Astrophysics and Astronomy, MS

The astronomy and astrophysics degree program focuses on observational and theoretical research conducted by award-winning faculty and researchers with expertise ranging from our solar system to the entire universe. Our students discover new planets, explore cosmology, design and build space-flight hardware and engineer new instruments in innovative facilities.

Program Description

Degree Awarded: MS Astrophysics and Astronomy

The MS program provides fundamental graduate training in astrophysics and astronomy. It prepares candidates for further graduate study or for careers in related fields such as scientific staff positions at government laboratories, teaching at the community college level and technical positions in industry.

At a Glance

- **College/School:** College of Liberal Arts and Sciences
- **Location:** Tempe campus

Degree Requirements

30 credit hours and a thesis

**Required Core (1 credit hour)**
SES 502 Exploring SESE Research (1)

**Electives or Research (3 credit hours)**

**Other Requirements (20 credit hours)**
AST 521 Stars and Interstellar Medium I (3)
1. AST 522 Stars and Interstellar Medium II (3)
2. AST 523 Stars and Interstellar Medium III (3)
3. AST 531 Galaxies and Cosmology I (3)
4. AST 532 Galaxies and Cosmology II (3)
5. AST 533 Galaxies and Cosmology III (3)
6. AST 591 Seminar: Topic (1)
7. SES 501 SESE Colloquium (1)

**Culminating Experience (6 credit hours)**

SES 599 Thesis (6)

**Additional Curricular Information**

For other requirement courses, substitutions may be made per department approval.

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**Admission Requirements**

Applicants must fulfill the requirements of both the Graduate College and the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences.

Applicants are eligible to apply to the program if they have earned a bachelor's degree, in any field, from a regionally accredited institution.

Applicants must have a minimum of a 3.00 cumulative GPA (scale is 4.00 = "A") in the last 60 hours of a student's first bachelor's degree program, or applicants must have a minimum of a 3.00 cumulative GPA (scale is 4.00 = "A") in an applicable master's degree program.

All applicants must submit:

1. graduate admissions application and application fee
2. official transcripts
3. statement of purpose
4. scores on the general GRE
5. scores on the physics GRE
6. three letters of recommendation
7. proof of English proficiency

**Additional Application Information**

An applicant whose native language is not English (regardless of current residency) must provide proof of English proficiency.
Students should see the program website for application deadlines.

**Application Deadlines**

**Fall**

**Spring**

**Contact Information**

School of Earth and Space Exploration | ISTB4 795  
sese-grad@asu.edu | 480-965-5081  
Admission Deadlines