

EMBRY-RIDDLE

Aeronautical University

HUMN 430 - Ethics in Aviation Course Syllabus Worldwide 2024-August

Course Information

Credit Hours: 3

Delivery Method: Eagle Vision Blended (Zoom/Canvas)

Instructor Information:

Name: Donna Roberts, PhD

Email: donna.roberts@erau.edu

Office Hours: before and after class or by appointment

Required Course Materials

Title: Required reading materials are provided free of charge in your course.

Catalog Course Description

Aviation ethics, integrating classical ethical theories with real-world applications specific to the aviation industry. Safety, security, engineering, air traffic management, environmental concerns, business practices, emerging technologies, through the lens of ethical theories such as Utilitarianism, Deontology, and Virtue Ethics. How ethics shape and are shaped by the aviation world. Future ethical challenges in aviation.

Prerequisite(s): None

Course Goals

This course is designed to equip students with a solid grounding in major ethical theories and principles and provide an understanding of their relevance and application within the aviation industry and to cultivate the skills necessary for critically analyzing ethical dilemmas, situations, and decisions in various areas of the aviation field, employing relevant ethical theories for informed assessment. Using real-world scenarios, students will apply ethical theories, enabling them to derive ethical solutions to complex aviation issues. Additionally, the course will prepare students for emerging ethical challenges in the ever-evolving field of aviation, allowing them to preemptively address and consider solutions to ethical issues that may arise with advancements in technology and industry practices.

Student Learning Outcomes

1. Identify key principles of major ethical theories, including Utilitarianism, Deontology, Virtue Ethics, and others, and recognize their relevance to the aviation industry.
2. Apply appropriate ethical theories to critically analyze and evaluate real-world scenarios and dilemmas in various sectors of aviation.
3. Analyze the environmental challenges associated with aviation, such as noise pollution, carbon emissions, and climate impact, through an ethical lens.
4. Analyze the ethical implications of technological advancements in aviation, including drones, autonomous flight, and data management, using established ethical theories.
5. Analyze ethical considerations in aviation business operations, such as marketing strategies, pricing, customer service, and Corporate Social Responsibility.
6. Analyze distinctions and intersections between legal requirements and ethical responsibilities within the aviation industry, critically analyzing situations where they might conflict or align.
7. Examine potential ethical dilemmas arising from future developments in the aviation sector, proposing proactive strategies for addressing them.
8. Examine historical and contemporary case studies, applying theoretical knowledge to assess the ethical dimensions of these real-world incidents.
9. Demonstrate the ability to make informed and ethically sound decisions in simulated aviation scenarios, drawing upon theoretical knowledge and critical analysis skills.

Grading

Scale	Grade
90 - 100	A (Superior)
80 - 89	B (Above Average)
70 - 79	C (Average)
60 - 69	D (Below Average)
0 - 59	F (Failure)

Evaluation Items & Weights

Discussions	15%
Knowledge Checks	25%
Ethics Reflection Journals	60%
Total	100%

Discussions

We will complete discussions during our in-class sessions.

Knowledge Checks

For each module, you will check your knowledge with a brief (10 multiple-choice questions) quiz on the topics covered in the readings and resources for that module.

Ethics Reflection Journal

For each module, you are required to submit a segment of an Ethics Reflection Journal that relates to the subject matter presented. You will add each segment to your ePortfolio. The objective of this assignment is to allow you to track your evolving understanding of ethics, record reactions to course topics, and contemplate the real-world applications of ethical theories in aviation. For each reflection assignment, you can post your journal entry in written, video, or visual presentation (such as an infographic) format.

Disability and Special Needs and Mental Health Wellness

ERAU-WW is committed to the success of all students. It is a University policy to provide reasonable accommodations to students with disabilities, who qualify for services. If you would like to request accommodations due to a physical, mental or learning disability, please contact the [Student Accessibility Support](#) Office at 386-226-7334 or via email at wwsas@erau.edu. ALL DISCUSSIONS ARE CONFIDENTIAL.

Mental Well-Being Statement

ERAU recognizes that life stressors, such as depression, anxiety, alcohol/drug problems, relationship problems and various other experiences can hinder the learning process. All ERAU students have access to free, confidential counseling through TELUS Health. You can access a counselor 24/7 via phone, computer or chat in the Student Support app. Please download the app or add the link to your computer and consider using this valuable resource during your educational journey at ERAU. More information on TELUS can be found on the [WW Dean of Students ERNIE page](#).

Additional Information

APA Format

Go to the [APA website](#) for additional information about the *American Psychological Association Publication Manual*.

Library

Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University has one of the most complete library collections of aviation-related resources in the world. The Hunt Library is the library for all Worldwide students regardless of location. For help finding resources for your assignment, project, or topic, or to learn more about the library services available to you, please contact our librarians using the following information:

- [Hunt Library Worldwide: Information, Services, Help](#)

- [Library Basic Training](#)
- [Ask-a-Librarian](#)
- [Library Hours](#)
- Contact Information
 - Email: library@erau.edu

Title IX

[Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972](#) ("Title IX") is a Federal civil rights law that prohibits discrimination on the basis of sex in education programs and activities. All public and private elementary and secondary schools, school districts, colleges, and universities receiving any Federal funds must comply with Title IX.

