

Points of Interest and Clarification: Drone Tech

Unlike other Community College programs, Fullerton College's Drone Program is a stand-alone program.

Drone Tech Promo Video: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=S8T4X0cOAMo>

What are the degree and certificate options offered by your department?

- ***Unmanned Aerial Systems Piloting Certificate (Fall 2021 – Pending State Approval):***
 - Learn to pilot drones
 - Prep for FAA test and license
 - *Curriculum found here:*
https://www.curricunet.com/fullerton/reports/program_report.cfm?programs_id=990
- ***Autonomous Systems Certificate (Fall 2021):***
 - Learn to build drones or small unmanned systems
 - Understand regulations regarding drones
- ***Drone Journalism Certificate (Fall 2021 – Pending State Approval):***
 - Prep for FAA test and license
 - Create aerial visual content for storytelling
 - Curriculum found here:
https://www.curricunet.com/fullerton/reports/program_report.cfm?programs_id=810
- ***Counter Drone Security (Fall 2022 – Pending State Approval):***
 - Restricted to security, public safety, federal employees.
 - Curriculum found here:
https://www.curricunet.com/fullerton/reports/program_report.cfm?programs_id=1035

- ***Autonomous Systems Development Associate in Science Degree:***
 - Learn to build drones and small autonomous systems
 - Allow what they've learned to design, program, test, and present new systems.
 - Curriculum in the catalog

- ***Drone Business Entrepreneurship (Fall 2022- Pending State Approval):***
 - Create and market drone business
 - Prep for FAA test and license
 - Curriculum found here:
https://www.curricunet.com/fullerton/reports/program_report.cfm?program_id=1173

- ***Drone Imaging Mapping (Fall 2021 – Pending State Approval):***
 - Useful for surveying, inspection, construction, architecture
 - Curriculum found here:
https://www.curricunet.com/fullerton/reports/program_report.cfm?program_id=1135

For more information:

- FC Catalog: <https://www.fullcoll.edu/schedule/>
- FC CTE website:

Best class to take to explore the major:

TECH 150 OR TECH 151

TECH 150 is primarily for the person who wants to learn to fly and prepare for the FAA certification exam. On Saturdays. It's a 2-unit, 8-week course that goes over flying only. Someone could take this and then go to apply it to any field that they are interested in, or just go home and fly their drone on family vacations.

TECH 151 is everything in TECH 150 PLUS they learn how to use Adobe Photoshop (for photography), Adobe Premiere Pro (for video editing), and Pix4D (a program for mapping and surveying). It's a 3-unit, full semester course. It's for students that want to learn to fly and prepare for the FAA certification course, BUT ALSO learn some skills to apply to working with drones. They can take these skills to any field and they can also start their own drone business using these skills. This class might be more for students who know they want to get into drones and they want to do it for a career, but also need other skills and are open to different areas

Spring 2021/Fall 2021: Both classes are hybrid and meeting in person.

Students are bringing their own drone but the program also provides them. Faculty will also discuss what drones are best for the student to buy during the courses.

What job/career opportunities do your degrees and certificates prepare students for? (Stories of student successes and struggles are always helpful)

<ul style="list-style-type: none">• <i>Unmanned Aerial Systems Piloting Certificate</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- A lot of different areas. Photography, videography, cinematography. You learn to apply skills to Real Estate marketing and advertising, Infrastructure inspection, Public Safety, Architecture, Construction (growing area), mapping, agriculture inspection and crop analysis (growing), golf course development, Physical Education coaching for football & soccer. Students will also learn the skills needed to get their FAA license
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What are the occupational outlooks for these job/career opportunities in Orange County?

Recommended websites to review the job opportunities, salaries, and qualifications:

How do you explain the benefits of a certificate or associates degree when the student is also planning to earn a Bachelor's degree?

- This is a great program to add onto Associate Degrees or Bachelor's degrees to integrate drones into **ANY** field.
- Autonomous Systems Development AS/ Certificate could be added in addition to an engineering degree or machining or computer programming certificates.
- Various drone certifications can be marketable to future employers. You can use these skills/certificates in order to work while still earning your bachelor's degree.

What permits or certifications are available to your students and what help do they provide?

- Certificates provide FAA Certification to fly the drones. The FC courses provide the skills needed to get the FAA license

What student populations are your degrees and certificates most appropriate for? For example, are certain certificates more suitable for students who already have a degree?

- All are most appropriate to add onto other degrees and fields.
- Future entrepreneurs could use these skills as part of their career
- Many areas can learn how to use drones to enhance what they are learning and doing in their fields.

What partnerships do you have with the community and how can those partnerships assist students with networking and career placement?

TECH 158 the advanced piloting class and TECH 199 and work on the collaborations we have (Shark Lab, OC Water District, etc.).

What websites do you direct students to for employment purposes?

<https://californiaautomated.com/>

If you were an academic counselor, what additional advice would you provide a student interested in your programs?

FC is one of the only places they can get this training.

The skills learned can compliment a variety of fields.

Transfer Considerations:

- Autonomous Systems Development AS/ Certificate could be added in addition to an engineering degree.
- Piloting certificate can complement a variety of degrees and make student more marketable to employers. FC is one of the only places to earn it.

Updated: 3/16/2021 J.Seidel, O.Barajas, J.Celo, P.Skiles

Best Faculty to Contact:

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Suggested Sequence: Coming soon!