

Aerospace Engineering with Pilot Studies

BEng (Hons)

COURSE DETAILS

- A level requirements: [AAB](#)
- UCAS code: H401
- Study mode: Full-time
- Length: 3 years

KEY DATES

- Apply by: [29 January 2025](#)
- Starts: 22 September 2025

Course overview

If you are interested in becoming either private or professional pilot, this is the programme for you.

INTRODUCTION

In addition to studying the core aerospace engineering topics outlined below, you will also take the pilot studies modules and develop knowledge, skills and experience of flying. As well as the flight training, pilot studies students also have access to and use of the students pilots lab and can join the Flight Simulation Group (FSG). Study Aerospace Engineering and by the end of your time at Liverpool, you will be able to show that you can now design, build, test and fly an aircraft.

As an aerospace engineering student, you will experience a wide variety of topics and modes of study, whether it be conducting research, analysing reports or designing and building an aircraft. You will have the opportunity to study a wide range of topics during your time at Liverpool such as; aerodynamics, aerostructures, flight dynamics and control, propulsion systems, avionics, aerospace materials and aircraft design.

Aerospace engineers design, analyse, build, test and maintain vehicles, their sub-assemblies and components as well as their associated systems that fly. Flight is not limited to simply within the Earth's atmosphere, and can also be outside of it.

Conducting independent research as part of an individual project will provide you with the knowledge to develop innovative concepts in your preferred technical area of interest. All of our Aerospace Engineering degree programmes are accredited, or pending accreditation, by our professional bodies, the Royal Aeronautical Society and the Institute of Mechanical Engineers and are a recognised qualification on the route to Chartered Engineer status.

WHAT YOU'LL LEARN

- Aircraft design and manufacturing
 - Flight testing
 - Systems engineering
 - How to conduct independent research
 - Aerodynamics
 - Flight dynamics and control
 - How to deal with complex problems that may require compromise to meet competing requirements
 - Access to and use of pilots lab
-

ACCREDITATION

All of our BEng/MEng degree programmes are accredited, or preparing for accreditation, by at least one professional engineering institution, providing you with a solid foundation for your career. We have excellent links with the professional engineering institutions and benefit from their support.

Course content

Discover what you'll learn, what you'll study, and how you'll be taught and assessed.

YEAR ONE

You will study the core engineering topics that provide a firm background and understanding of aerospace engineering, in addition you will also study pilot studies modules and develop your knowledge, skills and experience of flying.

The pilot studies module is based on the Private Pilot's License (PPL) ground school syllabus. It is studied alongside either the mandatory 20-hour flight training programme for fixed-wing flying (aeroplanes) or the 20-hour flight and ground training programme for rotary-wing flying (helicopters). For the latter, the 20-hour training programme is divided between 10.5 hours flight training and 9.5 hours of helicopter-relevant ground school.

COMPULSORY MODULES

INTRODUCTION TO AEROSPACE ENGINEERING (AERO110)

Credits: 7.5 / Semester: semester 1

A short module to introduce students to the language and main concepts of the aerospace engineer to provide a solid basis for the remainder of their degree programme

PILOT STUDIES 1 (AERO131)

Credits: 7.5 / Semester: semester 1

The module is designed to provide students, who are contemplating a career as a commercial pilot, with an insight into the practical and intellectual skills required to become a pilot. Classroom lectures covering PPL ground school material are given together with 20 hours of practical flight training at a local flying school.

SOLIDS AND STRUCTURES 1 (ENGG110)

Credits: 15 / Semester: whole session

This module aims to introduce students to the fundamental concepts and theory of how engineering structures work to sustain loads. It will also show how stress analysis leads to the design of safer structures. It will also provide students with the means to analyse and design basic structural elements as used in modern engineering structures.

PROFESSIONAL ENGINEERING: A SKILLS TOOLKIT (ENGG111)

Credits: 30 / Semester: whole session

This module aims to provide students with an interesting and engaging project that will help them to immediately relate the material being taught, both within and without this module, to a practical problem that is identifiable to their engineering discipline, thus reinforcing its relevance to the topic.

