





The Teaching of Aerospace Vehicle Design At Cranfield University



Mr. Phillip Stocking Course Director







Course Director Personal Background

- Undergraduate Apprenticeship with British Aerospace Filton, Bristol (1974-1979)
- BSc in Aeronautical Engineering Hatfield Polytechnic (1978)
- Stress Engineer with British Aerospace (1979-1984)
- MSc in Aircraft Design, Cranfield (1980-1981)
- Senior Stress Engineer, Cranfield (1984)
- Chief Stress Engineer, Cranfield (1990)
- Chief Designer Cranfield Aerospace Ltd (2001)
- Course Director MSc in Aerospace Vehicle Design (2003)





Presentation Contents

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CRANFIELD • BEDFORD SHIRE ★ 'The College of Aeronautics has been set up by His Majesty's Government in the United Kingdom to provide high-grade engineering, technical, and scientific training in aeronautics to fit students for leadership in the aircraft industry, civil aviation, the Services, education and research'







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Course History

- First Course in Aircraft Design 1946
- Diploma of the College of Aeronautics
- MSc in Aircraft Design (late 1970's)
- MSc in Aerospace Vehicle Design (mid 1980's)









ranti MSc Aerospace Vehicle Design **Course Aims** To build upon the student's knowledge gained in their first degree To provide teaching that integrates the range of disciplines required by modern aircraft design To provide students with the opportunity to work in a Virtual Industrial Environment To enable students to undertake a piece of individual research





Intended Learning Outcomes (1) (Knowledge and Understanding)



- On successful completion of the course the student will be able to :-
 - Implement the principles of aerospace design related to aircraft performance, structures and systems
 - Understand up-to-date design techniques used in industry
 - Apply airworthiness requirements to aircraft design
 - Demonstrate a working knowledge of
 - stress analysis, fatigue & fracture
 - aerodynamics and loading
 - aircraft systems design and integration
 - structural design
 - Demonstrate the ability to undertake independent research on a subject relevant to aircraft design



Intended Learning Outcomes (2) (Personal Skills)



On successful completion of the course the student will be able

to :-

- Communicate effectively in a group environment
- Plan, execute and manage projects
- Undertake independent learning
- Apply analysis tools to solve engineering problems
- Present clearly proposals & results to a variety of audiences
- Critically evaluate technical literature and data
- Demonstrate a practical approach to solving design problems
- Work effectively under time pressure
- Seek employment with confidence



The transfer of knowledge, the understanding and application are achieved through :-

- Lectures, case studies, group exercises, computer based demonstrations & exercises
- Group Design Project and Research Project Thesis
- Lectures from industry specialists
- Visits to industry







Course Structure

Aerospace Vehicle Design – Group Project OptionTaught Component10%Group Design Project50%Individual Research Project40%

Aerospace Vehicle Design – Structural Design OptionTaught Component20%Individual Research Project80%

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Taught Component



Lecture Modules

Core Subjects
 Loading Actions
 Aerodynamics & Performance
 Stress Analysis
 Composite Materials
 Fatigue & Fracture
 Aeroelasticity
 Design for Manufacture &
 Operation
 Initial Aircraft Design
 Airframe Systems



Taught Component



Lecture Modules

Optional Subjects

 Computer Aided Design (CATIA)
 Finite Element Methods (NASTRAN/PATRAN)
 Structural Stability
 Accident Investigation
 Crashworthiness
 Avionic System Design
 Powerplant Installation





Tutorials & Flight Laboratory

















Group Design Project



- A Problem Based Learning Environment.....
- The Group Design Project is a real and engaging problem
- Students are given the problem before they have the skills to solve it
- Students have to actively acquire the knowledge they need to solve the problem, and then apply it
- Students are learning to learn







- A Virtual Industrial Learning Environment.....
- Made as authentic as possible
- Places the student group in the professional role as aerospace design engineers
 - Industry standard software
 - CATIA
 - NASTRAN / PATRAN
 - ESDU, MMPDS, MIL-STD, JAR's, DEF-STAN, CS

Rapid Prototype / Wind Tunnel Testing













Aerospace Engineering Group





Group Design Project



Rapid Prototyping Facility
Manufacture of Wind Tunnel Models
CATIA to Machining



School of Engineering Aerospace Engineering Group



Rapid Prototype Machining









•2002/03 Large Civil Cargo Aircraft
•2003/04 Unmanned Combat Aircraft
•2004/05 MARS Flight Vehicle



