HOW DO ONLINE COURSES COMPARE?

Online learning offers a unique opportunity to work at your own pace and fit your life. You should expect to do as much work as you would in a face-to-face course, and you may have to do more reading, writing, and independent research. In general, you are expected to be self-motivated and to work hard.

Courses are generally offered in an asynchronous fashion (downloadable materials and prerecorded lectures) to offer the highest level of flexibility for the working student’s schedule; however some courses may also be available in a synchronous mode.

Engagement between the faculty and students is a central thrust of the program. During class sessions, the professor will present interactive material, answer questions on the lecture material, and review homework assignments. In addition, online students are encouraged to schedule regular “real time” meetings with their faculty advisor.

The Virginia Tech College of Engineering’s Distance Learning office is focused on student success and provides a source of support for online students.

ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS

• A bachelor’s degree, typically in engineering, science, mathematics, or closely related field from an accredited institution.
• Applicants should provide evidence that shows genuine promise of success in graduate study of a good academic record. A 3.0 GPA or better on a 4.0 scale is generally required.
• Full admission to the Virginia Tech Graduate School (www.graduateschool.vt.edu).

APPLICATION DOCUMENTS

• Official transcripts sent to the Graduate School.
• Statement of Interest and Curriculum Vitae, which can be attached to the online graduate application (https://applyto.graduateschool.vt.edu/pages/login.php).
• Three Letters of Recommendation.
• GRE General Test (Waived for applicants with significant work experience. Email gradadvise-g@vt.edu to see if you qualify).
• Test of English as a Foreign Language (TOEFL) or International English Language Testing System (IELTS) Scores for international applicants.
• Immigration Information Form for international applicants.
are you ready to take the next step?  
our online M.S. degree is offered in a convenient, flexible format for students who are working full-time. this program is ideal for:

• aerospace engineering professionals wanting to advance in their career in the aerospace industry or in research and development.
• anyone wanting to enhance their technical, analytical, critical thinking and research skills in the field of aerospace engineering.
• students with a background in engineering, science, mathematics or physics wanting to move into an aerospace career.
• individuals seeking to apply mathematics, physics, or associated scientific principles to the design, development, and operation of aerospace systems.

program requirements
students must complete 30 graduate credit hours, including four core courses, which are offered on a two-year rotation:

• AOE 4404: Applied Numerical Methods (Spring)
• AOE 5024: Vehicle Structures (Fall)
• AOE 5104: Advanced Aero and Hydrodynamics (Fall)
• AOE 5204: Vehicle Dynamics and Control (Fall)

Up to 50% of the graded coursework on the Plan of Study may be transferred from a graduate program at another institution. A final comprehensive oral exam is required.

Students are required to complete one of two tracks, either a Master of Science Thesis, which focuses more on research, or a Master of Science Non-Thesis which is project based. Specific requirements for each track can be found in the Graduate Study Policies and Procedures Manual.

typical online courses in the fall semester

• AOE 5104: Advanced Aero and Hydrodynamics
• AOE 5204: Vehicle Dynamics and Control
• AOE 5434G: Introduction to Computational Fluid Dynamics
• AOE 5774: Nonlinear Systems Theory

typical online courses in the spring semester

• AOE 5774: Nonlinear Systems Theory
• AOE 4404: Applied Numerical Methods
• AOE 5034: Mechanical and Structural Vibrations
• AOE 5054: Elasticity Stability
• AOE 5064: Structural Optimization
• AOE 5114: High Speed Aerodynamics
• AOE 5234: Orbital Mechanics
• AOE 6114: Transonic Aerodynamics
• AOE 6145: Computational Fluid Dynamics
• AOE 6444: Verification and Validation of Scientific Computing
• AOE 6744: Linear Control Theory

typical online courses in the summer semester

• AOE 5024: Vehicle Structures

variable credit courses

• AOE 5904: Project and Report
• AOE 5974: Independent Study
• AOE 5984: Special Study
• AOE 5994: Research and Thesis

*course titles are found in the graduate catalog at http://graduateschool.vt.edu/graduate_catalog.