The module:

- 1) Seeks to provide students with an early understanding of the preliminary design processes
- 2) Will introduce students to formal engineering drawing and visualisation
- 3) Will expose the students to group work and the dynamics of working in a team
- 4) Will expose students to the complexity of an engineering design task
- 5) Will enable students to develop data analysis and plotting skills
- 6) Will embody an approach to learning that will engage the students for the remainder of their lives
- 7) Seeks to provide students with an early understanding of the detail design and manufacturing process
8. Will introduce students to industry standard computer aided engineering drawing tools and practice
9. Will enable students to develop report writing and oral presentation skills
10. Will provide students with a basic understanding of engineering components and mechanisms
11. Will embody an approach to learning that will engage the students for the remainder of their lives

ENERGY SCIENCE (ENGG116)

Credits: 15 / Semester: whole session

To develop an understanding of the basic principles of fluid mechanics, the laws of thermodynamics, and an appreciation of how to solve simple engineering problems. To develop skills in performing and reporting simple experiments.

DIGITAL ENGINEERING (ENGG125)

Credits: 15 / Semester: whole session

Students completing the module should be able to understand simple computer programs and write their own simple MATLAB programs to solve problems and process data as required by other modules and in engineering practice.

Students completing the module will be able to understand simple electrical circuits with passive and active components, mechanical (mass-spring-damper) systems and electromechanical systems (DC machines). They will learn basic mathematical, practical and computational methods for analysing and modelling these.

ENGINEERING MATHEMATICS (ENGG198)

Credits: 22.5 / Semester: whole session

To provide a basic level of mathematics including calculus and extend the student's knowledge to include an elementary introduction to complex variables and functions of two variables.

INTRODUCTION TO ENGINEERING MATERIALS (MATS105)

Credits: 15 / Semester: whole session

To provide students with a basic introduction to various classes of engineering materials, their mechanical properties, deformation and failure and how the properties structure and processing can be controlled to design materials with desired properties for various engineering applications.

Programme details and modules listed are illustrative only and subject to change.

YEAR TWO

Year two includes a two-day flight test course in the national flying laboratory aircraft. In year two, the pilot studies modules are based on the Air Transport Pilot's Licence (ATPL) ground school syllabus.

Students will continue to study the core engineering topics as well as taking part in a two-day flight test course in the national flying laboratory aircraft.

Students are required to participate in the Flight Test Course and marks will contribute to AERO212 and AERO215 modules.

COMPULSORY MODULES

AEROENGINES (AERO213)

Credits: 15 / Semester: whole session

This module covers the main technical aspects of gas turbine engines used on aircraft and other mechanical applications (e.g. power generation, marine). It covers many topics from the basic principles of aeroengines (e.g. production of thrust) through to the design of axial flow turbomachinery (compressors and turbines). An understanding of the principles of compressible flow is also developed. Students do a laboratory using the Virtual Engine Test Bench to explore aeroengine components, thermodynamics and performance. In addition, they use a commercial CFD package to perform a compressible flow simulation.

AEROSPACE ENGINEERING DESIGN 2 (AERO220)

Credits: 15 / Semester: whole session

Aircraft design is a complex process and requires knowledge and skills in a number of topics, e.g. aerodynamics, structures, materials, flight mechanics and control. The module will look at these topics relating to the components of full aircraft, e.g. mass distribution, aerodynamic surface sizing, fuselage, landing gear, etc. This module explains the different stages of this multi-disciplinary process: Configuration Selection; Conceptual Design; Preliminary Design. The module describes each of these processes and provides analytical engineering tools to allow the students to complete a project to the Preliminary Design.

AIRCRAFT PERFORMANCE (AERO212)

Credits: 7.5 / Semester: semester 1

To acquaint students with the fundamentals of the performance of fixed-wing aircraft; to develop from first principles the theory required to formulate and solve representative performance problems; to discuss the limitations of the theory; to introduce students to the basics of aircraft stability.

