

**REQUIREMENTS FOR THE DOCTOR OF PHILOSOPHY**  
**COLLEGE OF ATMOSPHERIC AND GEOGRAPHIC SCIENCES**  
**THE UNIVERSITY OF OKLAHOMA**

Academic Year
For Students Entering the Oklahoma State System for Higher Education Summer 2025 through Spring 2026

General Requirements
Minimum Total Hours ..... 90

Program
Atmospheric Science
D085
Doctor of Philosophy

**PROGRAM REQUIREMENTS**

Code	Title	Credit Hours
<b>Coursework</b>		
A minimum of 33 hours of letter-graded courses 5000 or above (excluding METR 5990). All must be passed with a grade of B or better.		33
The following courses must be included.		
METR 5003	Fundamentals of Atmospheric Science <sup>1</sup>	
METR 5113	Geophysical Fluid Dynamics	
Choose one course from each of following Atmospheric Science areas		
<i>Dynamics options</i>		3
METR 5103	Boundary Layer Dynamics	
METR 5133	Synoptic-Dynamics	
METR 5143	Mesoscale-Dynamics	
<i>Physics options</i>		3
METR 5223	Atmospheric Radiation	
METR 5723	Atmospheric Composition	
METR 5233	Cloud and Precipitation Physics	
<i>Climate options:</i>		3
METR 5503	Climate Dynamics and Global Physical Climatology	
METR 5583	General Circulation of the Atmosphere	
METR 5543	Global Climate Change	
<b>Electives</b>		
Choose 3 hours of Non-METR graduate electives, letter graded 5000 or above.		3
Choose 3 hours of METR graduate electives, letter graded 5000 or above (excluding METR 5990).		3
Choose an additional 6 hours of letter graded graduate electives, 5000 or above, from either METR or courses outside of Meteorology.		6
<i>Seminar</i>		
METR 6970	Seminar <sup>3</sup>	1-10
<i>Dissertation Research</i>		
METR 6980	Research for Doctoral Dissertation (minimum 2 hours) <sup>4</sup>	2
Additional coursework as needed to complete 90 post-baccalaureate hours, as approved by advisor and doctoral advisory committee		24-33
Satisfactory completion of the written and oral portion of the School of Meteorology's General Exam		
Satisfactory dissertation defense		
<b>Total Credit Hours</b>		<b>90</b>

**GENERAL REQUIREMENTS FOR DOCTORAL DEGREES**

A student should expect to spend at least the equivalent of three full academic years beyond the bachelor's degree to obtain the doctoral degree. During this period the student will take appropriate graduate coursework, successfully complete the general examination, and successfully defend and submit the final dissertation.

All coursework applied to the doctoral degree must carry graduate credit.

The doctoral degree requires at least 90 post-baccalaureate hours, including both formal coursework and hours of research.

The minimum hour requirement for a specific doctoral degree program cannot be waived.

No more than one-half of the credit hours, both OU and overall, excluding Research for Doctoral Dissertation (6980), may be S/U-graded coursework.

The student must be in residence at OU for at least two consecutive 16-week semesters during the pursuit of the doctoral degree while enrolled and engaged in coursework or research activities as prescribed by the major academic unit.

For more detailed regulations and requirements for Doctoral degrees, please consult the Graduate College Bulletin: <http://www.ou.edu/gradcollege/forms/bulletin>

More information in the catalog: (<http://ou-public.courseleaf.com/atmospheric-geographic-sciences/meteorology/atmospheric-science-doctor-philosophy/>).

- METR 5003 may be waived at the discretion of the advisory committee and graduate liaison. In this case, 3 credit hours of any graduate-level meteorology courses numbered 5000 or above may be taken in lieu of METR 5003.
- Enrollment in at least 1 credit hour of METR 6970 is required every academic year after admission into the PhD program.
- After the first semester of enrolling in METR 6980, continuous enrollment of at least 2 hours of METR 6980 each semester (excluding summer sessions) must be maintained until the doctoral degree is completed. Enrollment in the summer session is required only if (1) the degree is conferred in the summer session, or (2) work is being done on the dissertation.

**NOTES:**

- Transfer credits from M.S. degree: A total of up to 44 credit hours from a completed master's degree and additional graduate course work may be approved for transfer credit. Only 5 thesis research (METR 5980) credits can be transferred from a M.S. meteorology degree (the number required for the degree)
- Any METR course may be replaced by transfer courses with equivalent course content as indicated on the Advisory Conference Report.
- S/U graded coursework restrictions: No more than one-half of the credits for OU coursework for a doctoral degree, excluding research for the dissertation (METR 6980), may be S/U-graded coursework; and no more than one-half of the overall coursework (OU credit and transfer credit, combined), excluding credits for METR 6980, may be S/U-graded coursework.
- A plan for the completion of the required and elective PhD course work must be indicated in the student's Advisory Conference Report or its amendments.