Degree Program - AS - Physics (MS)

CIP Code: 40.0801.00

Degree Program Coordinator: Igor Volobuev
Degree Program Coordinator Email: i.volobuev@ttu.edu
Degree Program Coordinator Phone: (806) 834-4724
Degree Program Coordinator Mail Stop: 1051

Program Purpose Statement: To evaluate the effectiveness of the MS Program in Physics.

Options and Degree Requirements per catalog statement:

M.S. Degree in Physics, Thesis Option: A minimum of 24 hours of course credit plus 6 hours of thesis research with a minimum of 18 hours in the department. The thesis is defended in a final oral examination.

M.S. Degree in Physics, Nonthesis Option: 36 hours of course credit with a minimum of 24 hours in the department, plus passing a master’s comprehensive examination.

Modality: Face-to-Face

Student Learning Outcome: Employability

MS graduates will predominantly take jobs after graduation for which skills acquired during the MS are important or will enroll in a PhD program at TTU or elsewhere.

Outcome Status: Active
Outcome Type: Student Learning

Assessment Methods

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course Level Assessment</th>
<th>Tracking student employment or enrollment status after MS degree is obtained (Active)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Criterion</td>
<td>Within one year from graduation, 80% of the students are employed in jobs normally occupied by MS or continue towards PhD</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Student Learning Outcome: Rapid Progression towards the MS Degree

Full-time students will successfully complete their MS requirements within 2.5 years of entering the graduate program in physics or astronomy.

Outcome Status: Active
Outcome Type: Student Learning
Start Date: 08/01/2017

Assessment Methods

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Master’s Comprehensive Exam</th>
<th>The Graduate Advisor and the Academic Advisor will be responsible for tracking the time it takes MS students to obtain their degree (Active)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Criterion</td>
<td>60% of MS students should obtain their degree in 2.5 years</td>
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</table>
Student Learning Outcome: Teaching Proficiency

MS students employed as TAs and GPTIs become proficient in teaching physics and/or astronomy

Outcome Status: Active
Outcome Type: Student Learning
Start Date: 08/01/2017

Assessment Methods

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Survey - Student</th>
<th>Analysis of TA and GPTI student evaluations (Active)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Criterion</td>
<td>Less than 25% TAs and GPTIs in the MS program should have the average score below 3.5 for the student survey question asking whether the instructor was an effective teacher</td>
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