AVIONICS AND COMMUNICATIONS SYSTEMS (AERO250)

Credits: 15 / Semester: semester 2

Introduction to aerospace communications and avionic systems for Aerospace Engineering and Avionics/Aerospace Electronics students.

DYNAMIC SYSTEMS (MECH215)

Credits: 15 / Semester: whole session

Dynamic systems are encountered in most engineering disciplines such as mechanical engineering, aerospace engineering, electrical engineering. These systems require specific techniques to be analysed for design or monitoring purpose.

In this module, students will learn the main methods for analysing dynamic systems in time and frequency domains. They will learn how to solve dynamical problems, how to evaluate and control the stability, the accuracy and the rapidity of a dynamical system.

This module will be mainly delivered through class lectures and assessed through a final exam. Additionally, students will be taught some experimental techniques related to second-order dynamical systems through an assessed laboratory work.

PILOT STUDIES 2 (AERO231)

Credits: 7.5 / Semester: semester 1

This module aims to give students the knowledge and understanding of commercial aviation operations and requirements. It expands on the material presented in Pilot Studies 1 and provides the students with the opportunity to engage with the ATPL ground school material. The module is mixture of lectures, group presentations and simulation and is assessed via a 2 hour MCQ exam.

PILOT STUDIES 3 (AERO232)

Credits: 7.5 / Semester: semester 2

This module aims to provide students with an appreciation of the principles and systems required to operate commercial aircraft. The module will consist of traditional classroom exercises combined with opportunities to use flight simulators and to interact with commercial pilots. The module will be assessed using an MCQ exam at the end of the semester.

PROJECT MANAGEMENT (MNGT202)

Credits: 7.5 / Semester: semester 1

Project Management is a core skill for professional engineers of all types and a sound education in this subject area is required by the professional accrediting bodies. The knowledge and skills developed in this module will equip students for their future UG project work and for their careers ahead.

This module teaches students the theory of fundamental techniques in project management, risk management, and cost management.

In this module student undertake a group "virtual project" in which they undertake all stages of project management involved in a major construction projects. The five virtual project tasks require students to apply their theoretical learning; and they provide an opportunity to develop key professional skills.

SOLIDS & STRUCTURES 2 (ENGG209)

Credits: 15 / Semester: whole session

This module aims to introduce students to techniques for load and displacement analysis of simple structures.

ENGINEERING MATHEMATICS AND COMPUTING (ENGG295)

Credits: 15 / Semester: whole session

Engineering Mathematics and Computing will provide fundamental understanding of mathematical techniques used to solve Mechanical and Aerospace Engineering problems, as well as the associated implementation of these techniques in Matlab. Successful completion of this module will provide students with basic skills to further develop existing and devise new solution methodologies in a variety of engineering applications. The module will expose essentials of numerical solution of nonlinear algebraic equations, matrix linear algebra techniques, discrete transforms, as well as elements of ordinary and partial differential equations. A series of classic engineering model problems, such as the mass-spring damper, 2D trajectory calculation, computation of boundary layer velocity profiles and calculation of Strouhal number in the wake of a cylinder or an airfoil will place the acquired knowledge in an engineering context relevant to the Syllabus on offer at the Mechanical and Aerospace Department.

Programme details and modules listed are illustrative only and subject to change.

YEAR THREE

During your third year you will undertake an individual project. This provides you with the opportunity to conduct independent research and/or develop innovative concepts in your preferred technical area of interest.

COMPULSORY MODULES

ADVANCED ENGINEERING MATERIALS (MATS301)

Credits: 7.5 / Semester: semester 1

This module aims to understand advanced engineering materials, focusing on non-ferrous alloys and composite materials. It covers the processing, heat treatment, microstructure and properties of Al, Ti and Ni alloys. It introduces constituent materials, manufacturing methods, test methods and mechanical response of composite materials.

ADVANCED MODERN MANAGEMENT (MNGT352)

Credits: 7.5 / Semester: semester 1

The Aims of this module are as follows:

To introduce the student to various aspects of advanced modern management.

To develop a knowledge and understanding of modern management tools.

