# uc3m Universidad Carlos III de Madrid

Introduction to mechanics of flight

Academic Year: (2023 / 2024)

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Department assigned to the subject: null

Coordinating teacher: MERINO MARTINEZ, MARIO

Type: Compulsory ECTS Credits : 6.0

Year : 2 Semester :

### REQUIREMENTS (SUBJECTS THAT ARE ASSUMED TO BE KNOWN)

Calculus I, Calculus II, Linear Algebra, Physics I. We strongly advise you against taking this course if you have not passed Physics I yet.

#### OBJECTIVES

The goal of this course is that the student acquires a basic knowledge of classical mechanics applied to flight mechanics and aerospace systems.

## DESCRIPTION OF CONTENTS: PROGRAMME

0 Introduction

- Newton's laws
- Scalar and vector quantities
- Review of vector calculus
- Degrees of freedom and constraints
- 1 Kinematics of point particles
- Reference frames
- Position, velocity and acceleration
- Planar motion
- Tangential and normal components
- Relative motion
- Rotations
- Relations between position, velocity and acceleration using translating and rotating axes

#### 2 Dynamics of point particles

- Force and momentum
- Work and energy
- Rectilinear motion. Vibrations.
- Motion of a free particle
- Motion of a particle over a curve
- Motion of a particle over a surface
- Relative dynamics
- Angular momentum
- Central forces
- Kepler's problem
- Elliptical trajectories

3 Kinematics of a rigid body

- Velocity and acceleration fields
- Properties of the velocity field
- The Euler angles

- 4 Geometry of masses
- Center of mass
- Moments of inertia
- Moment of inertia tensor
- Steiner's theorem
- Principal axes
- 5 Rigid body dynamics
- Linear momentum
- Angular momentum
- Kinetic energy
- General equations for a system of particles
- General equations for the rigid body
- Equilibrium
- Work and energy principles

6 Systems of rigid bodies

- General equations
- Constraints and linkages
- 7. Torque-free motion of the rigid body
- Kinematics
- Dynamics and conservation laws
- Polhode and herpolode. Stability
- 8 The airplane as a point particle
- Airplane parts
- Forces on the airplane: Lift, drag, aerodynamic moments
- Straight and level flight
- Gliding flight
- Climbing flight

# LEARNING ACTIVITIES AND METHODOLOGY

Theory sessions in master classes (flipped classroom methodology will be followed) Problem sessions in reduced groups Lab-sessions and computer sessions with mathematical software Personal and group work

#### ASSESSMENT SYSTEM

% end-of-term-examination/test:	60
% of continuous assessment (assigments, laboratory, practicals):	40
End-of-term exam (60%)	

End-of-term exam (60% Class quizzes (20%) Lab sessions (20%)

In order to pass the subject, two requirements need to be met:

1) to have a MINIMUM mark of 4.0/10 in the end-of-term exam; 2) to have a minimum overall mark of 5.0/10 (weighing 60% the end-of-term exam mark and 40% the mark of the continuous evaluation).

#### BASIC BIBLIOGRAPHY

- J. H. Ginsberg Engineering Dynamics, Cambridge Univ. Press, 2007

- W.T. Thomson Introduction to Space Dynamics, Dover, 1986

# ADDITIONAL BIBLIOGRAPHY

- A.C. Kermode Mechanics of Flight 12th Ed., Pearson, 2012

# BASIC ELECTRONIC RESOURCES

- Mario Merino . ANAKIN code: https://github.com/uc3m-aerospace/anakin