

ASEN 5018/6028: Graduate Projects Syllabus  
Ann and H.J. Smead Aerospace Engineering Sciences  
Spring 2025

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**Course Coordinator:** Chris Koehler / AERO 219 / [aesgraduateprojects@colorado.edu](mailto:aesgraduateprojects@colorado.edu)

**Course Teaching Assistant:** Joey Shy

**Lecture Section:** ASEN 5018–800 / 6028-800 / AERO 111  
Monday 4:30 – 5:20 PM MT

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**Lab Section:** ASEN 5018–802 / 6028-802, CERES  
Section Advisor: Dr. James Nabity / [james.nabity@colorado.edu](mailto:james.nabity@colorado.edu)  
Tuesday, Thursday 3:10 PM – 5 PM MT / AERO 302

**Lab Section:** ASEN 5018-803 / 6028-803, IgLOO  
Section Advisor: Col. Jim Voss / [jim.voss@colorado.edu](mailto:jim.voss@colorado.edu)  
Tuesday, Thursday 11:30 AM – 1:20 PM MT / AERO 302

**Lab Section:** ASEN 5018–804 / 6028-804, CubeSats  
Section Advisor: Prof. Scott Palo / [palo@colorado.edu](mailto:palo@colorado.edu)  
Monday, Wednesday 2-3:50 PM MT / AERO 114

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**Course Text (ASEN 5018 Only):** Curtis R. Cook, Just Enough Project Management, McGraw-Hill. 2004

**Course Text (ASEN 6028 Only):** Gary Keller, The ONE Thing: The Surprisingly Simple Truth About Extraordinary Results, Bard Press, 2013

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**Course Prerequisite:** Permission of lab section instructor. Completion of, or current enrollment in, one of the following courses as related to the specific lab project of interest is encouraged: ASEN 5158 Space Habitat Design, ASEN 5148 Spacecraft Design, ASEN 4138 Aircraft Design. Completion of, or current enrollment in, ASEN 5188 Space Systems Engineering is also recommended. Non-AES student enrollment is encouraged. Concurrent enrollment in ASEN 4018/28, Senior Design, is discouraged, but may be allowed with consent of the section instructor.

**Course Purpose:** The Graduate Projects course is a two-semester sequence designed to expose graduate students to project management and systems engineering disciplines while working on a complex aerospace engineering project as part of a project team. This engineering project work will include project management, systems engineering, and subsystem-level design, build, and testing. Hands-on projects are related to the focus areas in the aerospace engineering sciences department: Aerospace Engineering Systems, Astrodynamics and Satellite Navigation Systems, Bioastronautics, and Remote Sensing, Earth and Space Sciences. Students completing this

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course sequence will be better prepared for the many types of project work and team dynamics they will encounter in government and industry career positions.

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**Course Objectives:** Students will participate in and engage in the following five objectives:

1. Project Management and Systems Engineering
  2. Formal presentations, design reviews, and project documentation
  3. Hands-on contribution to complex engineering project
    - a. Design, Build, Test, and Verify
  4. Leadership and skill development
    - a. Technical Leadership, SE, or PM roles
    - b. Presentation/Public speaking skills
  5. Career exploration in academia, industry, government, and entrepreneurial opportunities
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**Course Grading:** The lab section advisor and course coordinator will split grading responsibilities as described below.

*The lab section professor will determine 85% of the student's grade in the following areas:*

- 1) Presentations - clear and concise content and delivery
- 2) Documentation - quality engineering writing, delivered in accordance with deadlines
- 3) Peer evaluations
- 4) Faculty evaluation
- 5) Section Participation

*\*more detailed grading rubrics for each section will be provided by the project advisor*

*The course coordinator will determine 15% of the student's grade in the following areas:*

- 1) Participation (5%)
  - Documentation
  - Time sheet submissions
  - Attendance
- 2) Public Speaking Evaluation (6%)
  - Mid Semester Project Presentation
  - End of Semester Video
  - Spring Symposium
- 3) Book Quiz and Other (4%)

**Additional Lecture Section Details:** The lecture section (800) will consist of lectures from both the coordinator and guests, project presentations, project interaction activities, and project presentations. Each student is expected to participate in the lecture each week and the activities in (and outside) the classroom. The coordinator strives to make each lecture applicable and valuable to both the student and the project that student works on, however this is not possible for every student all the time. Time sheets are due by 4:30 PM on Mondays for the work completed the previous week. The department expects students in this course to work an average of 12 hours per week outside of lecture time. This expectation varies on each project and with each faculty advisor. Students should confirm this expectation with their faculty advisor.

**Attendance Policy:** Attendance is required for Lecture Section (800) and lab sections (801 - 805). Any correspondence concerning attendance should be sent to [aesgraduateprojects@colorado.edu](mailto:aesgraduateprojects@colorado.edu) AND your project advisor. If you have questions or concerns about the attendance policy, please contact Chris Koehler. If you are sick and are unable to attend the live lecture, send an email stating that you are sick before class time in order to be excused. You DO NOT need to include details as to your illness in your email. **For your absence to be fully excused, you shall watch the lecture missed on Canvas and then send the codeword to the email address above within 48 hours of the missed class.** Emails about sick absences received after the missed class will not be accepted. Absences related to official CU programs (athletics, clubs, marching band, ROTC, etc.) will be excused as long as you provide Chris a letter from that organization, including your name and class dates that will be missed, two weeks prior to the absence. Other absences (e.g. family emergency, jury duty, car accidents, etc.) will be excused on a case by case basis as long as an email is received with sufficient information. Examples of absences that will not be excused are but not limited to: club participation, work schedule, and/or busy with another class. Students missing two or more lectures in a row are recommended to seek assistance from Student Support & Case Management at <https://www.colorado.edu/sscm> for support in developing a plan. In all cases, students missing lecture and project meetings, shall also communicate these absences (not necessarily the reasons for the absences) with their team.

