

# Course Change Request

Date Submitted: 02/26/18 10:37 am

Viewing: **ASTR 302 : Foundations of  
Cosmological Thought**

Last approved: 08/25/17 4:15 am

Last edit: 02/26/18 10:37 am

Changes proposed by: prubin

Catalog Pages  
referencing this  
course

[Astronomy \(ASTR\)](#)

[Department of Physics and Astronomy](#)

Select modification type:

~~Specialized Course Designation~~

**Simple**

## In Workflow

1. **PHYS UG  
Committee**
2. **PHYS Chair**
3. **SC Curriculum  
Committee**
4. SC Associate Dean
5. Registrar-Courses
6. Banner

## Approval Path

1. 03/12/18 10:43 am  
Philip Rubin  
(prubin): Approved  
for PHYS UG  
Committee
2. 03/12/18 12:12 pm  
Paul So (paso):  
Approved for PHYS  
Chair

## History

1. Aug 25, 2017 by  
Priyanka  
Champaneri  
(pchampan)

Are you completing this form on someone else's behalf?

No

Effective Term: Fall 2018

**Subject Code:** ASTR - Astronomy

**Course Number:**  
302

**Bundled Courses:**

**Equivalent  
Courses:**

**Catalog Title:** Foundations of Cosmological Thought

**Banner Title:** Found of Cosmological Thought

**Will section titles  
vary by semester?** No

**Credits:** 3

**Schedule Type:** Lecture

**Hours of Lecture or Seminar per  
week:** 3

**Repeatable:** May only be taken once for credit (NR)

**Default Grade  
Mode:** Undergraduate Regular

**Recommended  
Prerequisite(s):**

**Recommended  
Corequisite(s):**

**Required  
Prerequisite(s) /  
Corequisite(s)  
(Updates only):**

**Registrar's Office Use Only - Required Prerequisite(s)/Corequisite(s):**

And/Or	(	Course/Test Code	Min Grade/Score	Academic Level	)	Concurrency?	

**Registration  
Restrictions  
(Updates only):**

**Registrar's Office Use Only - Registration Restrictions:**

**Field(s) of Study:**

**Class(es):**

**Level(s):**

**Degree(s):**

**School(s):**

## **Catalog**

### **Description:**

Examines scientific, historical, and philosophical foundations and development of cosmological thought from antiquity to the present. Emphasizes qualitative understanding of the development of cosmology concluding with the present concept of origin and evolution of universe. Notes: No advanced background in mathematics or natural sciences required. This course does not satisfy **elective-category requirements** for the **physics and astronomy majors**. ~~PHYS elective requirement.~~

### **Justification:**

**Since restructuring, the PHYS elective requirement no longer exists, replaced by concentration-specific electives.**

**Does this course cover material which crosses into another department?** No

### **Learning Outcomes:**

**Attach Syllabus  
(PDFs only)**

**Additional  
Attachments (PDFs  
only)**

### **Specialized Course**

#### **Categories:**

Mason Core

**Select the Mason Core Requirement the course is proposing to fulfill:**

**Foundation  
Courses:**

**Exploration  
Courses:**

Natural Sciences Non-Lab

**Integration  
Courses:**

## Natural Sciences Non-Lab

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### Courses must meet the following learning outcomes:

1. Understand how scientific inquiry is based on investigation of evidence from the natural world, and that scientific knowledge and understanding: a) evolves based on new evidence, and b) differs from personal and cultural beliefs.
2. Recognize the scope and limits of science.
3. Recognize and articulate the relationship between the natural sciences and society and the application of science to societal challenges (e.g., health, conservation, sustainability, energy, natural disasters, etc.).
4. Evaluate scientific information (e.g., distinguish primary and secondary sources, assess credibility and validity of information).

### Describe the overall rationale for designating this course as Natural Sciences Non-Lab Mason Core.

previously approved

**For each learning outcome, what assignments or activities will you give that allow students to demonstrate their competence on each outcome? Please confirm these are reflected in the attached syllabus or uploaded as additional documents as needed.**

previously approved

### Additional Comments:

~~administrative changes made for CIM launch~~

### Reviewer Comments