

## Fall/Winter 2021 Course Syllabus

### **MOS 4409G Section –001** **Aviation Safety** In-Person

Instructor: Dr. Jonathan Histon  
Office: Social Science 4160  
Office Hours: To be announced in class  
Email: [jhiston@uwo.ca](mailto:jhiston@uwo.ca)

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#### **1. Course Information:**

**1.1 Class Location and Time:**  
UCC-60, Wednesday

**1.2 Course Description:**

This course focuses on the science of pilot performance, aviation safety, risk management and aviation security. Information will be drawn from human physiology, basic learning theory, accident statistics, security threats, and pilot training. A focal point will be on understanding the nature and causation of accidents.

Antirequisite(s): None

Prerequisite(s): MOS 1022F/G and enrolment in 4th year of the Commercial Aviation Management module of BMOS or Geography and Commercial Aviation Management module.

**1.3 Accessibility:**

DAN Department of Management & Organizational Studies strives at all times to provide accessibility to all faculty, staff, students and visitors in a way that respects the dignity and independence of people with disabilities. Please contact the course instructor if you require material in an alternate format or if you require any other arrangements to make this course more accessible to you. You may also wish to contact Services for Students with Disabilities (SSD) at 519-661-2147 for any specific question regarding an accommodation.

More information about "Accessibility at Western" is available at: <http://accessibility.uwo.ca>

**1.4 Land Acknowledgement:**

We acknowledge that Western University is located on the traditional lands of the Anishinaabek, Haudenosaunee, Lūnaapéewak and Attawandaron peoples, on lands connected with the London Township and Sombra Treaties of 1796 and the Dish with One Spoon Covenant Wampum.

With this, we respect the longstanding relationships that Indigenous Nations have to this land, as they are the original caretakers. We acknowledge historical and ongoing injustices that Indigenous Peoples (e.g. First Nations, Métis and Inuit) endure in Canada, and we accept responsibility as a public institution to contribute toward revealing and correcting miseducation as well as renewing

respectful relationships with Indigenous communities through our teaching, research and community service.

<https://indigenous.uwo.ca/initiatives/docs/indigenous-land-acknowledgment.pdf>

## 1.5 Senate Regulations

Senate Regulations state, “unless you have either the requisites for this course or written special permission from your Dean to enroll in it, you will be removed from this course and it will be deleted from your record. This decision may not be appealed. You will receive no adjustment to your fees in the event that you are dropped from a course for failing to have the necessary prerequisites.”

This regulation is in regard to the COURSES required.

**Students not in BMOS are permitted to enroll in up to 1.0 MOS courses**, per the Academic Timetable.

## 2. Course Materials

Readings: No assigned textbook. Readings will be made available via OWL.

Course Website: Instructional and reference material will be posted, or linked, on the course website. You can log onto the course website by visiting [webct.uwo.ca](http://webct.uwo.ca) with a valid student number and password.

## 3. Course Objectives and Format

The DAN Department of Management and Organizational Studies as a whole draws upon an evidence-based management approach. Evidence-based management is the systematic process of gathering evidence from multiple sources, critically appraising the evidence, and using that evidence in making and evaluating management decisions to improve organizational performance.

### 3.1 Course objectives

This course will focus on the science of pilot performance and the organizational approach to aviation safety often called safety management systems or SMS. Information will be drawn from areas such as human physiology, accident statistics and pilot training. A large portion of the course will be based on the study of aviation accident reports. Students will develop an understanding of the nature and causation of accidents.

This course will also develop a deepened student understanding of the values and mindset required for a strong culture of safety to exist within an organization.

The specific objects are for students to

1. Become aware of the organizational approach to safety, SMS.
2. Be able to critically analyze, discuss, and make presentations of aviation safety issues and/or accidents.

### 3.2 Course format

The course will be organized as a combination of lecture, group discussion, group activities, and student presentations.

The course is scheduled to be in-person. An attempt will be made to provide for a synchronous Zoom option so those feeling sick or unable to attend in person a particular week can still have access but this should be considered as an

## 4. Evaluation

**I Interactivity (20%):** A crucial element of this course is the sharing of ideas and opinions. Since each of us brings a unique background of experiences, much can be learned from class debate and discussion. However, attendance, while expected, is not the core determiner of this mark. Your interactivity grade will be dependent on your involvement in class discussions and activities, questioning of student

presentations, attendance, and random (unannounced) in-class or OWL-based quizzes on readings/lecture material (may account for up to 10% of term grade, or half the interactivity portion of your term grade).

**Important Information Re: Absences:** All absences will impact your participation grade. Any absences that occur during the final three classes, or on student presentation dates, will subtract up to 10% of your interactivity grade each time as class involvement during these presentations is very important. For medical absences, refer to the policy on accommodation for medical illness (<https://studentservices.uwo.ca/secure/index.cfm>). If you have a valid excuse for an absence you must inform the instructor **before the intended date**. It is the instructor's discretion whether or not to excuse an absence.