To stimulate an appreciation of management and its importance in organisational success.

AERODYNAMICS (AERO306)

Credits: 7.5 / Semester: semester 1

To provide students with an understanding of aerodynamic theories including hierarchy of aerodynamic models, basics of boundary layer theory, potential flow theory, thin airfoil theory and the generation of lift, lifting line theory.

FLIGHT DYNAMICS AND CONTROL (AERO317)

Credits: 15 / Semester: whole session

The module introduces key techniques and concepts used in the analysis of the trim, stability, and dynamic response characteristics of conventional fixed-wing aircraft. It builds on the point-performance theory taught in year two, but whereas in the latter, point mass models suffice, it now becomes necessary formally to treat rigid-body motion in three dimensions; this is done by introducing angular momentum, rotating frames of reference, and the Newton-Euler equations.

Notions of trim and of static and dynamic stability are introduced using various simplified reduced degree-of-freedom models, axis systems, and state and control variables. The standard six degree-of-freedom (6-DOF) equations of motion of a rigid aeroplane are developed; it is shown how these can be solved numerically to enable accurate flight simulation, and how they can be linearized. The relationship between the linearizations and the aircraft's natural modes is studied. Also introduced are a several important feedback control design methods, useful for modifying and improving aircraft stability and control characteristics. These include the Root Locus, Bode and Nyquist based design methods, and gain and phase margins as design goals. PID control and compensator design are also presented. Also discussed are linear state-space methods.

AEROSTRUCTURES (AERO318)

Credits: 15 / Semester: whole session

Aerostructures for aerospace engineering

AEROSPACE ENGINEERING DESIGN 3 (AERO321)

Credits: 15 / Semester: whole session

Aircraft design is a complex process and requires knowledge and skills in a number of topics, e.g. aerodynamics, structures, materials, flight mechanics and control. Starting with a pre-completed customer brief, students on this course will build upon the methods of Year 2 Design course and proceed with an advanced Conceptual Design of the vehicle. This will include the use of analysis tools and the creation of a simple simulation model of the aircraft. The module will be taught largely in lecture format but is supported by pc-based laboratory support sessions.

COMPUTATIONAL FLUID DYNAMICS (ENGG319)

Credits: 7.5 / Semester: semester 2

Computational fluid dynamics tools have become ubiquitous in engineering practice to design trains, planes and automobiles, to analyse the fluid flow in power generation systems and in heating, ventilation and air conditioning, and many more applications. The module will provide students with the skills to use computational fluid dynamics tools with confidence with an understanding of the underlying theory and technology.

INDIVIDUAL PROJECT (ENGG341)

Credits: 30 / Semester: whole session

The Year 3 individual research project; 300 hours student work over 2 semesters; 3 assessment stages (proposal 5%, interim 20%, final 75%).

OPTIONAL MODULES

SPACEFLIGHT (AERO319)

Credits: 7.5 / Semester: semester 1

An introduction to the main concepts of space flight is provided, including principles of space propulsion, space launch vehicles and orbital mechanics of spacecraft.

ROTORCRAFT FLIGHT (AERO314)

Credits: 7.5 / Semester: semester 2

The module will introduce the common types of rotorcraft configuration, and will cover the basic theory of helicopter performance and flight dynamics. It will explain how rotorcraft behave in flight, and the roles of some of the main constituent components. The lectures will explain how basic physical and mathematical principles (e.g. fluid mechanics, dynamics, differential equations) can be applied to the analysis of helicopter flight. There is also some discussion of other rotary wing types such as the tilt-rotor and the autogyro.

AVIONIC SYSTEMS DESIGN (AERO350)

Credits: 7.5 / Semester: semester 2

Avionics includes pretty much all of the electrical sensors and systems that are present on modern aircraft. The aim of this module is to provide the opportunity for students to apply their knowledge and creative skills to design and evaluate a practical design solution to meet a given requirement and to further develop their team-working and presentation skills. The module includes 5 weeks lectures to review the fundamentals of avionic systems, and 5 week group project to study/design one of the following 3 avionic systems: i) Instrument Landing System (ILS) ii) Automated Direction Finding (ADF) iii) Distress Frequency Monitoring

RF ENGINEERING AND APPLIED ELECTROMAGNETICS (ELEC311)

Credits: 7.5 / Semester: semester 1

This module will introduce students to the fundamental concepts of high frequency electromagnetics, and circuit design techniques that must be considered in the design of high frequency circuits and systems.

