

ASTRONOMY, MASTER OF SCIENCE (M.S.)

Thesis option: 33 credits

Non-thesis option: 32 credits

Course	Title	Credits
Complete eight of the ten principal courses:		24
ASTR601	Radiative Processes	
ASTR606	Stellar Structure and Evolution	
ASTR610	Astronomical Instrumentation and Techniques	
ASTR615	Computational Astrophysics	
ASTR620	Galaxies	
ASTR622	Cosmology	
ASTR630	Planetary Science	
ASTR635	Exoplanetary Astrophysics	
ASTR670	Interstellar Medium and Gas Dynamics	
ASTR680	High Energy Astrophysics	
Both thesis and non-thesis students take each of the following research courses:		
ASTR688	Special Topics in Modern Astronomy (ASTR688B - Current Astronomy Research)	1
ASTR688	Special Topics in Modern Astronomy (ASTR688C - Seminar in Modern Astronomy Research)	1
ASTR695	Introduction to Research	1
Thesis or non-thesis option		5-6
Thesis (6 credits):		
ASTR799	Master's Thesis Research	
	Master's Thesis Defense	
Non-thesis (5 credits):		
ASTR699	Special Problems in Advanced Astronomy	
	Second-Year Project Presentation	
Total Credits		32-33

Non-thesis Option

32 credits. A minimum of 32 semester hours of coursework is required for the degree program. This must include 24 hours of 600-level ASTR courses from the list of principal courses. The remaining 8 semester hours come from additional 600-level courses. Students must complete a second-year project which includes one or more scholarly papers demonstrating their ability to conduct original and/or literature-based research. The student will orally present their second-year project to a committee of tenured and tenure-track Astronomy faculty who will evaluate the project and presentation.

Thesis Option

33 credits. A minimum of 33 semester hours of coursework is required for the degree program. This must include 24 hours of 600-level ASTR courses from the list of principal courses. The remaining 9 semester hours come from 3 additional credits of 600-level courses and 6 credits of ASTR799. A written thesis is required and must be successfully defended in an oral examination following Graduate School policies and procedures.