

SPRING 2019

JOU4930 • DRONE JOURNALISM

Special Study in Journalism – Drone Journalism, Class #16455

CLASS MEETINGS

LECTURE Tuesday 3:00 – 3:50 p.m. in 0105 Ustler Hall

INSTRUCTOR

Richard Shaw — richardshaw@ufl.edu

Contact via University of Florida email (above) only. I work from my home office and do not have a campus office. I have available time to meet by appointment on Mondays and Tuesdays.

OVERVIEW

This class is a non-technical setting in which students from various disciplines within CJC may apply the “expert knowledge” of their individual emphasis areas, whether that be in communications, journalism or other fields. This experiential-learning course introduces students to the issues, applications and flight maneuvers of an evolving and promising technology: small, unmanned aircraft systems (UAS), also known as “drones” or UAV (unmanned aerial vehicles). The course is designed for those who are interested in learning to fly an UAS and how to apply them as a storytelling tool. It is not geared for engineering or training students in how to build and program drones, or design new equipment for drones. This course recognizes the evolving market of off-the-shelf drone technology, without hardware development or software configurations.

COURSE GOALS

- Basics aircraft components of professional-grade UAS radio-controlled systems.
- Overview of aerial applications across a variety of disciplines, specifically including communications such as journalism, public relations, film, advertising and advocacy public-service.
- FAA regulatory and legal environment, plus safety procedures and ethical issues.
- In-depth concepts of airborne videography and photography and maneuvering techniques.
- Hands-on lab flight experience beginning with basic maneuvers through skilled levels.

CANVAS PLATFORM

Canvas will be our central hub for the semester. I will use the site to post readings and quizzes.

TEXTBOOK

Gleim Aviation, ‘Remote Pilot FAA Knowledge Test Prep,’ 2nd Edition,
ISBN 978-1-61854-191-8, website www.gleimaviation.com (discounted for UF students)

ASSIGNMENTS POINTS

- Quizzes on readings (4) = 200 points (50 points for each quiz. 10 questions on each quiz.)
- Attendance / participation = 200 points

- Flight lab enthusiasm, readiness, effort, spirit = 500 points
- Drone video critique = 100 points

Class attendance and participation = 200 points

Two absences are waived as a courtesy during the semester. No explanation necessary. Of the 16 weeks, there are 14 total class sessions. Points are accumulated for 12 sessions, each worth about 17 points towards the 200 possible participation points.

Flight Labs Individual hands-on flight training, 20-minute sessions, arranged on Thursdays from 2 - 4 p.m. at Hume Field. Sign-ups and additional information to come.

No Final Exam The Drone Video Critique serves as the final assignment.

FINAL GRADING SCALE

A	1000 - 940	A-	939 - 900		
B+	899 - 870	B	869 - 830	B-	829 - 800
C+	799 - 770	C	769 - 730	C-	729 - 700
D+	699 - 670	D	669 - 630	D-	629 - 600

UF POLICIES

Honesty: All students are required to adhere to the University of Florida Honor Code. Plagiarism, such as turning in or altering the work of others, will result in a final grade of F. There is a huge difference between inspiration and blatant copying of someone’s work. Students must know and strictly abide by all applicable laws (air space, privacy, etc.), FAA regulations and UF policies..

On all work submitted for credit by students at the University of Florida, the following pledge is either required or implied:

“On my honor, I have neither given nor received unauthorized aid in doing this assignment.”

STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES

Students requesting special classroom needs must first register with the Dean of Students Office, which will provide documentation to the student, who must then provide the documentation to instructor.

COURSE SCHEDULE

Week 1 • January 8

Lecture: Class overview & syllabus
 Components of Unmanned Aircraft Systems (UAS)
 Basic flight training maneuvers
 Readings: UF Drone Policy
 Flight Labs: none

Week 2 • January 15

Lecture: Examples of drone use in

journalism and communications

Guest speaker: John Rouse
 Flight Labs: Sign up schedule

Week 3 • January 22

Quiz: UF Drone Policy
 Lecture: FAA Part 107 Overview
 Readings: Regulations
 Flight Labs: Team Apollo

Week 4 • January 29

Lecture: FAA Part 107 Regulations
 Readings: Airspace
 Flight Labs: Team Zenith

Week 5 • February 5

Lecture: FAA Part 107 Airspace
 Readings: Decision-Making and Emergencies
 Flight Labs: Team Apollo

Week 6 • February 12

Lecture: FAA Part 107 Decision-Making and Emergencies
Flight Labs: Team Zenith

Week 7 • February 19

Quiz: FAA Part 107
Lecture: The Drone's Eye: Cameras for Airborne Video and Photography
Flight Labs: Team Apollo

Week 8 • February 26

Lecture: Basics of Airborne Videography, Part 1
Assigned: Drone Video Critique

Flight Labs: Team Zenith

Week 9 • March 5

Spring Break — no class!

Week 10 • March 12

Lecture: Basics of Airborne Videography, Part 2
Drone Video Critique: 1, 2 and 3
Readings: Laws & Ethics
Flight Labs: Team Apollo

Week 11 • March 19

Lecture: Laws and Ethics: Trespassing and privacy issues
Drone Video Critique: 4, 5 and 6

Flight Labs: Team Zenith

Week 12 • March 26

Lecture: Laws and Ethics: Ethics and dealing with local authorities
Drone Video: 7, 8 and 9
Flight Labs: Team Apollo Wings

Week 13 • April 2

Quiz: Trespassing, privacy & ethics
Drone Video Critique: 10, 11, 12
Flight Labs: Team Zenith Wings

Week 14 • April 9

Final class - It's a wrap