation Alumnus
ADVANCED AVIATION SIMULATION CENTER

OU’s state-of-the-art aviation simulation center features advanced flight and air traffic control simulation labs with full weather/instrument visibility training, creating the perfect learning environment for students looking to graduate with experience and confidence in their aviation careers.

ADVANCED AIRCRAFT TRAINING DEVICE

The AATD is a level three flight training device that simulates the flight deck environment of both the Piper Warrior and the Seminole. Exceptional visuals realistically display an extensive variety of atmosphere and weather environments, and the avionics duplicate those of the actual aircraft. The control response is very similar to the actual aircraft, and the instructor can simulate a wide array of situations, including malfunctions.

JIM HAMM AIR TRAFFIC CONTROL SIMULATION LAB

OU has its own state-of-the-art air traffic control simulation labs for TRACON, Enroute Non-Radar, Radar, and Tower. The University of Oklahoma also owns and operates the Max Westheimer Airport, just 20 minutes from the main campus at OU’s north campus. The airport has a Federal Contract Air Traffic Control Tower that provides class D ATC services 365 days a year to the airport flight operations, and internships at ATC facilities such as Oklahoma City Tower and TRACON.
The university provides financial assistance, as well as encouragement and opportunities for deserving students to work with professionals during their educational career.

**INTERNSHIP PROGRAMS**

Although not required as part of the degree program, the Department of Aviation believes it is valuable for students to have at least one internship experience during their academic career. Internships offer the opportunity to work in industry and government positions relevant to their major. Internships are offered year-round and are typically open to sophomores, juniors and seniors.

**SCHOLARSHIPS**

OU awards a number of scholarships each semester and is continually looking to expand its scholarship offerings. Most of the scholarships require you to be an OU aviation major for one year. Current Departmental Scholarships include:

- Flight Time Scholarship
- James M. Cook Memorial Scholarship
- Joe Coulter Scholarship
- Stick-N-Rudder Award
- Tom Clark Scholarship
- Margie Richison Scholarship
- Van Horn Scholarship
- Winifred Adams Holland Scholarship
- Sooner Air Traffic Control Association Chapter Scholarship

**NATIONAL CONFERENCES & CONVENTIONS**

Students at OU who demonstrate excellence in the aviation program are selected to participate in various conferences and events throughout the year. The organizations OU is involved in are constantly growing, providing continuous opportunities for aviation students. Previous conferences attended:

- NIFA, National Intercollegiate Flight Association (OU Flying Sooners Flight Team)
- NBAA, National Business Aviation Association
- UAA, University Aviation Association, Washington, D.C. Policy Conference
- AAAE, American Association of Airport Executives
- National All Women Air Race Classic
- ICAO, International Civil Aviation Organization, Montreal, Canada
- ATCA, Air Traffic Control Association Conference, Washington, D.C.
- RAA, Regional Airline Association
GETTING INVOLVED

The University of Oklahoma takes great pride in preparing students to succeed beyond the classroom. Getting the most out of what OU has to offer comes from getting involved.

AMERICAN ASSOCIATION OF AIRPORT EXECUTIVES (AAAE)
The Sooner chapter of AAAE is a student organization that meets monthly. This allows for the opportunity to better understand airport management through guest speakers and field trips. These students also get the chance to attend AAAE conferences, where they get greater exposure to current issues and an opportunity to network among airport professionals.

ALPHA ETA RHO
Alpha Eta Rho is an international fraternity for aviation students. OU is the Beta Chi chapter. This organization is dedicated to promoting aviation within the community.

NATIONAL INTERCOLLEGIATE FLYING ASSOCIATION (NIFA)
NIFA, also called the “OU Flying Sooners Flight Team,” is a professional, student-run organization that provides a forum of competition and learning for aviation students. It promotes education, safety and industrywide communication.

SOONER AIR TRAFFIC CONTROL ASSOCIATION (SATCA)
SATCA is an organization for students with an interest in supporting the ATC programs. Activities include hosting speakers from the field, visiting air traffic facilities to gain practical knowledge and networking. Membership is not limited to ATC students.

“OU Aviation is one of the top-ranked aviation programs. It’s smaller with around 200 students — flying, non-flying and ATC. so you’ll get more of a personal experience with teachers that know you by name. You can’t get a better school than OU!”

- Allison Foster
Aviation Alumnus
SOONER AVIATION CLUB (SAC)
SAC is for students who are interested in aviation. Members enjoy tours of aviation facilities, speakers and more. SAC welcomes all OU students to participate in these events.

THE SOONER FLIGHT ACADEMY
OU Sooner Flight Academy has provided STEM outreach education since 1987 for students ages 6 to 18 who are interested in the exciting world of flight. Participants experience fun, hands-on science, technology, engineering and math activities that will bring the physics of flight to life. Summer camps, day camps and field trips are all opportunities to have a life-changing experience. Part-time work is available each summer through the academy.

