

UNIVERSITY FACULTY SENATE FORMS

Academic Program Approval

This form is a routing document for the approval of new and revised academic programs. Proposing department should complete this form. For more information, call the Faculty Senate Office at 831-2921.

Submitted by: Norbert Mulders _____ phone number X3517 _____

Action: Revision of the M.S. in Physics to add an option based on course work only, without a thesis requirement

(Example: add major/minor/concentration, delete major/minor/concentration, revise major/minor/concentration, academic unit name change, request for permanent status, policy change, etc.)

Effective term 06F _____
(use format 04F, 05W)

Current degree M.S. in Physics _____
(Example: BA, BACH, BACJ, HBA, EDD, MA, MBA, etc.)

Proposed change leads to the degree of: M.S. in Physics _____
(Example: BA, BACH, BACJ, HBA, EDD, MA, MBA, etc.)

Proposed name: _____
Proposed new name for revised or new major / minor / concentration / academic unit
(if applicable)

Revising or Deleting:

Undergraduate major / Concentration: _____
(Example: Applied Music – Instrumental degree BMAS)

Undergraduate minor: _____
(Example: African Studies, Business Administration, English, Leadership, etc.)

Graduate Program Policy statement change: See attached statement _____
(Attach your Graduate Program Policy Statement)

Graduate Program of Study: M.S. in Physics _____
(Example: Animal Science: MS Animal Science: PHD Economics: MA Economics: PHD)

Graduate minor / concentration: _____

List program changes for curriculum revisions:

The curriculum revision introduces an option to obtain an M.S. degree based on course work only, without research/thesis work.

List new courses required for the new or revised curriculum:

(Be aware that approval of the curriculum is dependent upon these courses successfully passing through the Course Challenge list. If there are no new courses enter "None")

None

Other affected units:

(List other departments affected by this new or revised curriculum. Attach permission from the affected units. If no other unit is affected, enter "None")

None

Rationale:

(Explain your reasons for creating, revising, or deleting the curriculum or program.)

At one time, the M.S. degree was the main research degree of the physics and astronomy program at UD. This has not been the case for a long time as this role has been taken over by the Ph.D. degree. At this point there is a need for a degree that has content appropriate for an M.S. but does not require the commitment to research. In first instance this will serve those students who entered the Ph.D. program but who come to the conclusion that they do not want to pursue a research career. Another group consist of those who in the end cannot meet Ph.D. program requirements such as passing the Ph.D. candidacy exam, but do meet expectations for an M.S. degree.

It should be noted that this would also bring our graduate program in line with current practice in most other physics or astronomy graduate programs

We do not intend to continue the (provisional) MA program, which was intended mainly for part-time students, for which there has been no interest.

Program Requirements:

(Show the new or revised curriculum as it should appear in the Course Catalog. If this is a revision, be sure to indicate the changes being made to the present curriculum.)

Proposed requirements:**REQUIREMENTS FOR THE M.S. DEGREE**

Students may choose to obtain an MS degree with or without thesis.

The MS without thesis degree requires 30 credits hours in PHYS courses, including at most 3 credits of research (PHYS 868).

The MS with thesis requires 24 credits hours in PHYS courses, including at most 3 credits of research (PHYS 868). In addition 6 credits of thesis work (PHYS 869) are required. After the M.S. thesis is completed, the candidate defends the thesis in an oral examination administered by the thesis committee.

Both the with and without thesis options require that of the classroom course credits at least 6 are at the PHYS 800 level.

Approval of the department review committee is required if more than 6 credits are from departments other than physics or if any are in a discipline unrelated to physics

Current version (from the course catalog):

Twenty-four credit hours of course work are required for the M.S. degree; at least 6 must be in 800-level courses in physics. Approval of the department review committee is required if more than 6 of these 24 are from departments other than physics or if any are in a discipline unrelated to physics. In addition, 6 credit hours of thesis (PHYS 869) must be completed. After the M.S. thesis is completed, the candidate defends the thesis in an oral examination administered by the thesis committee.

ROUTING AND AUTHORIZATION: (Please do not remove supporting documentation.)

Department Chairperson _____ Date _____

Dean of College _____ Date _____

Chairperson, College Curriculum Committee _____ Date _____

Chairperson, Senate Com. on UG or GR Studies _____ Date _____

Chairperson, Senate Coordinating Com. _____ Date _____

Secretary, Faculty Senate _____ Date _____

Date of Senate Resolution _____ Date to be Effective _____

Registrar _____ Program Code _____ Date _____

Vice Provost for Academic Programs & Planning _____ Date _____

Provost _____ Date _____

Board of Trustee Notification _____ Date _____

Revised 11/03/04 /khs