Students will learn in-depth knowledge of transmission lines, the Smith Chart, standing waves and scattering parameters etc.

After this module, students will be able to appreciate the microwave and RF circuit design for contemporary communication systems.

INTRODUCTION TO FINITE ELEMENTS (ENGG302)

Credits: 7.5 / Semester: semester 1

In this module the students will gain a basic understanding of the Finite Element method and learn to use some Finite Element software. This software will then be used to analyse a variety of different problems which are relevant to both mechanical and civil engineers.

UNCERTAINTY, RELIABILITY AND RISK 1 (ENGG304)

Credits: 7.5 / Semester: semester 1

This module covers broad aspects of uncertainty quantification methods, reliability analysis and risk assessment in engineering applications. It also provides understanding of statistical analysis of engineering data and computational methods for dealing with uncertainty in engineering problems.

Programme details and modules listed are illustrative only and subject to change.

HOW YOU'LL LEARN

We are leading the UK's involvement in the international [Conceive-Design-Implement-Operate \(CDIO\)](#) initiative – an innovative educational framework for producing the next generation of engineers.

Our degree programmes encompass the development of a holistic, systems approach to engineering. Technical knowledge and skills are complemented by a sound appreciation of the life-cycle processes involved in engineering and an awareness of the ethical, safety, environmental, economic, and social considerations involved in practicing as a professional engineer.

You will be taught through a combination of face-to-face teaching in group lectures, laboratory sessions, tutorials, and seminars. Our programmes include a substantial practical component, with an increasing emphasis on project work as you progress through to the final year. You will be supported throughout by an individual academic adviser.

HOW YOU'RE ASSESSED

Assessment takes many forms, each appropriate to the learning outcomes of the particular module studied. The main modes of assessment are coursework and examination. Depending on the modules taken, you may encounter project work, presentations (individual and/or group), and specific tests or tasks focused on solidifying learning outcomes.

LIVERPOOL HALLMARKS

We have a distinctive approach to education, the Liverpool Curriculum Framework, which focuses on research-connected teaching, active learning, and authentic assessment to ensure our students graduate as digitally fluent and confident global citizens.

Careers and employability

As a graduate of aerospace engineering, you will be equipped with the skills to work in the development and maintenance of aircraft, satellites, and space vehicles.

Typical types of work our graduates have gone on include:

- Airline operators
- Armed forces,
- Government research agencies like the Ministry of Defence (MoD)

Recent employers of our graduates are from the following industries and companies:

- Engineering and Infrastructure: ABB Ltd, Bentley, Metronet Rail, Rolls Royce;
- Utilities: United Utilities;
- Defence and Military: BAE Systems, British Army, RAF (Royal Air Force), Royal Navy;
- Aviation: British Airways;
- Government organisations: National Nuclear Laboratory (Government-owned).

4 IN 5 OF OUR ENGINEERING STUDENTS FIND THEIR MAIN ACTIVITY AFTER GRADUATION MEANINGFUL.

Graduate Outcomes, 2018-19.

Fees and funding

Your tuition fees, funding your studies, and other costs to consider.

TUITION FEES

UK fees (applies to Channel Islands, Isle of Man and Republic of Ireland)	
Full-time place, per year	£9,250
Year in industry fee	£1,850
Year abroad fee	£1,385

International fees	
Full-time place, per year	£27,200
Year in industry fee	£1,850
Year abroad fee	£13,600

Fees shown are for the academic year 2024/25. Please note that the Year Abroad fee also applies to the Year in China.

