

# Private Pilot Ground School

## Course Description

The *Private Pilot* *Ground (PPG) School* course is designed to prepare students for successful completion of the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) private pilot written examination. This course will provide the necessary foundation for students to successfully begin formal flight training. In PPG students will examine aviation topics such as: principles of flight, aircraft systems, airplane performance, flight operations, radio communication, FAA regulations, human factors associated with aviation, aviation weather, navigational charts and calculations, and cross country flying. Additionally, the integration of desktop flight simulation will allow hands on opportunities to explore classroom concepts as well as exposure to basic flight maneuvers. Upon successful completion of this course, students will receive a Certified Flight Instructor (CFI) logbook endorsement to take the FAA private pilot written examination. Successful completion will require a final examination grade of 80% or higher.

## Course Learning Outcomes

 By the end of this course, WMAA students will have experience in the following topics:

1. Define common aviation terminology, definitions, and acronyms.
2. Recall basic aircraft systems, instruments, and components of a conventional airplane.
3. Summarize the basic principles of flight.
4. Recall FAA regulations related to Pilot-in-Command (PIC) responsibilities associated with private pilot certification and safety of flight requirements.
5. Confirm proper FAA flight operations and radio communication procedures.
6. Interpret basic weather principles and their impact of flight operations.
7. Apply the basic principles of navigation, aeronautical chart interpretation, airspace, and airport symbology necessary for safe flight operations.
8. Calculate aircraft performance data to ensure aircraft safety requirements are maintained.
9. Conduct basic flight maneuvers and cross-country flights through the use of desktop flight simulation.
10. Investigate human factors and safety considerations associated with aviation.

## Textbooks

Private Pilot Ground School will be using the following textbook:

***Guided Flight Discovery, Private Pilot*, Jeppesen**

Students will each be assigned an individual textbook and are responsible for its condition upon return at the end of the school year.

This course will make ***extensive use of google classroom and other digital media for class communication, tests, & assignments.*** Thus, students should always bring their Chromebook to class with a charge cord (or fully charged) in order to access resources.

## Grades

Students will earn a final grade each semester based on mastery of the course learning outcomes. The cumulative semester course work, assessments, projects, quizzes and tests will comprise 80% of the final semester grade. A ***cumulative*** semester exam will comprise 20% of the final semester grade. The final semester grade will be used in determining a student’s grade point average (GPA).

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| **West Michigan Aviation Academy Grading Scale** |
| **Letter Grade** | **Percentage** | **Grade Point** |
|  A | 95-100% | 4.0 |
|  A- | 90-94% | 3.7 |
|  B+ | 87-89% | 3.3 |
|  B | 83-86% | 3.0 |
|  B- | 80-82% | 2.7 |
|  C+ | 77-79% | 2.3 |
|  C | 73-76% | 2.0 |
|  C- | 70-72% | 1.7 |
|  F | 0-69% | 0.0 |
|  INC | Incomplete Coursework | N/A |

## Character

Additionally, students will be evaluated on their character choices for each course. The character evaluation will reflect student mastery of WMAA’s critical character expectations: be respectful, be responsible and do your personal best.

3 – Exceeding Expectations

2 – Meeting Expectations

1 – Currently Not Meeting Expectations

## Gradebook – Available Online

Powerschool: <http://ps.westmichiganaviation.org/public/>

## Academic Integrity

Citizens of a free and democratic nation must strive to live lives full of honesty and integrity. Authors have worked hard the material they create. All work should be your own and when necessary, sources should be cited. Students involved in cheating or plagiarism will redo the assignment, and other appropriate actions will be determined at the time of the offense.

1st Offense = Complete assignment for second time and appropriate discipline assigned by the instructor

2nd Offense = Conference with student’s parents

## Coursework

WMAA will provide additional opportunities for students to show mastery of standards. Communication will occur frequently between teachers, students, and if necessary their parent/guardian concerning missing work. It is the student’s responsibility to meet with the teacher to determine a plan of action.

If coursework is not turned in on time, a zero will be recorded in the grade book until the work is submitted. This zero will be accompanied in the grade book with a “missing” marker so that the reason for the zero is evident. If the allowable time period to make up the work has passed, the zero will become a permanent grade. On time is defined as the end of the class period on the due date. Additionally, late work will only be awarded a maximum of 80% of the total original value. ***After a chapter or unit of learning has been completed, no late work will be accepted for that chapter***.

## Attendance and Tardies

**Attendance:** Students are expected to arrive on time daily, sign in, and fully participate in the class activities without infringing upon the rights of others and to conduct themselves in accordance with the expectations of WMAA and the Aviation world of work. Class attendance is important. Daily content builds on the previous day’s work. When students are absent it is their responsibility to contact the instructor and make-up missed work.

**Tardies**: Students are expected to be in the classroom when class starts, as this results in the most effective shared learning environment. We are accountable to each other (as learners) as well as to those in positions of authority (teachers, admin…) Tardiness without an excused note from the school office or another teacher will result in the student being marked tardy. Accumulation of tardies may result in discipline in accordance with the current policy in the WMAA Parent and Student Handbook. If the problem persists, further action will occur with the Dean of Students to determine an appropriate plan of action.

## Personal Electronic Devices

Personal electronic devices will only be allowed for academic purposes during class. During that time their use is ***expected***. The playing of electronic games, communication via texts, or social media unrelated to academic content is strictly prohibited and will ***not*** be tolerated.. Cell phones, tablet computers, or other personal electronics become a significant safety and classroom management risk and thus are strictly prohibited during class time. Students found using these items will earn the right to be technology free for the remainder of the class period and follow the WMAA Student Handbook policy/process. Additional infractions will result in further opportunities for clear thinking!

**With your full participation and focus this will be a revelatory, rewarding, and enjoyable year of aeronautical learning. Welcome to ground school! ☺**