Aviation & Transportation (MS)

LEWIS UNIVERSITY

Aviation & Transportation

practical. focused. relevant.
Lewis University, guided by its Catholic and Lasallian heritage, provides to a diverse student population programs for a liberal and professional education grounded in the interaction of knowledge and fidelity in the search for truth. Lewis promotes the development of the complete person through the pursuit of wisdom and justice. Fundamental to its Mission is a spirit of association which fosters community in all teaching, learning, and service.

Outstanding Academic Choices

Located in the Midwest, Lewis University is a comprehensive, Catholic university, where the traditions of liberal learning, values and preparation for professional work come together with a synergy that gives the university its educational identity and focus. Founded in 1932, Lewis is a dynamic, coeducational university offering nearly 80 undergraduate majors and programs of study, 25 graduate programs, and certificates of advanced study. Lewis is one of many schools sponsored by the De La Salle Christian Brothers, an international Roman Catholic teaching order.

A Welcoming Campus

The Lewis main campus in Romeoville, Illinois, is a picturesque 376-acre setting which houses 1,300 students in 12 residence halls, all within walking distance of well-equipped classrooms, the library, the JFK Recreation and Fitness Center, the Student Union, and the Sancta Alberta Chapel. Lewis suburban campuses are located in Oak Brook, Tinley Park, Shorewood and Hickory Hills. Additionally, classes are offered at De La Salle Institute in Chicago, at numerous sites throughout the Chicagoland area and in Albuquerque, N.M. All campuses are easily accessible to corporate offices in Chicago and the suburbs, making it easy for students to complete professional internships.

Experienced Faculty

Lewis has 200 full-time faculty members who take their students’ personal and professional success to heart. The majority hold terminal degrees in their fields. Many are experienced practitioners. The student/faculty ratio is 13:1.

Enrollment

Lewis currently has nearly 6,500 undergraduate and graduate students. Many are from the Chicago region, with international students representing nearly thirty different countries.

Accreditation

Lewis University is accredited by the Higher Learning Commission and a member of the North Central Association.

Information contained herein is subject to change without notice. Lewis University reserves the right to revise, supplement, or rescind its contents at any time.
Dear Prospective Graduate Student,

I am pleased that you are interested in pursuing a Master of Science in Aviation and Transportation Studies (MSAT) at Lewis University. The industry will always need well-educated professionals to meet the challenges in maintaining the extremely high safety and security standards that characterize air and ground transportation today. The future brings new challenges as well. For instance, the globalization of transportation, unmanned aerial vehicles, and the sustainability of transportation: these are just three of the many contemporary issues we address in this master’s program through coursework, research, and partnerships with industry and government.

The MSAT is a multi-faceted degree program that prepares graduates for careers in the aviation industry, professional management, government, higher education, and other agencies associated with aviation and transportation or public safety. The program was developed to provide the knowledge and skills necessary to advance students in their current aviation and transportation careers, as well as possibly open up brand new career opportunities. Some of our recent graduates enjoy challenging careers at the FAA, Chicago Department of Aviation, Department of Homeland Security, Atlantic Southeast Airlines, AirLiance, and American Eagle Airlines.

We recognize that our graduate students are seeking fine quality, adult-oriented academic programs, as well as convenience and flexibility in the format and delivery of their courses. The Aviation and Transportation core classes are available in an online format. Students are able to select approved electives in other graduate programs, such as Organizational Leadership, Public Safety Administration, and Business Administration.

Features of the online delivery system include:
- Eight-week courses, offered online, using the latest version of Blackboard technology
- Completion of the program in two years while working full-time
- Ability to take nine hours of electives in other related graduate departments

This view book provides an overview of the MSAT. I would be happy to answer any specific questions you may have. Information regarding admissions can be found on our Web site www.lewisu.edu or by contacting the Office of Graduate and Adult Admission at grad@lewisu.edu, or by phone at (815) 836-5610.