NATIONAL BUSINESS AVIATION ASSOCIATION (NBAA) STUDENT MEMBERSHIP
OU is an educational member of NBAA, therefore, all students receive a student membership to NBAA. NBAA is an exceptional out-of-classroom learning experience.

AVIATION ACCREDITATION BOARD INTERNATIONAL (AABI) & UNIVERSITY AVIATION ASSOCIATION (UAA)
The OU Aviation Department is an educator member of both AABI and UAA. These international organizations ensure that aviation programs are of the highest caliber. All four of OU’s Bachelor of Science concentrations are AABI accredited.

“The aviation concentration programs at The University of Oklahoma are accredited by the AABI (Aviation Accreditation Board International).”

“It’s not just the knowledge – it’s practical, hands-on skills, what you don’t get out of a lot of majors. More importantly, it’s given me some soft skills of how to interact with the rest of the aviation world.”

- Niki Bray
Aviation Alumnus
SINGLE-ENGINE AIRCRAFT

PIPER PA-28-161 WARRIOR
This is OU’s principal flight training aircraft. The entire fleet was replaced in 2005 with 13 new aircraft, featuring the latest avionics. The Warrior features docile stall characteristics and other handling qualities that make it a joy to fly. Two of these are equipped with the Avidyne Entegra “glass cockpit.” With an autopilot and flight director capability, and full Garmin 430 GPS ability, these aircraft reflect the type of cockpit instrumentation found in regional and corporate jet aircraft.

PIPER PA28R-200 ARROW
This agile aircraft has outstanding handling characteristics. The Arrow introduces students to complex aircraft with flaps, retractable landing gear and a constant speed propeller. OU uses this craft in several of the more advanced courses.

CESSNA A-152 AEROBAT
The Aerobat is certified in the aerobatic category. The Department of Aviation uses this aircraft in the Advanced Flight Maneuvers course, as well as in other advanced courses to give students a chance to fly a different airplane and become familiar with the difference in operations and flight characteristics.
OU’s flagship aircraft, a King Air, is used in the turbine transition course, and is equipped with electronic flight displays (EFIS), autopilot, flight deck multi-function display, GPS and NEXTGEN ADS-B navigation capability. Students flying this aircraft are exposed to advanced aircraft systems, including pressurization, radar, weather downlink and de-ice and anti-ice systems. Only a few collegiate-level aviation programs offer a chance to fly modern turbine aircraft.
Here is a collection of frequently asked questions, ranging from program accreditation to general considerations regarding why you should proactively pursue aviation.

**Is the aviation program accredited?**
Yes, currently OU’s Department of Aviation is one of approximately 33 institutions worldwide accredited by the Aviation Accreditation Board International (AABI). This ensures each student will be earning a degree from a nationally recognized institution with an impeccable reputation.

**I have a passion for aviation, but can I make a good living as a Professional Pilot?**
Boeing Aircraft Company’s 2013 future aviation demand study estimates that global growth of aircraft in the world will increase from the current total of 18,000 to 36,000 by 2027. Boeing made a record delivery of the most aircraft ever manufactured in the history of the company in the year 2013, with plentiful future aircraft orders for the next decade. Boeing estimates the U.S. pilot population will grow from a current 232,000 to 445,000 by 2030, and there will be a global need to train nearly 50,000 pilots by 2030 to replace retirements and the growth of aviation airlines, cargo and corporate air traffic.

Over the next 12 years, pilots at the major U.S. airlines will rapidly start to retire, with an average of about 300 per year per major airline in 2014, climbing to 750 to 1,000 pilots per year by 2020. By the year 2025, the major U.S. carriers will lose 25,000 seasoned professional pilots to retirement. Although the ups and downs of the global and U.S. economic cycle will always impact pilot hiring in any particular year, the long-term prospects over the next 20 years due to known forthcoming mandatory retirements and forecast aviation passenger traffic growth is all pointing to the fact that it has never been a better time to pursue a professional pilot career. Become a Flying Sooner today and “Let Your Dreams Take Flight!”

**Is The University of Oklahoma approved by the FAA to issue a Restricted Airline Transport Pilot (R-ATP) certificate to qualifying graduates?**
Yes! Another big reason to take a good look at the University of Oklahoma is that we can get you into the right seat of a regional airline jet faster. The FAA recently implemented a rule requiring First Officers at the airlines to have 1,500 flight hours and an Airline Transport Pilot (ATP) Certificate for employment. This rule included a provision that collegiate programs approved by the FAA can certify their graduates to earn an R-ATP at 1,000 flight hours.

OU has been given the authority for an Institution of Higher Education to certify its graduates for an Airline Transport Pilot Certificate with reduced aeronautical experience. This savings of 500 flight hours allows our graduates to be eligible for a First Officer position at a regional airline up to one year earlier than those who must accrue the full 1,500 hours for the ATP and is a considerable savings in terms of cost. Come to OU and Start Flying SOONER!
Does The University of Oklahoma have any sort of placement program with the airlines?

