

AABIInternational

LIBERTY UNIVERSITY SCHOOL of AERONAUTICS	LIBERTY UNIVERSITY
	SCHOOL OF AERONAUTICS
September 19, 2024	B.S. UNMANNED AIRCRAFT OPERATIONS
Compliance with AABI Policy 3.2.4	STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT DATA

Liberty University School of Aeronautics Pillars:

- Spiritual Development
- Student Success
- Student Experience

Our Vision: Advance the Great Commission by developing and training aerospace professionals through a distinctive Christian education

Our Mission: Equip, Mentor, and Send Champions for Christ into the Aerospace Community

1. Specific educational goals: Unmanned Aircraft Operations (UAS)

- **Create graduates with technical competence:** Through a combination of both classroom and flight training, UAS majors will acquire the following certificates and ratings during their degree program: FAA Airplane Pilot ratings for Private and Instrument; FAR Part 107 certification; medium UAS certification.
- All graduates of the UAS program are required to complete FAA Private and Instrument. One way we measure our technical competence goal (completion of required FAA certificates) is through graduation.
- **Prepare men and women of character:** The purpose of the UAS degree program is to prepare students to impact the UAS industry with world class knowledge, skills, and abilities. These aviation professionals will possess sound judgment and strong Christian character.
 - In order to be eligible for graduation, all Liberty University students are required to complete an average of 20 hours of supervised service each semester. One way we measure our character goal is by tracking Christian Service during each Fall semester.

2. Program Assessment Measures: Unmanned Aircraft Operations

In addition to the above specific measures, we assess program effectiveness in three general ways:

- Institutional Effectiveness and Research (Documented processes with evidence archives)
- Strategic Planning (Culture of continuous evaluation, review, improvement)
- Course Assessment Review Process (Stems from program learning outcomes)

LUSOA Unmanned Aircraft Operations: Learning Outcomes

- Apply biblical principles within the unmanned aircraft industry.
- Apply science, technology, and mathematics to unmanned aircraft disciplines.
- Promote a healthy organization safety culture in the UAS industry.
- Apply policies, regulations, and procedures to UAS flight operations.

Liberty University and Research information

<https://www.liberty.edu/institutional-effectiveness/student-achievement/fall-2023-student-achievement/>

SOA conducts program assessment activities in a culture of continuous improvement:

- Comprehensive Assessment Plan on file with the Liberty University Office of Institutional Effectiveness and Research (working document updated periodically)
- Assessment of each course by Residential faculty, documented in Course Assessment Reports (CAR) filed in Dropbox
- Liberty University's Office of Institutional Effectiveness and Research leads a comprehensive assessment process documented in Chalk and Wire and managed by the designated SOA IER representative
- SOA's Dean conducts quarterly goals meetings
- SOA's Associate Dean hosts bi-weekly meetings with faculty and leadership to discuss curriculum, teaching, goals, assessment, and other priorities
- Semi-Annual Industry Advisory Board meetings
- Semi-Annual SOA administrators' review of student end-of-course surveys

Additional Program Assessment Measures

Procedures used to assure students meet all program requirements include:

- Incoming students take Math and English placement tests
- FAA medical certificate required for all flight course students
- Students complete courses in applicable DCP; monitored by advisors; tracked by ASIST (Automated Student Information Services Tool) tool
- Students must pass 100-200 level courses with a D grade or higher
- Students must pass 300-400 level courses with a C grade or higher

Annual Assessment Day

Likert scale surveys sent to first year SOA students and SOA Jr Sr classifications students built from questions used in the focus groups.

For each group, fifteen students are randomly selected and invited to attend the focus group discussion session.

- **First Year Students Focus Group** (*Focus group forum limited to one hour.*)
 - Focus group composed of 10 to 20 first year students sampled from any student who has taken AVIA 102 in the 2021 Fall or 2022 Spring semester.
- **Upper Classmen Focus Group** (*Focus group forum limited to one hour.*)
 - Focus group composed of 10 to 20 upper classmen sampled from AVIA 460, AVIA 461 or AVIA 491.

3. Graduation (Unmanned)

Similar to how the Integrated Post-Secondary Education Data System (IPEDS) uses a 150% of the normal time graduation rate, Liberty University chose to use this time period to measure cohort graduation rates. Unlike the standard IPEDS graduation rate, Liberty University includes transfer students along with first-time students in the cohorts. The graduation rates reported below are based on 150% of the time to complete a four-year degree (six years) and includes transfer students along with first-time students. The years on the chart are the beginning cohort years. For instance, the Fall 2018 cohort is reporting their six-year graduation rate in 2024.

Graduation Rates, Fall 2018 cohort for the UAS cognate was coded as AVUM. The new UAS degree launched and the program code UAOP was created in 2021-2022 AY.

	Fall 2018 First time Students	Graduated in 6 years	6-year Graduation Rate
B.S. Aeronautics: Unmanned (AVUM)	8	6	75%

Degrees Awarded

	AY 2021-2022	AY 2022-2023	AY 2023-2024
B.S. Aeronautics: Unmanned	5 (AVUM) 5 (UAOP)	3 (AVUM) 5 (UAOP)	6 (UAOP)

Retention Rate, All Residential Students

	Cohort	Graduates	Retained	Retention Rate
B.S. Aeronautics: Unmanned (UAOP)	29	2	22	81%

Retention Rate, First-time Freshman and Transfers

	Cohort	Graduates	Retained	Retention Rate
B.S. Aeronautics: Unmanned	8	0	7	88%

Fall Headcount Enrollment

	Fall 2024
B.S. Aeronautics: Unmanned	42

4. Rates and Types of Employment of Graduates (2018-2023)

Annual Alumni Survey

Liberty University's annual Alumni Survey is conducted each Fall semester. Alumni from the most recent academic year as well as 5, 10, and 20-year cohorts are invited to participate. Survey content is developed to align with reporting needs for both regional and programmatic accreditors, and national surveys. The survey contains both a core and department-specific sections of questions. The survey core includes questions regarding gainful employment, skill preparation, and overall satisfaction with the school. Academic departments include items for their graduates in the department-specific sections. Feedback is used to inform improvement efforts and for accreditation reporting needs.

	Survey Year (cohort)				
Unmanned	2019 (18/19)	2020 (19/20)	2021 (20/21)	2022 (21/22)	2023 (22/23)
Survey Respondent (n)	5	1	2	0	0
Employed/Placed (n)	4	1	2	0	0
Job Directly or Somewhat Relevant (n)	4	1	2	0	0

Employed/placed includes alumni who reported the following: full-time or part-time employment, military, self-employed, or placement in mission or volunteer services. It excludes the following: retired, continuing education, other, no answer, and caring for home/family.

Employers and Job Titles:

- Horizon Flight Center (2019)
 - Certified Flight Instructor
- UPS Flight Forward (2021)
 - Remote Pilot in Command

Types of Employment:

Aviation Management	Aircraft Mechanic
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Safety	Remote Pilot in Command
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