The Title IX Office oversees compliance of Title IX Sexual Harassment in accordance with Federal Regulations as well as incidents falling under the University Sexual Misconduct policy. Policy violations can include sexual harassment or sexual violence, such as rape, sexual assault, sexual misconduct, sexual battery, sexual coercion, and stalking.

Anyone **may** report suspected or known violations directly to the Title IX Office. However, there are certain persons / offices who **must** report incidents to the Title IX Office (mandatory). Those are Campus Safety & Security, Dean of Students (or designee), Vice President of Human Resources (or designee). Please refer to the policy and/or contact the Title IX Office for more specifics related to filing a report.

[Title IX Office](#)

Phone: 386/226-6677; 386/481-9131; 386/241-1881

Email: wwtitle9@erau.edu or meyerspa@erau.edu

Website: <https://worldwide.erau.edu/administration/diversity>

Form: [Online Complaint Form](#)

4 week

9 week

12 week

18 week

Course Policies

Academic Integrity

Embry-Riddle is committed to maintaining and upholding intellectual integrity. All students, faculty, and staff have obligations to prevent violations of academic integrity and take corrective action when they occur. The adjudication process will involve imposing sanctions which may include, but are not limited to, a failing grade on the assignment, a failing grade in a course, suspension, or dismissal from the University, upon students who commit the following academic violations:

1. Plagiarism: Presenting the ideas, words, or products of another as one's own. Plagiarism includes use of any source to complete academic assignments without proper acknowledgment of the source. Reuse or resubmission of a student's own coursework if previously used or submitted in another course, is considered self-plagiarism, and is also not allowed under University policy.
2. Cheating: A broad term that includes, but is not limited to, the following:
 1. Giving or receiving help from unauthorized persons or materials during examinations.
 2. The unauthorized communication of examination questions prior to, during, or following administration of the examination.
 3. Collaboration on examinations or assignments expected to be, or presented as, individual work.
 4. Fraud and deceit, that include knowingly furnishing false or misleading information or failing to furnish appropriate information when requested, such as when applying for admission to the University.

Note: The Instructor reserves the right to use any form of digital method for checking plagiarism. Several electronic systems are available and other methods may be used at the Instructor's discretion.

Course Specific Policies

Late Work Policy: All course work is expected to be completed on time and should be submitted before 11:59 PM ET on the date indicated in the Course Schedule below. Unless otherwise specified in this document, late work will be downgraded 10% for each day it is past due, up to 5 days beyond the deadline. After that, a permanent score of zero (0) will be entered in the Canvas Grades area (Note: please look in the "Assignments" section of the syllabus for more instructions). Please coordinate with the instructor as soon as possible if you know your assignment will be late. In some special cases, a penalty-free extension might be granted if you provide your expected date of submission in addition to the reason you cannot make the deadline (expect to provide supporting documentation). Keep in mind that you are always allocated a sufficient time to complete your assignments, so difficulties encountered less than 24 hours prior to the deadline will not be viewed in a favorable light.

Exceptions: Instructors may choose to develop and implement their own policies regarding the following:

1. Discussion boards
2. Assignments submitted after the last class day
3. Assignments submitted using third-party integrations

Any such deviations must be clearly posted in the Instructor Bio & Policies page.

Course Schedule

Module 1: Introduction to Aviation Ethics

- Overview of aviation industry and its importance
- Introduction to ethics: Definitions, relevance, and importance in aviation
- Overview of ethical theories: Utilitarianism, Deontology, Virtue Ethics, and others
- History of aviation ethics: Major ethical incidents and milestones

Module 2: Ethics in Aviation Safety and Security

- The ethics of safety: Responsibilities and expectations
- Security issues and their ethical implications
- Case studies: Analysis of past safety and security issues and their ethical implications

Module 3: Ethics in Aviation Engineering and Maintenance

- Ethical implications in design, manufacturing, and maintenance
- The impact of technological advances on ethics
- Responsible reporting of issues and errors
- Case studies: Ethical dilemmas in aviation engineering and maintenance

Module 4: Ethical Issues in Air Traffic Management

- Understanding the role and ethical responsibilities of air traffic controllers
- Decision-making under pressure: Ethical dimensions
- Technological advances in air traffic control and their ethical implications
- Case study: Analysis of past air traffic management ethical dilemmas

Module 5: Environmental Ethics in Aviation

- Environmental impact of aviation: Noise, air pollution, and climate change
- Sustainable aviation: Technological advancements and their ethical implications
- Balancing economic growth and environmental impact: An ethical perspective

Module 6: Ethics in Aviation Business Practices

- Understanding ethics in aviation business: Marketing, pricing, and customer service
- Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) in the aviation industry
- Case studies: Analysis of ethical issues in aviation business practices

Module 7: Ethics in Aviation Human Resource Management

- Ethical responsibilities in HR practices: Hiring, retention, and dismissal
- Understanding ethics in labor relations: Unions and negotiations
- Case study: Analysis of ethical dilemmas in aviation human resource management

Module 8: Ethics and Law in Aviation

- Overview of aviation law and regulatory bodies
- Ethics vs law in aviation: Similarities and differences
- Case studies: Review of legal cases with significant ethical implications

Module 9: Future Ethical Challenges in Aviation

- The ethics of emerging technologies: Drones, autonomous flight, and others
- Privacy and data protection in an increasingly connected aviation world
- Ethics of space tourism and commercial space flight

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