Course Approval Form

For instructions see:
http://registrar.gmu.edu/facultystaff/catalog-revisions/course/

Action Requested:

- [ ] Create new course
- [ ] Inactivate existing course
- [ ] Reinstate inactive course
- [x] Modify existing course (check all that apply)
  - [ ] Title
  - [ ] Credits
  - [ ] Repeat Status
  - [ ] Grade Type
  - [ ] Prereq/coreq
  - [ ] Schedule Type
  - [ ] Restrictions
  - [x] Other: Catalog description

Course Level:

- [ ] Undergraduate
- [ ] Graduate

College/School: COS
Department: Physics & Astronomy
Submitted by: Phil Rubin
Ext: 3815
Email: prubin@gmu.edu

Subject Code: ASTR
Number: 103
(Do not list multiple codes or numbers. Each course proposal must have a separate form.)

Effective Term:

- [ ] Fall
- [x] Spring
- [ ] Summer

Year: 2017

Title:
Current: Astronomy
Banner (30 characters max w/ spaces):
New:

Fulfills Mason Core Req? (undergrad only)

- [x] Currently fulfills requirement
- [x] Submission in progress

Credits: (check one)

- [x] Fixed — 3 or
- [ ] Variable — to

Repeat Status: (check one)

- [x] Not Repeatable (NR)
- [ ] Repeatable within degree (RD)
- [ ] Repeatable within term (RT)

Maximum credits allowed:

Grade Mode: (check one)

- [x] Regular (A, B, C, etc.)
- [ ] Satisfactory/No Credit
- [ ] Special (A, B C, etc. +IP)

Schedule Type: (check one) LEC can include LAB or RCT

- [x] Lecture (LEC)
- [ ] Lab (LAB)
- [ ] Recitation (RCT)
- [ ] Internship (INT)
- [ ] Independent Study (IND)
- [ ] Seminar (SEM)
- [ ] Studio (STU)

Prerequisite(s):

Corequisite(s):

Instructional Mode:

- [x] 100% face-to-face
- [ ] Hybrid: ≤ 50% electronically delivered
- [ ] 100% electronically delivered

Restrictions Enforced by System: Major, College, Degree, Program, etc. Include Code.

Are there equivalent course(s)?

- [ ] Yes
- [x] No

If yes, please list

Catalog Copy for NEW Courses Only (Consult University Catalog for models)

Description (No more than 60 words, use verb phrases and present tense)	**Notes** (List additional information for the course)

Indicate number of contact hours: Hours of Lecture or Seminar per week: ____ Hours of Lab or Studio: ____

When Offered: (check all that apply) ☐ Fall ☐ Summer ☐ Spring

Approval Signatures

Department Approval — Date

College/School Approval — Date

If this course includes subject matter currently dealt with by any other units, the originating department must circulate this proposal for review by those units and obtain the necessary signatures prior to submission. Failure to do so will delay action on this proposal.

Unit Name	Unit Approval Name	Unit Approver's Signature	Date

For Graduate Courses Only

Graduate Council Member — Provost Office — Graduate Council Approval Date

For Registrar Office's Use Only: Banner_____ Catalog_____

revised 10/16/14

Course Proposal Submitted to the College of Science Curriculum Committee (COSCC)

The form above is processed by the Office of the University Registrar. This second page is for the COSCC's reference. Please complete the applicable portions of this page to clearly communicate what the form above is requesting.

FOR ALL COURSES (required)
Course Number and Title: ASTR 103 Astronomy

Date of Departmental Approval:

FOR MODIFIED COURSES (required if modifying a course)

- Summary of the Modification: Change catalog description to indicate that ASTR 103, along with ASTR 112 or ASTR 114, satisfies the natural science with lab requirement
- Request for Mason Core modification that is the basis for this catalog change has been submitted to the Mason Core committee
- Text before Modification (title, repeat status, catalog description, etc.):

ASTR 103 - Astronomy
Credits: 3
Not Repeatable for Credit
Offered by Physics and Astronomy Introduction to origin of life, Earth, planets and sun, stars, galaxies, quasars, nature of space radiation, and general theory of relativity.

Fulfills Mason Core requirement in natural science (nonlab).

Notes: Not for physics majors.

- Text after Modification (title, repeat status, catalog description, etc.):

ASTR 103 - Astronomy
Credits: 3
Not Repeatable for Credit
Offered by Physics and Astronomy Introduction to origin of life, Earth, planets and sun, stars, galaxies, quasars, nature of space radiation, and general theory of relativity.

Fulfills Mason Core requirement in natural science (lab).

Notes: ASTR 103 with ASTR 112 or ASTR 114 can be used to fulfill a 4-credit lab science requirement; not for physics majors.

- Reason for the Modification: Many students transfer to GMU having taken at their previous institution a lecture course equivalent to ASTR 103 as well as an associated lab. At present, they can be given credit only for the lecture portion, as ASTR 103 now has no associated laboratory. ASTR 112 and ASTR 114 are both essentially standalone courses, covering respectively, the Solar system or stars and galaxies. Since ASTR 103 deals with both topics, it is reasonable that either ASTR 112 or ASTR 114 could be paired with it for a 4-credit lab course. The Core requirements are focused more on science itself than on a survey of a particular science discipline.