



## NEWS RELEASE

Air Force Academy Public Affairs

[Media.rel@usafa.edu](mailto:Media.rel@usafa.edu)

Office: 719-333-7731

After hours: 719-339-5313

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### **Entrepreneur, research advocate Elon Musk discusses space enterprise with cadets**

**U.S. AIR FORCE ACADEMY, Colo.** – SpaceX founder and CEO Elon Musk met with cadets to discuss space travel and exploration today at the U.S. Air Force Academy.

Musk greeted the cadet wing from the staff tower at the Mitchell Hall Dining Facility and seated the cadets for lunch. Following lunch, Musk served as the distinguished speaker for the Academy's Ira C. Eaker Lecture in Arnold Hall. In his comments Musk shared his problem-solving philosophy, addressed the connection between military and commercial space interests, and discussed the challenges of space debris as he took questions from the cadet audience.

Cadets then spoke with Musk directly to present their research in artificial intelligence for drones, autonomous systems, colonization policy and rocket cargo research achieved as part of their capstone projects.

"If we're not blowing up engines, we're not trying hard enough," Musk said in his comments, telling cadets that innovation relies on taking risks and pushing boundaries. Musk said success in the space industry, particularly in the arenas of space travel and colonization, relies on, "rapid and complete reusability," of spacecraft.

Musk is an entrepreneur, investor, business magnate and the product architect of Tesla, Inc.

**Photos associated with this news release are online at:**

[https://www.flickr.com/photos/af\\_academy/albums/72177720297938721](https://www.flickr.com/photos/af_academy/albums/72177720297938721)

**Video associated with this news release is online at:**

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[media.rel@usafa.edu](mailto:media.rel@usafa.edu)