

CAMPUS RISK AND SAFETY

ODU Office of Risk Management

Vol 1:1

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Crosswalk Safety

ODU returns to full swing today resulting in more vehicular, and pedestrian traffic on our already busy roadways.

Of specific concern is traffic safety around

crosswalks. During peak times, our campus can see thousands of pedestrians, vehicles, cyclists and skateboarders pass through crosswalks and intersections.

ODU Risk Management wondered if there was one group with more unsafe practices than another. So we asked ODU Police Captain Garrett Shelton, and he said the answer is no. There are a lot of unsafe practices that can impact crosswalk safety, but the problem falls into two main categories (1) not paying attention and (2) not following traffic signs.

Some factors that increase the risk of an accident while crossing streets and roadways include: Stepping in streets when vehicular traffic has the green light; wearing headphones or looking down at cell phones while crossing streets; waiting in the roadway for a walk signal rather than waiting for it on the relatively safer sidewalk.

Riding your bike, skateboard or similar personal mobility vehicle (PMV) through crosswalks can cause accidents and it is against the law as well. Always walk your bike, skateboard or PMV through crosswalks. By doing this, it will help motorists and other pedestrians see you, reducing the potential injury to you by a vehicle or of you possibly inadvertently striking another pedestrian and causing an injury to them. Remember its difficult for motorists to see you and judge your speed if your riding through as cross walk.

Drivers are often at fault as well. Distracted by cells phones and simply not paying attention, drivers many times fail to give pedestrians the right of way in crosswalks. This can lead to critical injury or even death. Drivers responsible for the injury or death of a pedestrian struck while in a crosswalk with the right of way can be issued a ticket and face punitive damages including fines and possible imprisonment.

For more information see [http://sharevaroads.org/wp-content/uploads/2016/10/5th - Edition-Safety-Guide-September-2016.pdf](http://sharevaroads.org/wp-content/uploads/2016/10/5th-Edition-Safety-Guide-September-2016.pdf).



Crosswalk at 43rd Street and Hampton Blvd.

ODU Adopts Online Safety Training

The Office's of Risk Management and Environmental Health and Safety are taking safety and risk management training online.



While individual and group training is still available and offered by the these offices, a new online training platform is being rolled out this Fall. Currently its being beta tested within the Department of Public Safety and will be rolled out later this semester to select Departments and Units.

ODU's Office of Risk Management sought an online safety and compliance management system to help provide training in the following campus safety categories: Emergency Management, Environmental, Health, Human Resources, Information Technology, Nutrition Services, Security, Social and Behavioral, Student Issues, and Transportation Safety.

We wanted a system that provided unlimited access to a comprehensive course library, customization options, a way to create and distribute campus-specific courses and policies, 24/7/365 access to training, email notification of assignments, automatic tracking, administrative reports, and technical and training support.

Rob Wells
Director,
Office of Risk Management

Rob Wells, Director for the Office of Risk Management, stated we sought a system that provided unlimited access to a comprehensive course library, customization options, a way to create and distribute campus-specific courses and policies, 24/7/365 access to training, email notification of assignments, automatic tracking, administrative reports, and training support. After a thorough evaluation, the contract was awarded to Scenario Learning providing ODU access to the SafeColleges Online Training System. The Web-based system will help ODU administrators automate staff and student training, saving valuable time and resources.

In phase one of the SafeColleges project, the Office of Environmental Health and Safety, Department of Public Safety and Office of Emergency Management will participate in safety training programs specific to their areas of responsibility. In Phase Two, the Office of Environmental Health and Safety will roll out OHSA required training across the campus to areas as part of ODU's OHSA compliance program.

In Phase Three, the Office of Risk Management will be working with departments to introduce training on risk areas identified through the ongoing Enterprise Risk Management initiative. These training programs will cover such areas as employment risks, health concerns, liability risks, security risks, social and behavioral risks, technology risks, transportation and travel risks.

Faculty and staff interested in learning more about the courses or system potential are encourage to log into the site at <https://odu-va.safecolleges.com> using their campus Midas credentials. Once logged in, you can simply click the box titled "Interested in Extra Training" as shown below and select a course from the menu which will be displayed.