Sincerely,

Randal J. DeMik, Ph.D.
Director of Graduate Studies
Aviation and Transportation
MASTER OF SCIENCE

Aviation & Transportation

About the Program

The Master of Science in Aviation & Transportation program recognizes the growing importance of intermodality in transportation. Trains, trucks, ships, airplanes, and transit systems share many common concerns in meeting the needs and ensuring the safety of the nation’s travelers and shippers. As a result of this, our Aviation & Transportation master’s program was developed to provide the knowledge and skills necessary to advance in your current transportation career, or possibly even uncover new career opportunities.

The M.S. in Aviation & Transportation program is a multi-faceted degree program that will prepare graduates for careers in the aviation industry, professional management, government, and other agencies associated with Aviation & Transportation or public safety. Individuals may also be seeking a career in higher education to teach in the field of aviation.

This new program allows students the option of tailoring the program to their individual career objectives. Students considering careers in higher education or research will be urged to write a thesis. Students interested in industry, government, and professional management may elect the practicum/comprehensive examination as their final project.

Features of this online degree include:

• 8-week courses, offered online and on campus
• Completion of the program in two years
• Ability to customize 9 hours of electives in organizational leadership, public safety administration, or business administration

 Careers In This Field

The Master of Science in Aviation & Transportation is designed to offer a multi-faceted approach in preparing graduates for careers in higher education, industry, professional management, government, and other agencies associated with Aviation & Transportation. This program will study the current transportation industry and that industry’s regulation from a variety of perspectives.

Employers of students who are currently in the program include:

• Argonne National Laboratory
• Embraer 145 Regional Jet for United Express Airlines
• Knight Transportation
• O’Hare International Airport

Student Profile: NATALIE KASAK

“Even with the online format, it still feels like a traditional classroom experience - all of the professors are heavily involved in classroom discussions. And I love being able to get the work done on my own time.”
Admission Requirements

All candidates for admission must possess a bachelor’s degree in aviation from a regionally accredited institution of higher education or in a major in a related field. Individuals who have completed a bachelor’s degree in an unrelated area but have work experience in aviation and/or transportation industries may also apply. The applicant’s overall undergraduate GPA must be 3.0 or higher on a 4.0 scale. In special cases, the GPA may be calculated on the most recent 60 semester hours of coursework.

Additionally, applicants must submit:
1. A completed application (along with a nonrefundable application fee).
2. Academic transcripts from each institution attended.
3. A one-to two-page personal statement describing the applicant’s background and how the degree relates to the applicant’s career goals.
4. Three letters of recommendation (one from a faculty member familiar with the applicant’s academic performance, a second from an employer, and a third from one who can attest to the applicant’s likely success in the program).

When the application materials are complete, they will be forwarded to the University Graduate Council. The Council has the final say in graduate admissions.

After Graduate Council review, the applicant will then be informed in writing of its decision.

Under certain circumstances, students who do not meet the GPA requirement (GPA below 3.0, but above 2.5) for full admission may request to be admitted to the program on a provisional basis. Provisionally admitted students must complete the first nine semester hours of graduate study with a GPA of 3.0 or higher. After nine hours of completed coursework, a provisionally accepted student’s application will be reviewed again for full admission. This decision will be made by the Chair of the Aviation & Transportation Department and the Program Director.

Transfer Credit

A maximum of six semester hours of graduate level work earned at a regionally accredited institution of higher education will be accepted toward a Master of Science degree in Aviation & Transportation. Only courses in which the student received a grade of B or higher will transfer to Lewis University. Prior coursework should be current and completed within the last five years.

All transfer credits must be documented and approved before full admission into the program will be granted. In approving a request to transfer credit from another institution, the Program Director may, at his or her discretion, require that the student pass a proficiency exam for the corresponding Lewis University course.

Capstone Experience

All Lewis graduate students will participate in real-world capstone experiences within the largest aviation hub in the world. Will yours be at O’Hare? Midway? Will it change the aviation industry forever?
Why Lewis?

