

TANNER R. YACKLEY

REMOTE WARFARE RESEARCHER | UAS OPERATIONS EXPERT | MILITARY
HUMAN PERFORMANCE SCHOLAR
MANVEL, ND USA | +1 218-329-7432 |
TANNER.YACKLEY@GMAIL.COM

RESEARCH INTERESTS

- Remote warfare and persistent surveillance operations
 - Human-machine teaming
 - Supervisory control of autonomous systems
 - Cognitive workload and attention allocation
 - Command and control architectures
 - Situational awareness and context reconstruction
 - Military innovation and emerging technology
 - AI-enabled military operations
-

EDUCATION

Master of Science, Aeronautics
Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University
2020

Bachelor of Science, Aeronautics
Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University
2018

Doctoral Coursework

University of North Dakota
General/Experimental Psychology
15 credits completed

ACADEMIC APPOINTMENTS

Assistant Professor / UAS Faculty

University of North Dakota
2021–2025

- Delivered undergraduate instruction to 120+ students per semester across UAS operations, autonomy, mission planning, and airspace integration.
- Modernized curriculum to incorporate autonomy systems, regulatory developments, and emerging operational risk frameworks.
- Bridged academic training with industry requirements through partnerships supporting workforce deployment pathways.

- Developed structured instructional architectures translating MQ-9 operational systems into scalable learning environments.

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Evaluator Sensor Operator
General Atomics Aeronautical Systems
2018–2021

NCOIC, Weapons and Tactics / Evaluator / MQ9 Schoolhouse
United States Air Force
2016–2018

MQ-9 Training Manager / Instructor
United States Air Force
2013–2016

MQ-9 Sensor Operator
United States Air Force
2011–2013

OPERATIONAL EXPERIENCE

3,400+ MQ-9 flight hours
1,000+ combat missions
Weapons School finalist
Evaluator authority
Training oversight for 450+ students annually
Qualification oversight for 500+ instructors

PUBLICATIONS, MEDIA, AND SCHOLARSHIP

BOOKS

Yackley, Tanner R. *The Reaper's Shadow: How Remote Warfare Systems Follow Operators Home* (Amazon KDP, 2026.)

Media Coverage and Expert Commentary

Yackley, Tanner R. Interview regarding MQ-9 remotely piloted aircraft operations and modern drone strike employment. *Business Insider*, September 2025.

Yackley, Tanner R. Featured contributor discussing military drone operations, workforce development, and Army drone training initiatives. *USA Today*, February 2026.

Quoted subject matter expert regarding remote warfare, military operations, and emerging defense technologies. AFCEA International, 2026.

Selected Research Essays and Professional Commentary

Yackley, Tanner R. "Remote Warfare Veterans: An Emerging Operational Exposure Population."

Yackley, Tanner R. "Representation Loss: The Hidden Problem Behind Counter-UAS, Autonomy, and Human-Machine Teams"

Yackley, Tanner R. "Attention Under Load: Psychological History, Persistent Vigilance, and the Unmapped Human Demands of Remote Warfare"

Yackley, Tanner R. "Remote Warfare Doesn't Remove the Human Factor. It Changes Where It Lives."

Yackley, Tanner R. "Remote Operations Combat Exposure Model (RO-CEM)."

Yackley, Tanner R. "Operational Risk Management: The Worksheet vs. the Real Decision"

Yackley, Tanner R. "The Human System in Remote Warfare."

Yackley, Tanner R. "The Layered Suicide Spectrum. Why We Keep Getting Suicide Wrong"

Public Scholarship

Author of 30+ published essays examining remote warfare, supervisory control, human-machine teaming, military human performance, autonomous systems, and veteran health.

RESEARCH PROJECTS

Supervisory Control in Persistent Remote Operations

Investigating:

- Context reconstruction costs
- Salience alignment
- Human cognitive limits
- Authority compression
- Human-machine teaming

Remote Warrior Initiative

Founder and lead researcher.

Research focus:

- Veteran transition
 - Remote operations workforce development
 - Human performance in distributed environments
-

HONORS & AWARDS

Honor Graduate USAF Basic Military Training (2010)

MQ-9 Top Gun Award (2012)

Sensor Operator of the Quarter (2013)

Instructor Sensor Operator of the Quarter (2014)

Instructor Sensor Operator of the Quarter (x2) (2016)

Instructor Sensor Operator of the Year (2017)
USAF Weapons School Finalist (2018)
26 Aerial Achievement medals

LANGUAGES

English