Student presentations











Group Design Project 2002-2003

F02 Civil Freight Aircraft



Group Design Project 2002-2003 F02 Civil Freight Aircraft

- Civil Version of the A400M
- 30 to 40 Tonne payload
- 2000 nm range
- MTOW 116500kg

M0.7 Cruise at 10kmDesigned to JAR 25







Group Design Project 2002-2003 F02 Civil Freight Aircraft

Fuselage Length 41 m
Freight hold Length 28 m
Fuselage Diameter 5 m









Group Design Project 2002-2003 F02 Civil Freight Aircraft

- Wing Span 47.4 m
- Propulsion
 - Rolls Royce BR 715-58
 Turbofan







Group Design Project



Wind Tunnel Testing





Group Design Project 2003-2004

U-3 'Spectre' Joint Services Unmanned Combat Air Vehicle



Group Design Project 2003-2004 U-3 'Spectre' Joint Services Unmanned Combat Air Vehicle



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MSc Aerospace Vehicle Design

Group Design Project 2003-2004 U-3 'Spectre' Joint Services Unmanned Combat Air Vehicle

- Intended for service with all branches of the military
- Mixed fleet operations
 - 1 JSF to 3 UCAV's
- Three aircraft variants
 - CTOL
 - STOVL
 - CV







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MSc Aerospace Vehicle Design

Group Design Project 2003-2004 U-3 'Spectre' Joint Services Unmanned Combat Air Vehicle

- VLO Strike / SEAD
- Persistence Mission
- Surveillance / Targeting
- M0.85 at 250 ft
- Ceiling > 40,000 ft
- Wing Span 10 m
- MTOW 11780 kg







Group Design Project 2003-2004 U-3 'Spectre' Joint Services Unmanned Combat Air Vehicle

- Inlayed Control Effectors (ICE)
- Type Plain Spoiler
- Movement 60 deg









Group Design Project 2003-2004 U-3 'Spectre' Joint Services Unmanned Combat Air Vehicle

U-3 Weapons System





Group Design Project 2003-2004 U-3 'Spectre' Joint Services Unmanned Combat Air Vehicle

Systems Accessibility And Maintainability











Group Design Project 2003-2004 U-3 'Spectre' Joint Services Unmanned Combat Air Vehicle

Wind Tunnel Testing



School of Engineering Aerospace Engineering Group



UCAV Wind Tunnel Testing



Group Design Project 2004-2005

M4 Martian Atmospheric Flight Vehicle



Group Design Project 2004-2005 MARS Atmospheric Flight Vehicle

> An Atmospheric Flight Vehicle for The Robotic Exploration of Mars



 Designed to fill the gap between Orbiters and Landers

High resolution mapping from low altitudes





Group Design Project 2004-2005 MARS Atmospheric Flight Vehicle

- Launch Vehicle Delta II
- 10kg science payload
- Up to 6km altitude
- Endurance up to 75 minutes
- Range up to 620km
- Length 4.4m
- Wingspan 6.18m
- Design Launch Mass 141.5kg
- Propulsion Aerojet reaction control thrusters









Group Design Project 2004-2005 MARS Atmospheric Flight Vehicle



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Group Design Project

Presentation to Industry















Visits to Industry

Visit to RAF Marham – Tornado Squadron



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Individual Research Project



Thesis Topics

- Conceptual Design
- Structures
- Systems





Student Destinations

Upon successful completion of the course, Typical student destinations include :-



• BAE SYSTEMS

- Airbus (UK and Europe)
- Dassault
- Messier Dowty
- Royal Air Force
- Royal Australian Air Force
- Royal Australian Navy
- Royal New Zealand Air Force
- Greek Air Force
- Doctorate PhD programs

- FLS Aerospace
- Canadian Air Force
- Rolls Royce
- STRAND Engineering
- Magellan Aerospace
- Marshall Aerospace
- UK MoD
- Air France Engineering
- Air France Pilot
- MEDYSYS



Conclusions



- The Group Design Project provides.....
 - An example of Problem Based Learning at Masters Level for the teaching of Engineering Design
 - An Authentic Virtual Industrial Environment
 - A 'hands-on' learning experience of interacting with and working on an Aircraft Design Project
 - Enjoyable, self-motivated and enthusiastic student participation in all aspects of the course
 - Students with the confidence to seek employment and make an immediate contribution to the work of an employer