



Gold Seal Online Ground School

Private Pilot Course Syllabus



Student Name: _____

This syllabus is intended for use solely with the Gold Seal Online Ground School.

www.FAA-Ground-School.com

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Introduction

The Gold Seal Online Ground School is a complete training curriculum for the FAA Private Pilot Certificate. Note that ground instruction of the conceptual material is not solely for written test (known formally as the **Knowledge Test**) preparation. This is one goal, but not the only goal. There is a lot of material that is not evaluated during the written test. Pilots still, however, must know and understand this important information. It is necessary for safe and legal flight. This extra material will likely be covered during the oral portion of the final checkride (known formally as the **Practical Test**).

There will be a point during training when the student is preparing specifically for the written test. During this time it is natural for the focus to be on the appropriate material. Making a good score on the test is an important indication of the mastery of the material. But remember that, ultimately, all of the material must be learned. Don't fall into the trap of believing that conceptual knowledge is only required to pass the written test. It is all critical information that is needed by pilots on a day-to-day basis.

To assist students during their study, this Ground School uses a special icon to identify lessons that include material covered in the written test:



It looks like a dog-eared page with some check boxes on it.

How to Use the Syllabus

The Ground School lessons are broken up into blocks. You should generally follow the lessons sequentially, however, there is no harm in doing a bit of jumping around.





Four columns on the right allow you to track your progress through the course. Online, green checkmarks indicate that you have viewed individual lessons. But the check boxes in the syllabus give you extended flexibility.

When you view a lesson for the first time, check the box labeled "Init". This shows that you have started. You will retake most of the lessons, and perhaps all of them, multiple times. The second box labeled "Rev" shows that you have viewed the lesson a second time for review. If you then review additional times, check the third box labeled "Rev+".

Once you are satisfied that you have mastered all the material in a lesson, check the rightmost box labeled "Final".




Keeping the boxes up to date will make it easy for you to keep track of your progress and assist with extra reviews when needed.

Getting Started







		Init.	Rev.	Rev.+	Final
	Introduction - Watch this first				
	Getting Your Pilot's License - The Procedure				
	VFR Pilot Currency				
	Airplane Flight Instruments Overview				
	Airplane Flight Instruments - How They Work				
	The Garmin G1000 Glass Cockpit - Student Checkout*				
	Fundamentals of Aerodynamics				

*Note: If you are not training in a G1000 equipped airplane, this lesson is optional.





Your First Few Hours

		Init.	Rev.	Rev.+	Final
	Airports and Airspaces				
	Stalls, Spins, and Spirals				
	Stall Recoveries Made Easy				
	Airport Operations				
	The Stabilized Approach				
	Your First Solo Flight				






Skill Building

		Init.	Rev.	Rev.+	Final
	Understanding Sectional Charts				
	Aircraft Design Stability				
	Ten Tips for Better Landings				
	VFR Minimums				
	Calculating Crosswind Components				
	Understanding Density Altitude				
	Class D Radio Communications				
	Private Pilot Ground Reference Maneuvers				
	FAA Pilot Regulations (Current copy of the FAR/AIM needed)				


Aviation Weather

		Init.	Rev.	Rev.+	Final
	Weather Theory				
	Understanding Weather Charts				
	Understanding METARs and TAFs				
	Atmospheric Instability				
	Thunderstorm Review				

Real World Flying

		Init.	Rev.	Rev.+	Final
	In the Class D Traffic Pattern				
	Mastering Flight Following				
	VOR Navigation				
	VOR Simulator				
	GPS: What it Is and How it Works				
	Transponders: Their Operation and Use				
	Weight and Balance				
	Performance Charts				
	VFR Cross Country Flight Planning (plotter and E6B needed)				
	Aeromedical Factors				

You, Pilot! Passing Your Exams.

		Init.	Rev.	Rev.+	Final
	The Private Pilot Written Test - Prepare to Pass!				
	Secrets to Private Pilot Checkride Success (PTS needed)				

The Gold Seal Written Test Summary and Oral Exam Summary audio CDs are recommended for this section.

Note that the current Private Pilot PTS can be downloaded for free from the Gold Seal Online Ground School Library. The abridged/annotated version is recommended.