Lewis University has a number of relationships with airlines and agencies in the field of aviation, including American Airlines, Delta Airlines, United Airlines, American Eagle Airlines, Southwest Airlines, Boeing International, City of Chicago Department of Aviation, numerous regional airports as well as O’Hare International and Midway Airports, the Federal Aviation Administration, and Chicago, Aurora, and Elgin Air Traffic Control.

Aviation has been part of Lewis’ history since its beginnings. Lewis began as a technical school in 1932, focusing on courses in aviation technology. During WWII, the school temporarily became a flight training facility for the U.S. Navy.

Today, the Lewis University aviation program continues to provide hard-working students with top-of-the-line equipment and state-of-the-art facilities. Lewis’ aviation facilities include:

- The $2 million high-tech Harold E. White Aviation Center
- Corporate airport directly adjacent to campus
- Hangar with machine shop and flight simulators
- A Boeing 737 for maintenance training
- Seven Cessna 152’s, 13 Cessna 172’s, four Cessna 182’s and one Piper Seminole

Student Profile: JULIUS KELLER

Julius Keller received his B.A. in Aviation Aircraft Systems from Ohio State University. As a child, he became interested in aviation and has made it a point to pursue it with passion and vigor. “I enjoy the industry and see the current challenges as opportunities for visionary thinking and leadership,” commented Keller.

Keller was unemployed when he first enrolled in the master’s program at Lewis because the organization he worked for had filed bankruptcy. After enrolling in the program, he worked with the Office of Career Services on campus. Within a couple of weeks of posting his résumé, he landed a job in operations, sales and market managing at Knight Transportation. “My experience at Lewis University has improved my life dramatically,” Keller said.

The most rewarding aspect of the master’s program, for Keller, is the fact that the coursework has real life application. He added, “The classes are making me a better person, both professionally and personally.” By providing him with new insights, the faculty and staff of the aviation department have allowed Keller to improve his critical thinking skills. Keller believes “This program is designed for one to grow academically, personally and spiritually.”
Degree Requirements

**Degree Offered:** Master of Science  
**Total Credit Hours Required:** 36

### I. Core Courses (24)

- 47-500 Overview of the Aviation & Transportation Industry (3)  
- 47-510 Planning Strategically for Aviation & Transportation Projects (3)  
- 47-520 Human Factors and Safety Management in Aviation & Transportation (3)  
- 47-530 Regulation of the Aviation & Transportation Industry (3)  
- 47-540 Quality Management Systems for Aviation & Transportation Safety (3)  
- 47-560 Human Resource Management, Labor Relations, and Ethical Issues in the Aviation & Transportation Industry (3)  
- 47-570 Topics in Aviation & Transportation (3)  
- 47-595 Research Methods and Applications in Aviation & Transportation (3)

### II. Capstone (3)

- 47-597 Capstone Experience in Aviation & Transportation Administration (3) 

*Thesis Option* (Students selecting this option are not required to take the comprehensive exam.)  

*Practicum Option* (Students selecting this option are required to take a comprehensive exam.)

### III. Electives (9)

The student will choose three advisor-approved Lewis University graduate level courses appropriate to the student’s career path. Students are encouraged to select their electives outside of the department.

---

**Grade Point Requirement**

Students admitted to the Aviation and Transportation program must maintain a 3.0 GPA.

**Graduation Requirements**

The Master of Science in Aviation & Transportation curriculum consists of a total of 36 credit hours. Within these 36 credits are a required core of 24 hours, a capstone experience of 3 hours, and electives of 9 hours. To graduate from the program, the student must complete 36 hours of credit and maintain a 3.0 GPA. Credit earned in a graduate course at Lewis or elsewhere may not be counted toward more than one degree.

---

**Industry - Leading Faculty**

Being so close to both O'Hare and Midway Airports offers countless advantages for Lewis Aviation students - even through an online format. Among them is the opportunity to learn under such experienced and well-connected leaders in the aviation industry - with years of professional knowledge they bring to the classroom.