## University-wide Syllabus Statements

### ACCOMMODATION FOR DISABILITIES, TEMPORARY MEDICAL CONDITIONS, AND MEDICAL ISOLATION

If you qualify for accommodations because of a disability, please submit your accommodation letter from Disability Services to your faculty member in a timely manner so that your needs can be addressed. Disability Services determines accommodations based on documented disabilities in the academic environment. Information on requesting accommodations is located on the [Disability Services website](#). Contact Disability Services at 303-492-8671 or [dsinfo@colorado.edu](mailto:dsinfo@colorado.edu) for further assistance. If you have a temporary medical condition, see [Temporary Medical Conditions](#) on the Disability Services website. If you have a required medical isolation for which you require adjustment, please follow the guidelines stated in the [Attendance Policy](#) above.

### PREFERRED STUDENT NAMES AND PRONOUNS

CU Boulder recognizes that students' legal information doesn't always align with how they identify. Students may update their preferred names and pronouns via the student portal; those preferred names and pronouns are listed on instructors' class rosters. In the absence of such updates, the name that appears on the class roster is the student's legal name.

### RELIGIOUS ACCOMMODATIONS

Campus policy requires faculty to provide reasonable accommodations for students who, because of religious obligations, have conflicts with scheduled exams, assignments or required attendance. Please communicate the need for a religious accommodation in a timely manner. ***In this class, if you have a religious obligation, please notify me via email of your schedule conflict at least two weeks before the obligation.*** See the [campus policy regarding religious observances](#) for full details.

### CLASSROOM BEHAVIOR

Both students and faculty are responsible for maintaining an appropriate learning environment in all instructional settings, whether in person, remote or online. Those who fail to adhere to such behavioral standards may be subject to discipline. Professional courtesy and sensitivity are especially important with respect to individuals and topics dealing with race, color, national origin, sex, pregnancy, age, disability, creed, religion, sexual orientation, gender identity, gender expression, veteran status, political affiliation or political philosophy. For more information, see the [classroom behavior](#) policy, the [Student Code of Conduct](#), and the [Office of Institutional Equity and Compliance](#) each have the responsibility to maintain an appropriate learning environment.

## HONOR CODE

All students enrolled in a University of Colorado Boulder course are responsible for knowing and adhering to the [Honor Code](#). Violations of the Honor Code may include but are not limited to: plagiarism (including use of paper writing services or technology [such as essay bots]), cheating, fabrication, lying, bribery, threat, unauthorized access to academic materials, clicker fraud, submitting the same or similar work in more than one course without permission from all course instructors involved, and aiding academic dishonesty. All incidents of academic misconduct will be reported to Student Conduct & Conflict Resolution: [honor@colorado.edu](mailto:honor@colorado.edu), 303-492-5550. Students found responsible for violating the [Honor Code](#) will be assigned resolution outcomes from the Student Conduct & Conflict Resolution as well as be subject to academic sanctions from the faculty member. Visit [Honor Code](#) for more information on the academic integrity policy. ***Clicker fraud (sharing clickers, clicking in for someone else, or otherwise cheating using a clicker) is a violation of CU Boulder's honor code.***

## SEXUAL MISCONDUCT, DISCRIMINATION, HARASSMENT AND/OR RELATED RETALIATION

CU Boulder is committed to fostering an inclusive and welcoming learning, working, and living environment. University policy prohibits [protected-class](#) discrimination and harassment, sexual misconduct (harassment, exploitation, and assault), intimate partner violence (dating or domestic violence), stalking, and related retaliation by or against members of our community on- and off-campus. These behaviors harm individuals and our community. The Office of Institutional Equity and Compliance (OIEC) addresses these concerns, and individuals who have been subjected to misconduct can contact OIEC at 303-492-2127 or email [cureport@colorado.edu](mailto:cureport@colorado.edu). Information about university policies, [reporting options](#), and [support resources](#) can be found on the [OIEC website](#).

Please know that faculty and graduate instructors must inform OIEC when they are made aware of incidents related to these policies regardless of when or where something occurred. This is to ensure that individuals impacted receive outreach from OIEC about resolution options and support resources. To learn more about reporting and support for a variety of concerns, visit the [Don't Ignore It page](#).

## REQUIREMENTS FOR INFECTIOUS DISEASE

Members of the CU Boulder community and visitors to campus must follow university, department, and building health and safety requirements and all applicable campus policies and public health guidelines to reduce the risk of spreading infectious diseases. If public health conditions require, the university may also invoke related requirements for student conduct and disability accommodation that will apply to this class.

## MENTAL HEALTH AND WELLNESS

The University of Colorado Boulder is committed to the well-being of all students. If you are struggling with personal stressors, mental health or substance use concerns that are impacting academic or daily life, please contact [Counseling and Psychiatric Services \(CAPS\)](#) located in C4C or call (303) 492-2277, 24/7.

Free and unlimited telehealth is also available through [Academic Live Care](#). The [Academic Live Care](#) site also provides information about additional wellness services on campus that are available to students.