# Requirements for the Master of Science

**College of Arts & Sciences**  
**The University of Oklahoma**

## General Requirements

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Minimum Total Hours (Thesis)</th>
<th>30</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Minimum Total Hours (Non-Thesis)</td>
<td>32</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

## Required Courses

### Thesis Option (Standard):

- 18 hours of PHYS and/or ASTR courses at the 4000-level or above. (Note: 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.

### 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: 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.

### Non-Thesis Option:

- 20 hours of PHYS and/or ASTR courses at the 4000-level or above. (Note: 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.

**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).