

Request Status PENDING

Last Updated Peterson,Bradley Michael
10/21/2010 2:48 PM

General Information

Fiscal Unit/Academic Org Astronomy - D0614

Administering College/Academic Group Mathematical And Physical Sci

Co-administering College/Academic Group
• Arts And Sciences

Semester Conversion Designation

Converted with minimal changes to program goals and/or curricular requirements (e.g., sub-plan/specialization name changes, changes in electives and/or prerequisites, minimal changes in overall structure of program, minimal or no changes in program goals or content)

Current Program/Plan Name [https://assist-](https://assist-erp.osu.edu/assistCurriculum/currentPlan.html) Astronomy Minor



[erp.osu.edu/assistCurriculum/currentPlan.html](https://assist-erp.osu.edu/assistCurriculum/currentPlan.html)

Proposed Program/Plan Name Astrophysics Minor

Program/Plan Code Abbreviation ASTRON-MN

Current Degree Title

Credit Hour Explanation <https://assist-erp.osu.edu/assistCurriculum/credit.html>



Program credit hour requirements		A) Number of credit hours in current program (Quarter credit hours)	B) Calculated result for 2/3rds of current (Semester credit hours)	C) Number of credit hours required for proposed program (Semester credit hours)	D) Change in credit hours
Total minimum credit hours required for completion of program		58	38.7	38	0.7
Required credit hours offered by the unit	Minimum	15	10.0	9	1.0
	Maximum	20	13.3	12	1.3
Required credit hours offered outside of the unit	Minimum	0	0.0	0	0.0
	Maximum	8	5.3	8	2.7
Required prerequisite credit hours not included above	Minimum	35	23.3	23	0.3
	Maximum	39	26.0	26	0.0

Program Learning Goals

Note: these are required for all undergraduate degree programs and majors now, and will be required for all graduate and professional degree programs in 2012. Nonetheless, all programs are encouraged to complete these now.

Program Learning Goals

Assessment

Assessment plan includes student learning goals, how those goals are evaluated, and how the information collected is used to improve student learning. An assessment plan is required for undergraduate majors and degrees. Graduate and professional degree programs are encouraged to complete this now, but will not be required to do so until 2012.

Is this a degree program (undergraduate, graduate, or professional) or major proposal? No

Program Specializations/Sub-Plans (<https://assist-erp.osu.edu/assistCurriculum/specializations.html>)

If you do not specify a program specialization/sub-plan it will be assumed you are submitting this program for all program specializations/sub-plans.

Pre-Major (<https://assist-erp.osu.edu/assistCurriculum/preMajor.html>)

Does this Program have a Pre-Major? No

Attachments (<https://assist-erp.osu.edu/assistCurriculum/programAttachments.html>)

File Name	Description	Attachment Type	Owner
CoverLetter.pdf (#)		Letter from Program-offering Unit	Peterson,Bradley Michael
Program Rationale.pdf (#)		Program Rationale Statement	Peterson,Bradley Michael
MinorProgram.pdf (#)		List of Semester Courses	Peterson,Bradley Michael
AdvisingChecklistSemesters.pdf (#)		Semester Advising Sheet(s)	Peterson,Bradley Michael
AdvisingChecklistQuarters.pdf (#)		Quarter Advising Sheet(s)	Peterson,Bradley Michael
Transition Policy.pdf (#)		Transition Policy	Peterson,Bradley Michael

Comments

There are currently no comments

Workflow Information

Status	User(s)	Date/Time	Step
Submitted	Peterson,Bradley Michael	10/21/2010 2:29 PM	Submitted for Approval
Approved	Peterson,Bradley Michael	10/21/2010 2:48 PM	Unit Approval
Pending Approval	Zadnik,Karla Sue Andereck,Claude David	10/21/2010 2:48 PM	College Approval



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19 October 2010

Office of Academic Affairs
203 Bricker Hall
190 North Oval Mall
CAMPUS

Re: Astronomy Undergraduate Minor Program under Semesters

Dear colleagues,

The Department of Astronomy offers two degree programs, a Bachelor of Science with a major in Astronomy and Doctor of Philosophy in Astronomy.

The Department additionally offers a minor program in Astronomy. The Department also awards a Master's of Science in Astronomy to students who complete the required graduate core courses and pass an oral examination, usually the same examination that admits students to candidacy for the PhD; students are not admitted for a Master's degree only, so we do not list this as a separate program.

Curricular changes are made through the Department's standing Curriculum Committee upon approval by the entire regular faculty. In the current conversion to semesters, the Curriculum Committee did not recommend any changes to the undergraduate minor program because the current curriculum is deemed to be academically sound, up to date, and will transfer transparently to a semester schedule.

