The aviation meteorology program provides a background in meteorology, aeronautical science and the appropriate physical sciences. A student completing the program (with or without flight) meets the requirements of the U.S. Office of Personnel Management for employment by the federal government as a meteorologist. Graduates are prepared for careers with major airlines, corporate aviation and the FAA, as well as international organizations.

**Unbeatable Location**
Not only does sunny Melbourne offer 300+ days of flying weather annually—it’s also home to an international commercial airport.

**Tradition of Excellence**
Florida Tech’s College of Aeronautics has been consistently recognized for offering one of the best university-based aviation programs in the country.

**In Demand**
Aviation meteorology is the study of the atmosphere from a pilot’s or an air traffic controller’s perspective. It is among the College of Aeronautics’ most demanding programs.

**Why Aviation Meteorology at Florida Tech?**
Studying aviation at Florida Tech is a very personal experience. Your instructors on campus (and/or at the flight line) will know you as a person, not just a face in the classroom or a name in the grade book. In addition to most faculty being pilots, aviation meteorology faculty are also experts in at least one other area such as aviation law, safety, avionics or environmental science. Other faculty are experts in areas such as airport consulting, design and management; airline or general aviation management; as well as aviation human factors and air traffic control.

**Your First-Year Experience**
In your first year, you are immediately immersed in courses covering the basics of aviation and weather. All students must take the Private Pilot Ground School course and Aviation Weather. This applies to both flight and non-flight students. Everyone learns about the FAA, air traffic and the national airspace system, as well as the fundamentals of aircraft flight dynamics. Students may fly a desktop aircraft in our computer lab for any time they wish. Flight students get into the cockpit during their first week on campus.

**CLUBS AND ORGS**
- American Meteorology Society student chapter
- Women in Aviation International
- Falcons Intercollegiate Flight Team
- Air Traffic Control Club
Excellent Facilities

Our first-rate flight training facilities are located at Melbourne International Airport, with regular and free bus service to and from campus. FIT aviation has 52 aircraft, both Cessnas and Pipers, including five twin-engine Piper Seminoles and two new Level V Seminole FTDs. On campus, Florida Tech has a brand new Synoptic Meteorology lab on the third floor of the renovated Link building. The computers are equipped and have access to the suite of Unidata software (e.g., Integrated Data Viewer, NMAP2, GEMPAK). At capacity, the lab can host about 24 machines, an instructor workstation and an overhead projector. The synoptic lab is open to all meteorology students and is intended to serve as an additional classroom for meteorology computer-oriented instruction. Adjacent to this lab is an air monitoring lab, which features equipment that supplements an on-campus air quality monitor donated by the Florida Department of Environmental Protection. In addition, a second smaller space is dedicated to meteorological instrumentation including cup anemometers and vanes, data loggers, weather stations, etc.

Internships

Many aviation meteorology majors take internships over one or more summers. Just a few of these opportunities include working with airports and major and regional airlines, where students gain specialized experience in airline operations, and at some airlines and businesses, attend valuable development courses such as aircraft systems.

What’s Next?

Between expert instructors, real-world relevant internship opportunities, an engaged alumni network and an excellent Career Management Services office, aviation meteorology majors easily make critical contacts that help them get hired after graduation.

Aviation meteorology graduates can pursue a specialization in a number of weather and non-weather fields. Graduates may pursue a career in severe storm, hurricane forecasting or research, space weather, lightning, weather modification, climate research, flood and storm water mitigation, TV weather announcing, military weather support, support of the Bureau of Land Management, forest fire prediction and mitigation studies, just to name a few. Graduates who complete the ATC concentration are recommended to the FAA for hire as an Air Traffic Controller.

Graduate Studies

Aviation meteorology graduates may also choose to pursue advanced degrees in fields ranging from meteorology to flight safety to human factors. With the strong math and physics background that is essential to the meteorology degree, the graduate is qualified to pursue an advanced degree in a wide range of careers.

Air Traffic Control

Aviation meteorology students may opt to specialize in air traffic control so they can graduate ready to apply to the challenging FAA Academy.

High-Tech Fleet

Flight students have access to a diverse fleet of 50+ top notch aircraft. Future pilots earn their wings in high-tech “glass cockpit” or digital instrumentation aircraft.

Research Opportunities

Many undergraduate students can pursue their own research interests in the senior research course. Topics have included:

- forecast analysis
- forecast development techniques
- hurricane forecasting
- hurricane verification and analysis

What’s Next?

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Department Contact

College of Aeronautics
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http://coa.fit.edu

Florida Tech is accredited by the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Commission on Colleges to award associate, baccalaureate, master’s, education specialist and doctoral degrees. Contact the Commission on Colleges at 1866 Southern Lane, Decatur, Georgia 30033-4097 or call 404-679-4500 for questions about the accreditation of Florida Tech. Florida Tech does not discriminate on the basis of race, gender, color, religion, creed, national origin, ancestry, marital status, age, disability, sexual orientation, Vietnam-era veterans status or any other discrimination prohibited by law in the admission of students, administration of its educational policies, scholarship and loan programs, employment policies, and athletic or other university sponsored programs or activities.
College of Aeronautics

AIR TRAFFIC CONTROL PROGRAM

The Florida Tech College of Aeronautics offers an Air Traffic Control (ATC) specialization in conjunction with all of its seven bachelor’s degree programs. The ATC specialization meets the requirements of the Federal Aviation Administration’s (FAA) Air Traffic-Collegiate Training Initiative (AT-CTI) program and is FAA approved.

Graduates of the AT-CTI program are eligible to bypass the Air Traffic Basics Course, which is usually covered during the first five weeks of qualification training at the FAA Academy in Oklahoma City. Academy training consists of option-specific (terminal or en route) initial training. Students must successfully complete all required training at the FAA Academy to continue employment with FAA.

To achieve an ATC specialization in conjunction with a bachelor’s of Science degree, seven named courses (21 credit hours) must be completed either as required courses within a degree or as electives or as a combination of required and elective courses. The seven named courses are:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course Code</th>
<th>Course Title</th>
<th>Credits</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>AVT 1101</td>
<td>Aeronautics 1</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AVS 1201</td>
<td>Aviation Meteorology</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AVS 2101</td>
<td>Aerodynamics</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AVT 2001 or AVT 2201</td>
<td>Aeronautics 3</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AVT 3203</td>
<td>Air Traffic Control 1</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AVT 4301</td>
<td>Aviation Safety</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AVT 4302</td>
<td>Air Traffic Control 2</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

21 credit hours

What must I do become an air traffic controller?

• Graduate from an FAA approved AT-CTI program
• Receive an official school recommendation
• Be a United States citizen
• In most cases, be under 31 years old
• Pass a medical examination
• Pass a security investigation
• Achieve a score of at least 70 on the FAA pre-employment test
• Speak English clearly enough for others to understand you on communications equipment
• Complete an interview

For Florida Tech College of Aeronautics AT-CTI information, contact:

Dr. Donna Wilt or Nick Galli:
dwilt@fit.edu ngalli@fit.edu
(321) 674-8120 (321) 674-7369

For Florida Tech admission information, please go to: www.fit.edu/prospective.