**II Assignments (20%)** Assignments will be used as checkpoints for mastery of course material throughout the term. Assignments will cover all information in the course, including readings, lectures, videos, examples, guest speakers etc. therefore, it is crucial that you take good notes throughout the term. Formats may include multiple choice, fill-in-the-blanks, short answer, and/or essay questions.

**III Case Study Activity (20%):** You will get the chance to analyze a case/report and partake in a activity sharing findings with the class. You will work in small groups to complete this assignment. The goal of the assignment is to offer an opportunity to practice applying analysis and communication skills as well as to become highly familiar with a particular case/report. Additional details will be provided in class.

**IV Research Project / Final Paper (40%):** The research project is a final paper reflection exercise. It is an individual effort designed to give each student the opportunity to delve into an aviation safety topic of personal interest or relevance. The basic format of this project is a report documenting your internalization of key concepts from the course and how they are applied. There will be more details about this in class.

Note that independent of your score given by the above grade composition, passing this course requires:

- a passing mark on the final submission of the term project (IV)
- AND passing marks on 2 of the 3 individual components (I, II, IV)

#### **Important Notes:**

Students are responsible for material covered in the lectures as well as the assigned chapters/sections in any course readings.

*Course readings:* It is expected that all students will have completed their assigned course readings before attending each lecture. This is important as it provides an enhanced understanding of the course material and students will be prepared to ask questions in class.

*Course assignments and late policy:* Assignments are due at the assigned time, which may be at the beginning of the class period. Students who turn in their assignment after deadline will be subject to a minimum 15% late penalty. Additional late penalties will be incurred for each 24 hour period that the assignment is late, as specified in each assignment description. Unless arrangements are made at least 24 hours prior to a due date, there will be no exceptions to this policy. Students are expected to arrange their time so they are robust to the known challenges associated with completing assignments (power outages, network difficulties, etc...)

Students are responsible for material covered in the lectures as well as the assigned chapters/sections in the text. Exams will not be returned to students but may be reviewed by contacting your Instructor.

Students are **REQUIRED TO COMPLETE ALL COMPONENTS** of this course. There are no exceptions to this. Extra assignments to improve grades **will NOT** be allowed.

**Grades will not be adjusted on the basis of need. It is important to monitor your performance in the course. Remember: *You* are responsible for your grades in this course.**

The DAN Department has a grade policy which states that for courses in the 3000-4000 range, the class average must fall between 70% and 77% for all sections of a course taught by the same instructor. In very exceptional circumstances only, class averages outside this range may be approved by the Undergraduate Chair or Chair. Class averages are not grounds for appeal.

## 5. Lecture and Examination Schedule

See Schedule on OWL

## 6. Student Responsibilities

Students should familiarize themselves with Western University Senate Regulations, please see: [http://www.uwo.ca/univsec/academic\\_policies/index.html](http://www.uwo.ca/univsec/academic_policies/index.html).

Material covered in lectures will not always be the same as material covered in the textbook. These two sources should be viewed as complimentary and not redundant. As such, students who want to do well in this course are **strongly encouraged** to attend lectures on a regular basis. Please note that the instructor will not be providing copies of lectures notes or overheads. Therefore, if you miss a lecture, you should try to obtain this material from another student.

### 6.1 Respect

Please act respectfully towards the classroom, the Professor and your fellow students. Acting respectfully means arriving on time, turning off phones, avoiding private discussions during lectures, refraining from viewing non-course material on your laptops, and cleaning up after yourself. Acting respectfully provides a better learning experience for everyone.

Private in-class discussions are distracting to students and the Professor. If other students are distracting your attention from the material, you should ask them to be quiet. If you feel uncomfortable doing this (or the problem persists), please see the instructor.

Late arrivals are also distracting. Please try to arrive on time for classes.

### 6.2 No Recording of Classes

Students are not permitted to record any portion of a class, audio or video, without the prior written permission of the professor.

### 6.3 Copyright Notice

Lectures and course materials, including power point presentations, outlines, and similar materials, are protected by copyright. You may take notes and make copies of course materials for your own educational use. You may **not** record lectures, reproduce (or allow others to reproduce), post or distribute lecture notes, wiki material, and other course materials publicly and/or for commercial purposes without my written consent.

## 7. E-mail Policies

The following policies apply to all emails between students and the Professor. Please respect the fact that the Professor receives hundreds of emails from students and must deal with those emails in a fair and organized manner. Unacceptable emails will receive a reply saying only "Please see Email Policies on the course outline".

### 7.1 UWO.CA Email Addresses Only

For privacy reasons, students must use their Western email accounts to contact the Professor. The Professor will not respond to emails from non-uwo.ca addresses (e.g. hotmail.com, gmail.com, etc.).

## 7.2 Subject Line Must Include Course and Section Number

The subject line of emails must contain the name or number of the course, and the section number in which the student is enrolled. The Professor teaches different courses and sections and cannot properly respond to questions if he does not know which course or section you are enrolled in.

