

DRONE FLIGHT TRAINING

MW AIRLIFT™ Drone Flight Training Syllabus

Two-hour hands-on flight training. Real stick time, not classroom hours. Supplements the Wake Tech drone program.

PREREQUI
SITE

FAA TRUST test required before class. Anyone flying a drone recreationally in the US must complete The Recreational UAS Safety Test (TRUST) — a free, ~20-minute online test from the FAA. Please complete it before your session and bring your completion certificate.

Take the test: faa.gov/uas/recreational_flyers/knowledge_test_updates

Training options & pricing

Option	Format	Price
2-Hour Boot Camp [Most Popular]	Group up to 8, 2 hours	\$75 per person
Private Lesson	1-2 people, 2 hours	\$225 per session
Extended Private Intensive [New]	1:1, 3 hours, deep dive	\$349 per session
Group / Organization	Up to 8, on-site or ours, 2 hours	\$650 per session

Discounts & special rates

Type	Discount	Details
Student	25% off with valid college ID	Wake Tech, ECSU, NC State, Duke, UNC, any community college. Applies to Boot Camp and Private Lesson.
Youth (10-17)	40% off Boot Camp - \$45/child	Must be accompanied by a paying adult. Younger kids by request.
Family package	1 adult + 1 youth = \$99 combined	Parent + child (10-17) boot camp. Saves \$21 vs individual rates.
Referral	\$15 off your next session	Every person you refer who books earns you \$15 off. No cap.

Instructor:	Warren Gonsalves, FAA Part 107 certified pilot
Location:	Raleigh, NC (address confirmed on signup)
Format:	Group boot camp (up to 8), 1-2 person private, or on-site organizational
Focus:	Real-stick flight time, safety, and camera work
Relationship:	Supplements Wake Tech UAS program + ECSU HBCU aviation (not officially affiliated)
Prerequisite:	FAA TRUST test completed (free, online, ~20 min)
Deliverable:	Certificate of completion issued at end of session

Module detail

MODULE 1 • 15 min

Safety brief and regulations overview

- FAA Part 107 basics — what you can and cannot do without certification
- NDAA compliance and why it matters for federal / government use
- Airspace classifications (Class B, C, D, E, G) — where you can fly
- LAANC and B4UFLY app
- Temporary Flight Restrictions (TFRs) and how to check for them
- Waivers, exemptions, and the "recreational vs commercial" distinction

MODULE 2 • 15 min

Pre-flight inspection and mission planning

- Aircraft airworthiness checklist
- Battery inspection and cycle tracking
- Weather assessment (wind, visibility, precipitation, gust factors)
- Site risk assessment (people, structures, powerlines, wildlife)
- Emergency landing zones and Return-to-Home (RTH) point selection
- Go/No-Go decision framework

MODULE 3 • 30 min

Basic flight — hover and directional

- Controller familiarization and stick calibration
- Takeoff and landing procedures
- Stationary hover — maintaining position and altitude
- Directional flight — forward, backward, left, right
- Yaw rotation and orientation awareness
- Practice patterns: box, figure-8, target hover

MODULE 4 • 30 min**Autonomous flight and camera work**

- Waypoint mission planning (Litchi, DJI Fly, mission-planning apps)
- Orbit and follow-me modes
- Camera framing, exposure, and composition basics
- Photo vs video, resolution, frame rate
- Shot planning — the shots that get used vs the shots that get deleted

MODULE 5 • 15 min**Emergency procedures**

- Return-to-Home in signal loss or low battery
- Emergency landing on unstable terrain
- Bird strikes, sudden weather, mechanical failure
- What to do if you lose visual line-of-sight
- Reporting incidents to the FAA (required if injury or property damage)

MODULE 6 • 15 min**Q&A and wrap-up**

- Your specific use case — hobby, real estate, inspection, event work
- What to buy next if you want to go further
- **If you want to fly commercially:** your next step is FAA Part 107 — Wake Tech Community College runs the local exam-prep program
- Resources: FAA study materials, community groups, further reading
- Certificate of completion issued

Book your session

View schedule and reserve online at mwairlift.com/drone-training/schedule/

Sign up at mwairlift.com/drone-training/signup/

Questions: training@mwairlift.com or (919) 306-1695

Reminder: complete the FAA TRUST test before your session — free at faa.gov.