The screenshot shows the 'My Assignments' section of the SafeColleges Training platform. At the top, there is a header with the SafeColleges logo and navigation links. Below the header, a message states: "You do not have any training assignments that are currently active. Please check back later." A large green circular button with a checkmark is centered on the page. At the bottom, there is a box labeled "Interested in Extra Training?" with a note: "You may have access to many more courses that cover a wide variety of topics. Please take the time to look over the list and view the ones that interest you." A blue circular button with a plus sign is located in the bottom right corner of this box. The footer contains links for "Terms of Use", "Privacy Policy", "Contact", "Cambiar el idioma al español", and the "VECTOR" logo.

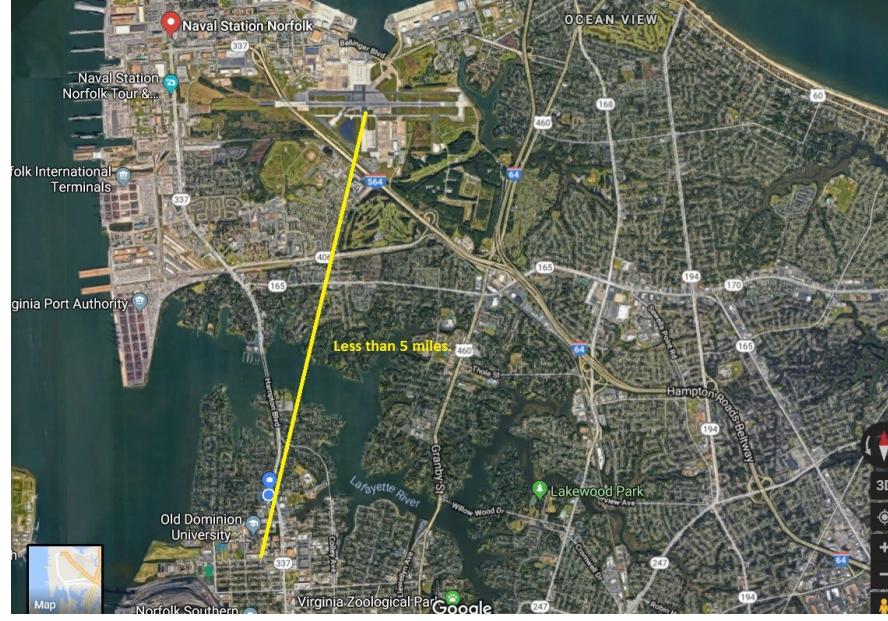
Campus Drone / UAS Policy



Last semester ODU implemented a Drone/UAS policy to ensure students, faculty and staff are in compliance with FAA, state and local regulations. See ODU Policy 3015: Unmanned Aircraft Systems

aka Drones, Aerials and Other Powered Model Aircraft was approved in February 2018. Since then a number of students, faculty and staff, as well as, third parties have made requests to fly unmanned aerial systems (UAS/Drones) over the campus which has a large area of restricted airspace above us.

The Norfolk Campus' proximity to Norfolk Naval Air Station at Chambers Field creates a challenge as FAA regulations prohibit flight of a UAS within a five mile radius of an airport or heliport without first obtaining permission from the Airport. This is additionally complicated as Chambers Field is a military installation. Obtaining approval has been challenging.



*Aerial view of ODU Campus and proximity to Chambers Field.
Photo credit Google Maps.*

Should Chambers Field give approval, the FAA requires commercial flights be operated only by licensed pilots with a Part 107 license. Thus, anyone flying for University business such as an instructor, professor, coach, etc. is required to be licensed before ODU can issue a permit. Students operating a UAS as a hobby are not required to be licensed, but are still required to get permission from Chambers Field and be insured through an insurance company authorized to do business in the Commonwealth of Virginia.

As you can see, there are many hoops to jump through. This, and more, is covered on the ODU Risk Management website at this link <https://www.odu.edu/riskmanagement/advisories#tab194=4>.

The ODU UAS Approval Committee has authorized the Office of Risk Management to apply for a Certificate of Authorization from the FAA with the approval of Chambers Field. Once this is received, our office will be able to approve limited ODU UAS Operations. We hope to have information on this available to the campus community prior to the Spring 2019 semester.

Campus Risk And Safety is a publication of Old Dominion University and the Office of Risk Management.

If you would like to suggest a topic for inclusion in an upcoming issue please send us an email at risk@odu.edu or call our office during normal business hours at (757) 683-4009.