## 7.3 Acceptable Emails

- questions about the course content or materials
- asking to set up an appointment to ask questions or review an exam
- notification of illness or other special circumstances
- providing constructive comments or feedback about the course

## 7.4 Unacceptable Emails

- questions that may be answered on OWL or on this course outline
- asking when grades will be posted
- asking what grade a student received
- asking where or when an exam is scheduled or the material covered on an exam
- requests for grade increases, extra assignments, or reweighting of course components

# 8. Attendance

It is expected that students will attend all classes in person. The professor does not guarantee access to lecture notes. Students are encouraged to obtain missed lecture notes from a fellow student.

## 8.1 Short Absences.

If you miss a class due to minor illness or other problems, check your course outlines for information regarding attendance requirements and make sure you are not missing a test or exam. Cover any readings and arrange to borrow the missed lectures notes from a classmate.

## 8.2 Extended Absences.

If you are absent more than approximately two weeks or if you get too far behind to catch up, you should consider reducing your workload by dropping one or more courses. The [Academic Counsellors](#) can help you to consider the alternatives. At your request, they can also keep your instructors informed about your difficulties.

# 9. Grade Fairness

Fairness requires that all students be treated equally and be evaluated using the criteria set out in this course outline. The evaluation criteria are based on actual achievement and not on how hard a student has tried.

Claims by students of an excellent academic history, good attendance record, need to obtain or maintain a scholarship, desire to be admitted to Ivey or graduate school, or other personal issues, cannot be used to justify a higher grade in the course or a reweighting of course components. There is no extra work or assignments available for extra credit or to “make up” for a course component that was missed or performed poorly.

# 10. Posting of Grades

Final course grades are not posted on OWL and are available once they have been posted by the Registrar under “Academic Summary” at the [Student Centre](#) website.

## 11. University Policy Regarding Illness

### 11.1 Illness

For details on the Academic Consideration for Student Absences (including accommodation, illness and self-reported absences (SRAs)), go to:

[https://www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic\\_policies/appeals/accommodation\\_illness.pdf](https://www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic_policies/appeals/accommodation_illness.pdf)

The current Illness Policy is available here (subject to change):

[https://dan.uwo.ca/undergraduate/course\\_information/IllnessPolicy.pdf](https://dan.uwo.ca/undergraduate/course_information/IllnessPolicy.pdf)

## 12. University Policy on Cheating and Academic Misconduct

Students are responsible for understanding the nature of and avoiding the occurrence of plagiarism and other academic offenses. Students are urged to read the section on Scholastic Offenses in the Academic Calendar. Note that such offenses include plagiarism, cheating on an examination, submitting false or fraudulent assignments or credentials, impersonating a candidate, or submitting for credit in any course without the knowledge and approval of the instructor to whom it is submitted, any academic work for which credit has previously been obtained or is being sought in another course in the University or elsewhere. If you are in doubt about whether what you are doing is inappropriate, consult your instructor. A claim that "you didn't know it was wrong" will not be accepted as an excuse.

A copy of guidelines about how to avoid cheating can be obtained from the Office of the Ombudsperson, Room 3135 WSSB, (519) 661-3573, [ombuds@uwo.ca](mailto:ombuds@uwo.ca).

Cheating on exams will not be tolerated; students are referred to the university policy on scholastic offenses. Looking at the test of another student, allowing another student to view your exam, or obtaining information about a test in advance are all examples of cheating.

Students found cheating will receive a zero (0%) on that exam. A number of safeguards will be employed to discourage cheating. For example, examination supervisors (proctors) of the tests may ask students to move to another seat during the exam, cover their paper, avert their eyes from other students' papers, remove baseball caps, etc. This is not meant as a personal affront nor as an accusation of cheating, rather as vigilant attempts at proctoring.

The penalties for a student guilty of a scholastic offense include refusal of a passing grade in the assignment, refusal of a passing grade in the course, suspension from the University, and expulsion from the University.

## 13. Procedures For Appealing Academic Evaluations

1. In the first instance, all appeals of a grade must be made to the course instructor (informal consultation).
2. If the student is not satisfied with the decision of the course instructor, a written appeal must be sent to the Undergraduate Chair: Student Affairs of the Department of Management and Organizational Studies.
3. If the response of the Undergraduate Chair is considered unsatisfactory to the student, he/she may then appeal to the Dean of the Faculty in which the course of program was taken.
4. Only after receiving a final decision from the Dean may a student appeal to the Senate Review Board Academic. A Guide to Appeals is available from the Office of the Ombudsperson.

## 14. Support Services

### 14.1 Support Services

The Registrar's office provides you with information on services, courses, student finances, resources, latest news, as well as Student Central's hours of operation at <http://www.registrar.uwo.ca>

Student Support Services (***including the services provided by the USC listed here***) can be reached at: <http://westernusc.ca/your-services/>

Academic Support & Engagement can be reached at: <http://academicsupport.uwo.ca>

Students who are in emotional/mental distress should refer to Health and Wellness: <https://www.uwo.ca/health/> for a complete list of options about how to obtain help.

### 14.2 Academic Concerns.

If you are in academic difficulty, it is strongly recommended that you see your [academic counsellor](#).