Warren County Community College

UAS 202 Introduction to Digital Photography

Course Master Syllabus

Course Information

Catalog Description: This course is an introduction to using drones for spatial data development and digital imaging and is designed to provide the student with an appreciation for photographic images that are taken from drones. This course also provides students with the ability to photograph both stills and videos from drones. Emphasis is placed on safety, equipment selection, flying, and using drones for commercial purposes. This course provides a basic overview of remote sensing and helps students develop an appreciation of the principles of black/white and color photography. The course highlights the importance and different aspects of aerial photography and videography, aerial ground control and land mapping, visual image interpretation, thermal radiation principles associated with thermal sensing, and digital image processing and classification. Students will use a camera equipped drone to capture still and video imagery and will use Adobe Photoshop and related tools to process and enhance captured imagery. The course provides insight into the use of drones in multiple disciplines and careers.

Prerequisite(s):

Corequisite(s):

Credits: 3

Hours: 3

Required Text(s):

- Shelly, G. B., & Starks, J. L. (2009). *Adobe Photoshop CS4: Comprehensive concepts and techniques* (1st ed.). Cengage Unlimited. ISBN: 13: 978-1-4390-7927-0
- Campbell, J.B., & Wynne, R.H. (2011). *Introduction to remote sensing* (5th ed.). The Guilford Press. ISBN: 13: 978-1609181765

Supplemental Materials:

Instructor Information

Instructor's Name:

Contact Information:

Office Hours:

Program Goals

1. Equip students with comprehensive knowledge of unmanned systems, including their standards, regulations, and operational frameworks, preparing them for FAA Part 107 certification and other regulatory requirements.
2. Develop proficiency in using geographic information systems (GIS) and remote sensing technologies, enabling students to analyze and interpret spatial data for applications in environmental monitoring, urban planning, and emergency response.
3. Foster a strong understanding of safety protocols, risk management strategies, and security measures in unmanned aviation to ensure compliance with industry standards and promote operational excellence.
4. Provide hands-on training in maintaining, repairing, and optimizing unmanned aircraft systems (UAS) to extend operational life and enhance performance in various industry settings.
5. Introduce students to advanced robotics, programming, and cutting-edge technologies, including infrared thermography and digital photography, to expand their expertise in innovative applications of unmanned systems.
6. Equip students with the skills and knowledge to contribute to the development and operation of innovative unmanned aerial transportation systems, addressing future urban and regional mobility challenges.

Class Core Competencies

The following core competencies are embedded in this curriculum:

- Communicate effectively in both speech and writing.
- Apply appropriate mathematical and statistical concepts and operations to interpret data to solve problems.
- Use scientific method of inquiry, through the acquisition of scientific knowledge.
- Use computer systems or other appropriate forms of technology to achieve educational and personal goals.
- Address an information need by locating, evaluating, and effectively using information.

Class Learning Assessment

Student Learning Outcomes	Suggested Means of Assessment
Develop an appreciation for the principles of black/white and color aerial photography and videography.	Research paper
Utilize principles of black and white and color aerial photography and videography.	Practical image assignment
Demonstrate operational understanding of advanced remote sensing systems including infrared, multi-spectral, and hyper-spectral sensors and their associated platforms.	Test, image assignment
Describe the industry standards and develop an appreciation for quality assurance and quality control of imagery and elevation data products.	Research paper
Understand the needs of business and industry in digital image product development of commercial quality.	Test, final project

Grading System

Letter Grade	Percentage Range
A	90 to 100 percent
B Plus (B+)	87 to 89.9 percent
B	80 to 86.9 percent
C Plus (C+)	77 to 79.9 percent
C	70 to 76.9 percent
D	60 to 69.9 percent
F	Below 60 percent

College Information

Disability Services

Disability Services Webpage

Statement and Policy on Cheating, Plagiarism, and Academic Conduct
Academic Conduct Policy (Policy 304) [PDF]

Students are required to perform all the work specified by the instructor and are responsible for the content and integrity of all academic work submitted. A violation of academic integrity will occur if a student: (1) knowingly represents work of others as one's own, (2) uses or obtains unauthorized assistance in any academic work, (3) gives fraudulent assistance to another student, or (4) furnishes false information or other misuse of college documents.

Unauthorized use of Artificial Intelligence (AI) is prohibited unless the instructor explicitly permits it in the syllabus or assignments. If tools such as ChatGPT are permitted by an instructor to be used for an assignment, they should be used with caution and with proper citation. In all such cases, you may only use the specific tools identified as acceptable and you must adhere to the College's standards for attribution, validation, and transparency.

In cases of suspected violation of academic integrity, the incident is to be reported to the Office of Academics. A student found guilty of violating the rule of academic integrity by the Vice President of Academics will be considered to have failed in personal obligation to the College; such failure will be subject to disciplinary action by the College. Unless otherwise notified, the instructor will allow students who are pending disciplinary action to attend class.

Tutoring and Testing at the Instructional Support Center (ISC)

- Instructional Support Center (ISC) Webpage

WCCC Library Services

- WCCC Library Website

Citation Styles and Formatting

Work submitted for any Warren County Community College course must conform to the required formatting and citation style that are specified by the instructor. The Library and Instructional Support Center can assist students with formatting and citations for assignments and papers.

WCCC Attendance Expectations

The College expects students to attend and participate in all classes. This involves sharing discussions and lectures in class, as well as interacting with other students. Grades are based on the quality of work students complete in meeting the requirements for a particular course, as stated in the course syllabus and catalog description. Attendance, among other factors, may be an additional criterion for assigning grades. Students should realize that they are responsible for all class meetings and that work missed because of absences may affect their grades. Attendance in online classes is determined by the completion of assignments/ tests. Students who have not completed any assignments or tests will be considered non-attending and receive an NF grade in online classes.

Class Attendance Expectations

Topical Outline

1. Safely operate common Unmanned Aerial Systems (UAS) (drones).
2. Capture still and video images from a UAS.
3. Describe the basic principles of image and elevation data acquisition;
4. Summarize the basic operational characteristics of commercial imaging systems;
5. Critically assess the strengths and weaknesses of optical imaging instruments and platforms for a broad range of application scenarios;
6. Perform simple image enhancement, image interpretation, and automated analysis using digital optical imagery;
7. Describe the qualitative methods and industry standards for quality assurance and quality control of imagery and elevation data products;
8. Create a digital image product of commercial quality.
9. Create maps containing location data from imagery

Grading Methods

Assignment	Points/Percentage

Assignment	Points/Percentage

Class Itinerary

Week / Unit	Topic	Readings/Assignments