

DOCTORAL DEGREE REQUIREMENTS

General policies for all University of Oklahoma doctoral programs are available in the [Graduate College Bulletin](#).

DOCTOR of PHILOSOPHY

D085

MAJOR: Atmospheric Science

Program effective Fall 2025

COURSEWORK REQUIREMENTS

A plan for the completion of the required and elective PhD coursework must be indicated in the student's *Advisory Conference Report* or its amendments.

Transfer credits from M.S. degree: A total of up to 44 credit hours from a completed master's degree and additional graduate course work may be approved for transfer credit. Only 5 thesis research (METR 5980) credits can be transferred from a M.S. meteorology degree (the number required for the degree). **Any METR course may be replaced with equivalent course content as indicated in the Advisory Conference Report.**

Enrollment in METR 6980: After the first semester of enrolling in METR 6980 Research for Doctoral Dissertation, continuous enrollment of at least 2 hours of METR 6980 each semester (excluding summer sessions) must be maintained until the doctoral degree is completed. Enrollment in the summer session is required only if (1) the degree is conferred in the summer session, or (2) work is being done on the dissertation. See the [Graduate College Bulletin](#) for complete requirements regarding METR 6980.

S/U-graded coursework restrictions: No more than one-half of the credits for OU coursework for a doctoral degree, excluding research for the dissertation (METR 6980), may be S/U-graded coursework; and no more than one-half of the overall coursework (OU credit and transfer credit, combined), excluding credits for METR 6980, may be S/U-graded coursework.

Coursework

A minimum of 33 hours of letter-graded courses numbered 5000 or above (METR 5990 cannot be used). All must be passed with a grade of B or better. The following courses must be included.

- ☐ METR 5003 Fundamentals of Atmospheric Science† 3 hours
- ☐ METR 5113 Advanced Atmospheric Dynamics I 3 hours
- ☐ Choose one course from each of the following Atmospheric Science areas 9 hours
 - ☐ Dynamics (METR 5103, METR 5133, or METR 5143)
 - ☐ Physics (METR 5223, METR 5723, or METR 5233)
 - ☐ Climate (METR 5503, METR 5583, or METR 5543)

† METR 5003 may be waived at the discretion of the advisory committee and graduate liaison. In this case, 3 credit hours of any graduate-level meteorology courses numbered 5000 or above may be taken in lieu of METR 5003.

Electives

- ☐ Choose 3 hours of non-METR graduate electives, letter graded 5000 or above 3 hours
- ☐ Choose 3 hours of METR graduate electives, letter graded 5000 or above (excluding METR 5990) 3 hours
- ☐ Choose an additional 6 hours of letter graded graduate electives, 5000 or above, from either METR or courses outside of Meteorology 6 hours

Seminar

- ☐ METR 6970 Seminar 1-10 hours
- At least 1 credit hour of METR 6970 every academic year after admission into the PhD program.

Additional Coursework

- ☐ As needed to complete 90 post-baccalaureate hours, as approved by advisor and doctoral advisory committee 24-33 hours

Dissertation Research

- ☐ METR 6980 Research for Doctoral Dissertation 2+ hours
- ☐ **TOTAL** 90 hours