

Quick Guide to Changes to the Physics Graduate Program AY 22/23 - created 7/7/2022 - R. Zegers

Change	Who	When	Comments/Status
Creation of a Mentoring committee for pre-comprehensive exam students (GPD, Research Area Mentor, Advisor)	All students who have not finished their comprehensive exams	Starting Fall 2022	Research Area Mentors will participate in advising meetings during orientation. If a (tentative) advisor has been selected, the advisor is encouraged to join the advising meeting as well.
Selection of a tentative/initial advisor by the end of the first semesters	All incoming students	Starting Fall 2022	Students should have a tentative/initial advisor by the beginning of their first spring semester
Selection of subject exam courses to take (could be all 4, but 3 count towards the comprehensive exam); QM subject exam is after QM1, not QM2	All students who have not finished the four comprehensive exams	Starting Fall 2022	For new students, an initial plan is made during orientation; For current students: Nearly all students who had not yet passed their comprehensive exams planned for this during summer 2022 - for questions and clarifications, contact Remco
Subject exam grade is the higher of the course and final exam grade	All students taking subject exams	Starting Fall 2022	This change does not apply retroactively to subject exams taken prior to Fall 2022
Subject exam grades must be 3.0 or higher (instead of a 3.375 GPA)	All students taking subject exams	Starting Fall 2022	New rule is applied retroactively
Development of learning goals for subject exam courses	All subject exam courses	AY 22/23	Subject exam committees, with possible contributions from other faculty will develop learning goals, which are then reviewed by GPC
Goal setting and assessment for PHY800	All students taking PHY800	Starting Fall 2022	PHY800 form is available at: https://pa.msu.edu/academics/graduate-program/current-graduate-students/forms/ ; must be filled out at beginning and end of semester and submitted to Kim Crosslan and Remco Zegers by the first Monday of finals week. Further instructions on the form
Rubric and evaluation form for oral subject exam	All students taking the oral subject exam	Starting Fall 2022	Form is available at: https://pa.msu.edu/academics/graduate-program/current-graduate-students/forms/ ; instructions are on the website and on back of the form
Completion of shared expectations forms	All students who have not passed the comprehensive exam and/or who change advisor; strongly encouraged for students who have passed their comprehensive exam, especially if that was recent	Starting Fall 2022	Form is available at https://pa.msu.edu/academics/graduate-program/current-graduate-students/forms/ ; form should be completed within one semester after selecting an advisor or changing an advisor; instructions on the website and form; must be updated annually until guidance committee is formed
Submission of GRE scores for applications is optional	All applicants to the physics Ph.D. program	Starting Fall 2022	