



UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA CROOKSTON

Specialized Aviation

Did you know that not all pilots are airline pilots?

Airplanes are more than just a stylish way to get from point A to point B; they can be important resources used to enhance crop production, put out fires, find criminals, enforce game laws, conduct wildlife counts, study migration patterns, or monitor ecological changes.

Let the UMC Aviation Program help prepare you for the flying career you want!

AGRICULTURE & NATURAL RESOURCES DEPARTMENT

2900 University Ave.
Crookston, MN 56716

Phone: 218-281-8101



The aviation program at UMC prepares students for lesser-known but equally rewarding careers in agricultural aviation, law enforcement aviation, and natural resource aviation. Unlike most university aviation degree programs which focus solely on aviation, UMC's "dual function" degree programs offer students both strong fundamentals in aviation as well as meaningful coursework specific to their other field of study: law enforcement, agriculture, or natural resources. Our unique, integrated approach prepares graduates for careers in aviation and much more. Our program has been around since 1965, and we are proud to be the only program in the country to offer these unique Bachelor of Science degrees!

Bachelor of Science (B.S.) in Aviation

- Agricultural Aviation Emphasis - leads to a career in aerial application, aerial firefighting, aerial photography, agronomy, or as a pilot representative for an agricultural business.
- Law Enforcement Aviation Emphasis - leads to a career as a pilot-officer with local, state, and federal law enforcement and conservation agencies.

Bachelor of Science (B.S.) in Natural Resources

- Natural Resources Aviation Emphasis - leads to a career as a natural resources pilot with state departments of natural resources, the National Park Service, or the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service.

The average age of current aerial applicators is 53, and according to a 2012 industry survey, a significant percentage of the pilots in the natural resource field are nearing retirement. Homeland security needs are also continually growing. Thus, job prospects in these specialized aviation fields are the best they have been in many years.

If you would like to know more about our programs contact:



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"I've spent several years working as a wildlife biologist/pilot for the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service in Alaska, and I know firsthand how exciting and rewarding a career in specialized aviation can be. I'm excited to share my skills and experience with the next generation of pilots."
—Les Dillard



UMC is proud to partner with the University of North Dakota Aerospace Foundation (UNDAF) to provide a safe and professional flight training experience. All academic classes, including ground school, are conducted at the UMC campus while hands-on flight training is conducted by UNDAF and UMC staff just three miles north of campus at the Crookston Municipal Airport. Our students have access to well-trained, proficient instructors, several well-maintained aircraft, and two flight training devices (simulators). All students in the aviation program will complete their private certificate, instrument rating, and commercial certificate using Federal Aviation Administration-approved Part 141 training courses. In addition, our students will achieve a tail wheel (conventional gear) endorsement and receive specialized tail wheel flight instruction in our Top Cub aircraft. This type of "low and slow" flying requires a tremendous amount of stick-and-rudder skill, and our students really enjoy the challenge and greatly benefit from the exposure to mission-specific flying scenarios.

As we require an internship for our aviation students, they gain real-world experiences such as loading for an agricultural applicator or assisting with wildlife surveys at a state park. These opportunities motivate our students to keep learning and often lead to promising careers. Recent graduates of our program have found employment with North Dakota Game and Fish, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, U.S. Customs and Border Protection, and several independent aerial applicators. This is an exciting time for students seeking a career in agricultural, law enforcement, or natural resources aviation as older pilots are retiring and government agencies and agricultural applicators look to replenish their workforce.

Earn your prestigious University of Minnesota degree in a friendly, close-knit setting. You'll benefit from our hands-on approach to learning, our caring faculty mentors, and our partnership with one of the country's foremost aviation training organizations.

Small Campus. Big Degree.

Learn more online:

www.umcrookston.edu/aviation

The University of Minnesota is an equal opportunity educator and employer.



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