# REQUIREMENTS FOR THE MASTER OF SCIENCE

## COLLEGE OF ARTS & SCIENCES

### THE UNIVERSITY OF OKLAHOMA

For Students Entering the Oklahoma State System for Higher Education:

**Summer 2015 through Spring 2016**

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### GENERAL REQUIREMENTS

| Minimum Total Hours (Thesis) | 30 |
| Minimum Total Hours (Non-Thesis) | 32 |

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### REQUIRED COURSES

#### THESIS OPTION (standard):

- 18 hours of PHYS and/or ASTR courses at the 4000-level or above. (note that 4000 level courses must carry graduate credit). At least 2, but no more than 4, hours must be PHYS 5980, Research for Master’s Thesis.
- 12 hours of other graduate coursework as approved by the advisory committee.

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#### THESIS OPTION (Astrophysics):

- **ASTR 4303, Stellar Astrophysics**  
  (if presented as undergraduate credit, this course does not count towards the 30 hours required for the degree)
- 6 hours of ASTR courses numbered 5000 or above
- 12 credit hours of PHYS and/or ASTR courses at the 4000-level or above. (note that 4000 level courses must carry graduate credit).
- **PHYS 5980, Research for Master’s Thesis.**
- 5-10 hours of other graduate coursework as approved by the advisory committee, to bring total graduate credit hours to 30.

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#### NON-THESIS OPTION:

- 20 hours of PHYS and/or ASTR courses at the 4000-level or above. (note that 4000 level courses must carry graduate credit).  
  May not include PHYS 5980, Research for Master’s Thesis.
- 12 hours of other graduate coursework as approved by the advisory committee.

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Note: 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).

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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 32 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).

A student who has done satisfactory graduate work and has earned a 3.0 grade point average may file for master’s candidacy.

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Program effective SU14. Check sheet version 5/2015