Aerospace engineering is primarily concerned with the design and analysis of aircraft and spacecraft. Subfields include aerodynamics, structures, controls and propulsion systems. Students who choose to study aerospace engineering at Florida Tech may expect a dynamic experience that includes mentorship by expert faculty, access to high-tech tools and resources and the opportunity to work on revolutionary research projects.

Why Aerospace Engineering at Florida Tech?

There is perhaps no place in the country or in the world better than Florida Tech when it comes to the study of aerospace engineering. Being in Melbourne, Fla., puts us in the heart of America’s Space Coast and a short distance from the Kennedy Space Center—the world’s premier gateway to space exploration—as well as a multitude of high-tech aerospace companies. At Florida Tech, aerospace engineering professors are engaged in cutting-edge research and passionate about teaching. As a result, our students participate in projects that put them at the forefront of innovation in aerospace engineering.

Your First-Year Experience

At some colleges and universities, aerospace engineering students do not get to see, analyze or design an airplane or spacecraft until their third or fourth year. At Florida Tech, students are thrust into the design mix right away. As a new college student, your first-year aerospace engineering courses will show you what the field is all about. They will ask you to apply the math and physics you are learning in other classes to solve basic, but interesting, problems in aerospace engineering. During your first year, you can also expect to learn basic machining, use software to model and analyze real aerospace parts and systems, and design, build and test your own model airplane or rocket.

QUICK FACTS

- The Bachelor of Science degree in Aerospace Engineering is accredited by the Engineering Accreditation Commission of ABET, www.abet.org.
- A four-course nuclear technology curriculum is available to juniors and seniors in the program.
- Florida Tech is a partner in the Federal Aviation Administration’s Center of Excellence for Commercial Space Transportation.
- High achieving students may become members of Tau Beta Pi, a national engineering honor society.
Aerospace engineering focuses on systems that fly in the atmosphere and through space. Students learn to design better, safer and more fuel-efficient aircraft, spacecraft and rockets.

**What to Expect**

Aerospace engineering is a demanding major that features many challenging courses and projects. It is also dynamic, exciting and fun! Students work together in both small and large teams to tackle compelling, relevant problems using state-of-the-art engineering tools and laboratory equipment.

**Specialized Labs**

Aerospace engineering students learn in laboratories for energy research, fluid mechanics and aerodynamics, combustion and propulsion, metallurgy and solid mechanics, system dynamics and control, instrumentation and applied laser research, computer-aided design, and computational research.

**Faculty Research Areas**

Aerospace engineering faculty conduct research in diverse areas of interest, some of which include:
- rocket propulsion and combustion
- crashworthy aerospace vehicle design
- aerospace systems and control
- fluid mechanics
- wind tunnel testing and experimentation
- design and control of robotic manipulators
- high-speed aerodynamics
- advanced computer tools
- microgravity experiments

**Careers**

Students who graduate with a degree in aerospace engineering are likely to find careers developing new technologies for use in aviation, defense systems and space exploration. Graduates of Florida Tech’s aerospace engineering program have gone on to work for:
- NASA
- Boeing
- Lockheed Martin
- Northrop Grumman
- Harris
- Pratt & Whitney
- Revolutionary Research
- SpaceX

**Graduate Study**

Graduates of the aerospace engineering program at Florida Tech are prepared to pursue advanced degrees in aerospace engineering and related fields and have gone on to study at graduate schools such as:
- Massachusetts Institute of Technology
- California Institute of Technology
- Stanford University
- Georgia Institute of Technology
- Princeton University
- Purdue University

**Outstanding Faculty**

Three aerospace engineering professors are American Institute of Aeronautics and Astronautics (AIAA) Associate Fellows. Another two are Boeing Welliver Faculty Fellows.

**Revolutionary Research**

Aerospace faculty have won numerous prestigious research grants from NASA, the Air Force, the Navy and the National Science Foundation. They frequently present their research at leading national and international technical conferences.

**Senior Design**

As seniors, all engineering students complete a capstone project that challenges them to design, develop, prototype and present a complex engineering system.

**Human Touch**

Our small student-to-faculty ratio means that students get lots of face-time with professors and often work closely with them in the laboratory on innovative research projects.

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Aerospace Engineering

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