

PHYSICS, MASTER OF SCIENCE (M.S.)

Thesis option: 30 credits

Non-thesis option (scholarly report): 30 credits

The Department offers both thesis and non-thesis options in its Master of Science program. However, virtually all physics graduate students are admitted directly to the Ph.D. program, and may, if they choose, obtain a Master's naturally in the course of their Ph.D. studies. A student interested instead in a terminal Master's degree should consult with the Physics Department. The Departmental requirements for the non-thesis option include: a total of 30 credits excluding research credits; four courses covering core graduate-level physics (this requirement may be waived based on a student's performance on the Ph.D. qualifying exam); a paper as evidence of ability to organize and present a written scholarly report on contemporary research. The thesis option replaces the scholarly paper requirement with the writing of a thesis and the passing of an oral examination in defense of the thesis.

Course	Title	Credits
Core Requirements		30
Four courses covering core graduate-level physics ¹		
Thesis or Non-Thesis Option		
Thesis:		
PHYS799	Master's Thesis Research	
Pass an oral examination		
Non-Thesis:		
Complete a scholarly report		
Total Credits		30

¹ This requirement may be waived based on a student's performance on Ph.D. qualifying exam.