ASTRONOMY, MASTER OF SCIENCE (M.S.)

Thesis or Non-thesis option: 30 credits

Course	Title	Credits
Complete six of the nine principal courses:		18
ASTR601	Radiative Processes	
ASTR606	Stellar Structure and Evolution	
ASTR610	Astronomical Instrumentation and Techniques	
ASTR615	Computational Astrophysics	
ASTR620	Galaxies	
ASTR622	Cosmology	
ASTR630	Planetary Science	
ASTR670	Interstellar Medium and Gas Dynamics	
ASTR680	High Energy Astrophysics	
Thesis or non-thesis option		**12**
Thesis:		
ASTR799		
Electives approved with advisor		
Non-thesis:		
Electives approved with advisor		
Scholarly Paper		
Total Credits		**30**

Non-thesis Option

30 credits. Non-thesis option requires 30 credits of coursework including six of the nine principal Astronomy graduate courses, and at least 18 credits at the 600 level or above. Students must also submit a scholarly paper and pass a comprehensive final exam.

Candidates for the non-thesis option of the M.S. degree are required to complete 30 credits, including six of the nine principal Astronomy graduate courses (18 credits), with the remaining 12 credits consisting of classroom courses or research credits in Astronomy or supporting fields. Students are required to complete a 2nd-year project, which includes one or more scholarly papers.

Thesis Option

30 credits. Thesis option requires 30 credits of coursework including six of the nine principal Astronomy graduate courses and six credits of ASTR799.

Candidates for the thesis option of the M.S. degree (less common) are required to complete 30 credits, including 6 credits of thesis research (ASTR799) and eight graduate courses (24 credits). At least six of the courses must come from the nine principal Astronomy graduate courses. A written thesis is required and must be successfully defended in an oral examination.