Tuition fees cover the cost of your teaching and assessment, operating facilities such as libraries, IT equipment, and access to academic and personal support. [Learn more about paying for your studies.](#)

ADDITIONAL COSTS

We understand that budgeting for your time at university is important, and we want to make sure you understand any course-related costs that are not covered by your tuition fee. This includes the cost of flight training, an aircraft checklist, and a study pack. All safety equipment, other than boots, is provided free of charge by the department.

Find out more about the [additional study costs](#) that may apply to this course.

SCHOLARSHIPS AND BURSARIES

We offer a range of scholarships and bursaries to provide tuition fee discounts and help with living expenses while at university.

Check out our [Liverpool Bursary](#), worth up to £2,000 per year for eligible UK students. Or for international students, our [Undergraduate Global Advancement Scholarship](#) offers a tuition fee discount of up to £5,000 for eligible international students starting an undergraduate degree from September 2024.

[Discover our full range of undergraduate scholarships and bursaries](#)

Entry requirements

The qualifications and exam results you'll need to apply for this course.

Your qualification	Requirements About our typical entry requirements
A levels	<p>AAB including Mathematics and a second science.</p> <p>Applicants with the Extended Project Qualification (EPQ) are eligible for a reduction in grade requirements. For this course, the offer is ABB with A in the EPQ.</p> <p>You may automatically qualify for reduced entry requirements through our contextual offers scheme.</p> <p>If you don't meet the entry requirements, you may be able to complete a foundation year which would allow you to progress to this course.</p> <p>Available foundation years:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Engineering Foundation (4 year route including a Foundation Year at Carmel College) BEng (Hons)
GCSE	4/C in English and 4/C in Mathematics
Subject requirements	<p>Mathematics and a second science.</p> <p>Applicants following the modular Mathematics A Level must be studying A Level Physics or Further Mathematics as the second science (or must be studying at least one Mechanics module in their Mathematics A Level).</p> <p>Accepted Science subjects are Biology, Chemistry, Computing, Economics, Electronics, Environmental Science, Further Mathematics, Geography, Geology, Human Biology, Physics and Statistics.</p> <p>For applicants from England: For science A levels that include the separately graded practical endorsement, a "Pass" is required.</p>
BTEC Level 3 Subsidiary Diploma	Acceptable at grade Distinction* alongside BB in A Level

Your qualification	Requirements About our typical entry requirements
	Mathematics and a second science.
BTEC Level 3 Diploma	Distinction* Distinction* in relevant BTEC considered alongside A Level Mathematics grade B. Accepted BTECs include Aeronautical, Aerospace, Construction, Mechanical, Mechatronics and Engineering.
BTEC Level 3 National Extended Diploma	D*DD in acceptable BTEC, plus B in A level Maths (not accepted without B in A level Maths)
International Baccalaureate	35 overall including 5 in Higher Level Mathematics and 5 in Higher Level Physics.
Irish Leaving Certificate	H1,H1,H2,H2,H2,H3, including H2 in Higher Maths and Higher Second Science. We also require a minimum of H6 in Higher English or O3 in Ordinary English
Scottish Higher/Advanced Higher	Pass Scottish Advanced Highers with grades AAB including Mathematics and second science
Welsh Baccalaureate Advanced	Acceptable at grade B alongside AA in A Level Mathematics and a second science
Cambridge Pre-U Diploma	D3 in Cambridge Pre U Principal Subject is accepted as equivalent to A-Level grade A M2 in Cambridge Pre U Principal Subject is accepted as equivalent to A-Level grade B Global Perspectives and Short Courses are not accepted.
Access	Considered if taking a relevant subject. Check with Department or Admissions team.

Your qualification	Requirements About our typical entry requirements
International qualifications	<p>Many countries have a different education system to that of the UK, meaning your qualifications may not meet our entry requirements. Completing your Foundation Certificate, such as that offered by the University of Liverpool International College, means you're guaranteed a place on your chosen course.</p>

ALTERNATIVE ENTRY REQUIREMENTS

- If your qualification isn't listed here, or you're taking a combination of qualifications, [contact us](#) for advice
- [Applications from mature students](#) are welcome.

THE ORIGINAL

REDBRICK