OU has a long established bridge and now pipeline agreement* with Envoy Airlines (formerly American Eagle) with a follow-up career interview guarantee with American Airlines. This partnership gives qualifying OU aviation students the opportunity to launch their regional or major airline careers with Envoy. The program provides recruitment, screening, selection, training and placement strategies for students to be employed by Envoy. Qualified students may be interviewed by Envoy once they obtain their instrument rating at OU. After students in the pipeline program obtain their CFI and graduate from OU, Envoy will place the candidate in a CFI position until they obtain the required flight hours mandated by the FAA. Once hired as a Pipeline Instructor, the graduate will be eligible for health benefits and travel privileges as an Envoy employee. The OU Aviation/Envoy Pipeline Program is one of the smartest, most affordable, quality training and education pathways to launch your professional pilot career and is a true flight plan for success!

*The Pilot Pipeline Agreement is subject to change at the discretion of Envoy and the University of Oklahoma.

What is the difference between training under Federal Regulations Part 141 and Part 61?

The difference is the flying time required to obtain a Commercial Pilot Certificate, which enables you to be compensated for flying. As a Part 141 student, you will earn a Commercial Instrument Certificate with 195 flight hours. Part 61 requires 250 flight hours. The OU Aviation Department is FAA certified under Part 141. The program has examining authority for most flight courses. This means that students do not have to pay an FAA Designated Pilot Examiner at the end of the flight course for their practical flight evaluation. This will save the student more than $2,000 over the course of a degree major or minor.

Are non-credit aviation courses available?

Yes, most courses are offered with a non-credit option. For more information, contact the aviation department at 405-325-7231 or visit aviation.ou.edu. Veteran (VA) students should contact the VA Regional Office (if living in Oklahoma, this is the Muskogee office 1-888-442-4551).

Why consider Air Traffic Management?

The FAA expects to lose 40 percent of air traffic controllers to retirement in the next few years. OU developed the new major and minor as a proactive approach to fill these positions. The FAA accepted OU as an approved Air Traffic Collegiate Training Initiative school in 2007. OU is one of 36 AT-CTI schools in the United States and Puerto Rico. This program provides training in every possible ATC venue, meeting the criteria for top-tier schools from the FAA Administrator’s blue ribbon panel on ATC training.

The Air Traffic Management degree path also includes a broad-based curriculum in Aviation Management and general business principles that are useful in aviation careers outside of ATC.
“Before I was an OU flight instructor, I was a student in the OU Aviation program, so I’ve seen how it works from both sides. Other aviation programs I’ve come into contact with don’t seem to have the same sense of identity and camaraderie that we have here. I think that stems from a sense of Sooner pride - the aviation program falls in line with the reputation of OU academics and athletics.

“Other schools have great programs, I’m sure. But, at Oklahoma, not only are you training on newer equipment, more similar to modern professional aircraft, you’re given the chance to learn with a special, helpful, focused group of people - staff and students alike. You can’t get that everywhere.”

- Tom Bishop
Aviation Alumnus
ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS

To be admitted to the aviation program, you first must be admitted to the University of Oklahoma. Students may enroll in aviation courses while in University College. To be fully admitted, you must earn a minimum of 24 hours of college credit and possess a combined retention GPA of 2.25. Students who meet these requirements also may be required to satisfy additional requirements for some aviation courses. Non-credit students refer to Page 10 and to the aviation website, aviation.ou.edu.

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Norman, OK 73019
T: 405-325-2251
F: 405-325-7124
admissions.ou.edu

FINANCIAL AID
Buchanan Hall, Room 216
Norman, OK 73019
T: 405-325-4521
financialaid.ou.edu

GENERAL CATALOG
catalog.ou.edu/current/index.html

BURSAR
ou.edu/bursar

TRANSFER EQUIVALENCY
ou.edu/content/admissions/transfer_equivalencies.html

OU VETERANS OFFICE
Buchanan Hall, Room 234
Norman, OK 73019
T: 405-325-4308
ou.edu/enrollment/home/veteran_student_services.html

PROSPECTIVE STUDENTS
T: 800-234-6868
go2.ou.edu

AVIATION REQUIREMENTS SHEET
aviation.ou.edu/degree_options.html

MAX WESTHEIMER AIRPORT
1700 Lexington Ave., Suite 212
Norman, OK 73069
T: 405-325-1635
airport.ou.edu

FINANCIAL EDUCATION (FEd)
T: 405-325-4183
financialed.ou.edu

OUR MISSION:
The mission of the aviation program at the University of Oklahoma is to provide aviation students with the knowledge and skills of a competent pilot, air traffic controller and/or industry professional, combined with a broad liberal education and business concentration that will provide them with an initial and long-term competitive advantage as professionals in global organizations and in society.

The University of Oklahoma is an equal opportunity institution. Printed and distributed at no cost to Oklahoma taxpayers.
There’s no substitute for having a modern fleet. The OU Aviation Department has the latest technology in terms of avionics inside the airplanes – technology that creates a solid tie between training and professionalism yielding well-prepared students for the future.

– Tom Bishop
Aviation Alumnus