

REQUIREMENTS FOR THE MASTER OF SCIENCE **DODGE FAMILY COLLEGE OF ARTS AND 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 (Thesis) 30
Minimum Total Hours (Non-Thesis) 32

Program
Physics
M780
Master of Science

REQUIRED COURSES

THESIS OPTION (STANDARD)

Code	Title	Credit Hours
Choose 14-16 hours of PHYS and/or ASTR courses at the 4000-level or above (note that 4000 level courses must carry graduate credit)		14-16
PHYS 5980	Research for Master's Thesis	2-4
Choose 12 hours of other graduate coursework as approved by the advisory committee		12
Total Credit Hours		30

THESIS OPTION (ASTROPHYSICS)

Code	Title	Credit Hours
ASTR 4303	Stellar Astrophysics ¹	0 or 3
Choose 6 hours of ASTR courses numbered 5000 or above		6
Choose 12 credit hours of PHYS and/or ASTR courses at the 4000-level or above. (note that 4000 level courses must carry graduate credit)		12
PHYS 5980	Research for Master's Thesis	2-4
Choose 5-10 hours of other graduate coursework as approved by the advisory committee, to bring total graduate credit hours to 30		5-10
Total Credit Hours		30

¹ If presented as undergraduate credit, this course does not count towards the 30 hours required for the degree.

NON-THESIS OPTION

Code	Title	Credit Hours
Choose 20 hours of PHYS and/or ASTR courses at the 4000-level or above (note that 4000 level courses must carry graduate credit) ¹		20
Choose 12 hours of other graduate coursework as approved by the advisory committee		12
Total Credit Hours		32

¹ May not include PHYS 5980.

NOTES

- Non-thesis students must pass the internal departmental qualifying exams on Quantum Mechanics, Electrodynamics, and Classical & Statistical Mechanics.
- The Comprehensive Exam can be either the General Exam for admission to doctoral candidacy (for students pursuing a doctorate) or a separate written paper and oral exam (for students exiting with a Masters).

GENERAL REQUIREMENTS FOR ALL MASTER'S DEGREES

The master's degree requires the equivalent of *at least* two semesters of satisfactory graduate work and additional work as may be prescribed for the degree.

All coursework applied to the master's degree must carry graduate credit.

Master's degree programs which require a thesis consist of *at least* 30 credit hours. All non-thesis master's degree programs require *at least* 30 credit hours.

Credit transferred from other institutions must meet specific criteria and is subject to certain limitations.

Courses completed through correspondence study may *not* be applied to the master's degree.

To qualify for a graduate degree, students must achieve an overall grade point average of 3.0 or higher in the degree program coursework and in all resident graduate coursework attempted. A student must also have at least a 3.0 in all coursework (including undergraduate coursework if any).

Additional information for master's degree students may be found in the Graduate College Bulletin.

More information in the catalog: (<http://ou-public.courseleaf.com/dodge-arts-sciences/dodge-physics-astronomy/physics-master-science/>).