Course Approval Form

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

Action Requested: (definitions available at website above)
[ ] Create NEW [ ] Inactivate
[x] Modify (check all that apply below)

Course Level:
[ ] Undergraduate [x] Graduate

[ ] Title
[x] Credits
[ ] Repeat Status
[ ] Schedule Type
[ ] Prereq/coreq
[ ] Restrictions
[ ] Grade Mode
[x] Other: Notes

College/School: College of Science
Department: Physics and Astronomy
Submitted by: Yuri Mishin
Ext: 3-3984 **Email:** ymishin@gmu.edu

Subject Code: ASTR **Number:** 998
(Do not list multiple codes or numbers. Each course proposal must have a separate form.)

Effective Term: [x] Fall [ ] Spring [ ] Summer *Year* 2017

Title:
Current: Doctoral Dissertation Proposal
Banner (30 characters max w/ spaces):
New:

Fulfills Mason Core Req? (undergrad only)
[ ] Currently fulfills requirement
[ ] Submission in progress

Credits: (check one)
[ ] Fixed →
[x] Variable
[ ] Lec + Lab/Rct→
[ ] 1 to 12
[ ] 0 or

Repeat Status: (check one)
[ ] Not Repeatable (NR)
[x] Repeatable within degree (RD) →
[ ] Repeatable within term (RT) →
Max credits allowed: 21 (required for RT/RD status only)

Grade Mode: (check one)
[ ] Regular (A, B, C, etc.)
[x] Satisfactory/No Credit
[ ] Special (A, B C, etc. +IP)

Schedule Type: (check one)
LEC can include LAB or RCT if linked sections will be offered
[ ] Lecture (LEC)
[ ] Lab (LAB)
[ ] Recitation (RCT)
[ ] Internship (INT)
[ ] Independent Study (IND)
[ ] Seminar (SEM)
[ ] Studio (STU)
[ ] Activity (ACT)
[ ] Research (RSC)
[ ] Student Teaching (STC)
[ ] Thesis (THS-798/799)
[x] Dissertation (DIS-998/999)

Prerequisite(s) (NOTE: hard-coding requires separate Prereq Checking form; see above website):

Corequisite(s):
No more than 24 credits in ASTR/PHYS 998 and ASTR/PHYS 999 may be applied toward satisfying doctoral degree requirements. See your catalog year's PhD program requirements for additional information.

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

Equivalencies (check only as applicable):
[ ] YES, course is 100% equivalent to
[ ] YES, course renumbered to or replaces

Catalog Copy (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

Undergraduate or Graduate Council Approval

UGC or GC Council Member
Provost's Office
UGC or GC Approval Date

Form revised 11/10/2016

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 998 Doctoral Dissertation Proposal

Date of Departmental Approval: 02/23/2017

FOR MODIFIED COURSES (required if modifying a course)

- Summary of the Modification: Change allowed number of ASTR 998 credits.
- Text before Modification (title, repeat status, catalog description, etc.): N/A
- Text after Modification (title, repeat status, catalog description, etc.): N/A
- Reason for the Modification:

  Currently the catalog states that a Physics PhD student must take no more than 12 credits of ASTR 998 and that the total number of ASTR 998 + ASTR 999 credits must be 24. We are requesting to change the requirement to be a minimum of 3 credits of ASTR 999 and keeping requirement of a total number of ASTR 998 + ASTR 999 credits of 24 in a separate program change document. This change will allow students to take up to 21 credits of ASTR 998. The reason for allowing up to 21 credits of ASTR 998 is that some students in our PhD program may need to take up to 21 credits of ASTR 998 before they have completed all of their requirements for advancement to candidacy. This can occur if a student switches advisors, for example. This can also occur when a student is working on their degree part-time and is taking ASTR 998 along with other required courses. With this change, we still meet the minimum requirements specified by the university, which is a total of 12 credits of 998+999 with a minimum of 3 credits of 999.