As chair of the Department, I recommend approval of the undergraduate minor program as submitted here.

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Bradley M. Peterson".

Bradley M. Peterson
Professor and Chair

Program Rationale

The Astronomy Undergraduate Minor program maps easily from quarters to semesters. All the Astronomy courses are 5-credit hours and these transfer trivially to 3-credit hour semester courses

We have examined the proposed changes in Physics and Math (in which our students take prerequisites and minor courses), and our conversion plans are consistent with theirs.

The only change we propose is changing the name of the program from “Astronomy” to “Astrophysics”: this is a long-overdue change that better represents what our students are learning. “Astrophysics” is less likely to be misunderstood by prospective employers of our BS students; many people equate “astronomy” with star-gazing or astrophotography or, even worse, “astrology,” and this more accurate degree name will better serve our students who do not continue in the field.

The undergraduate major program was most recent revised in 1997, with the addition of Astronomy 681 and 682 to the major and minor programs.

Transition Policy:

Students who began their degree under quarters will not be penalized as the university moves to a semester schedule, either in terms of progress towards their degree or their expected date of graduation. No special transition plan is necessary for the minor courses in Astronomy: nearly all of these courses translate directly from 5-hour quarter courses to 3-hour semester courses. Transition policies for the required or prerequisite physics and math courses will be established by the Departments of Physics and Mathematics, respectively.

Students can minimize their own transition difficulties by making sure of the following:

2011-12 first-year students should make certain that they have completed Mathematics 153 and Physics 133 by no later than Spring 2012.

2011-12 second-year students should make certain that they complete Math 254 and 415 and Phys 263 by no later than Spring 2012,

2011-12 third year students should make certain that they complete Phys 632 and 656 by no later than Spring 2012.

Astronomy Minor Program Semesters	Credit Hours
Prerequisites	
Math 1251	5
Math 1258	5
Math 2249	3
Math 2431	3
Phys 1250/1250H	5
Phys 1251/1251H	5
Total Prereqs	26
Required Courses	
Astron 2291	3
Astron 2292	3
Astron 3350	3
Total Astronomy	9
Elective Courses	
Option A: Physics Majors	
Astron 5681 or Astron 5682	3
Total electives	3
Total Minor	12
Option B: Non-Physics Majors	
Phys 2300	4
Phys 2301	4
Total electives	8
Total Minor	17

Astronomy Minor Advising Checklist	Credit Hours	Prerequisites	Option A: Physics Major	Option B: Others
Prerequisite Courses				
Math 1251	5			
Math 1258	5			
Math 2249	3			
Math 2431	3			
Phys 1250/1250H	5			
Phys 1251/1251H	5			
Total Prereqs	26			
Required Courses				
Astron 2291	3	Prerequisites: Phys 133 or 1251 or concurrent or permission of instructor		
Astron 2292	3	Prerequisites: Astron 291 or 2291		
Astron 3350	3	Prerequisites: Astron 292 or 2292, Math 153 or 1258, Phys 133 or 1251		
Total Astronomy	9			
Elective Courses				
Phys 2300	4	Physics 1251		
Phys 2301	4	Math 254 or 2249, Phys 2301		
Astron 5681 or	3	Prerequisites: Math 255, 415, or 2431; Physics 263 or 2301; Physics 621 or 5600 (or concurrent) recommended; or permission of instructor.		
Astron 5682	3			
TOTAL MINOR			12	17
TOTAL MINOR + PREREQS			38	40

Astronomy Minor Advising Checklist	Credit Hours	Prerequisites	Option A: Physics Major	Option B: Others
Prerequisite Courses				
Math 151	5			
Math 152	5			
Math 153	5			
Math 254	5			
Math 415	4			
Phys 131/H131	5			
Phys 132/H132	5			
Phys 133/H133	5			
Total Prereqs	39			
Required Courses				
Astron 291	5	Prerequisites: Phys 133 or concurrent or permission of instructor		
Astron 292	5	Prerequisites: Astron 291		
Astron 350	5	Prerequisites: Astron 292, Math 153, Phys 133		
Total Astronomy	15			
Elective Courses				
Phys 261	4	Physics 1251		
Phys 262	4	Math 254 or 2249, Phys 2301		
Astron 681 or Astron 682	5	Prerequisites: Math 255, or 415; Physics 263; Physics 621 (or concurrent) recommended; or permission of instructor.		
	5			
TOTAL MINOR			20	23
TOTAL MINOR + PREREQS			59	58