Textron Systems offers a comprehensive Small Unmanned Aircraft System (SUAS) curriculum for students interested in Group II UAS flight operations. Students will have the opportunity to learn through both classroom instruction and hands-on field application how to safely and effectively operate the Aerosonde® Small Unmanned Aircraft System, a proven military, civil and commercial platform logging thousands of flight hours monthly. There are three course types offered to accommodate students learning needs, including using a combination of online coursework, classroom coursework and four-week hands on training at Textron Systems’ premier Unmanned Systems Service & Support Center in Blackstone, Virginia.

THE CURRICULUM:
- Two core coursework options offered to students to promote efficient learning and student life, while giving hands on flight training and mentorship at Textron Systems UAS training facilities
- Option 1: Semester long curriculum that allows students to move at their own pace, working with UAS course instructors
- Option 2: Accelerated seven-week course, with three weeks dedicated to the course work and four weeks dedicated to UAS flight training

THE INSTRUCTORS:
- Highly skilled, highly trained UAS instructors with backgrounds in military as well as commercial aviation operations, combining thousands of flight hours of experience.
- Dedicated instructor time and office hours to support student success

THE SYSTEM:
- The Aerosonde SUAS has amassed nearly 200,000 operational hours in both land and sea based operations.
- The system serves in a variety of use cases, including defense and civil and commercial applications

THE FACILITY:
- A premier UAS facility offering complete SUAS service, support and flight training
- State-of-the-art facility with in-house classrooms, training simulators and flight instructors

These courses are offered to U.S. citizens only.
AEROSONDE COURSE DESCRIPTIONS

AEROSONDE FAMILIARIZATION COURSE
This course provides students with a one-week introduction to UAS operations and Textron Systems’ products and services. Each student will complete a site tour, observe flight operations, receive detailed classroom lectures, work with training simulators and conduct approximately 1.5 hours of flight time (launch/recovery, basic payload operations).

AEROSONDE CREWMEMBER QUALIFICATION
This course offers an accelerated three-week intensive hands-on ground school or 16-week semester option. It is designed to certify students to safely operate the Aerosonde SUAS as an Aircraft Operator (AO), Payload Operator (PO), and Crew Chief (CC). Learning categories include ground support equipment, enroute flight navigation, dealing with complex emergencies, payload operations, minor air vehicle maintenance, and crew chief launch/recovery procedures. The students will be enrolled in online ground school and distance based simulator training with the option to complete the full Manufacturer Certification capstone consisting of four-additional weeks of flight training in Virginia. Upon successful completion of the course, the student will receive a full Manufacturer Certification as an operator.

AEROSONDE MAINTENANCE CERTIFICATION COURSE
This course offers an accelerated three-week intensive hands-on ground school or 16-week semester option. It is designed to certify students to safely maintain the Aerosonde SUAS as an Aircraft Maintenance Technician (AMT). The students will be enrolled in online ground school learning about all components of the aircraft system, proper techniques for launch and recovery, and all the components of the launch and recovery trailer. In addition, a capstone exercise consisting of four-weeks of hands-on training in Virginia is available resulting in full Manufacturer Certification as a maintainer.