

Coursework Rubric

UT Austin, Department of Astronomy

Student's name: _____

Course Number/Title/Semester: _____

Instructor Name: _____

Instructions: Each astronomy graduate instructor will complete this form for each student at the end of each course. The instructor is encouraged to make notes for the student when progress is unsatisfactory for a graduate student-level understanding of a topic, even though the student may have received a passing grade in the course. The instructor is encouraged to adopt language that reflect a growth mindset, including constructive feedback about where additional work is needed. (E.g., “Student may need further practice setting up new problems or working through problems out load or on paper”, “May need further work to become comfortable speaking in front of a group”, or “May need further work to become comfortable writing a scientific paper.”)

Indicator	1. Meets Expectations	3: Approaching Expectations	5: Unsatisfactory Progress	Evaluation (1-5, N/A)
Mastery of Astrophysics Concepts	Fully grasps all major concepts taught in the class. Demonstrates mastery through solving problems that extend and combine ideas.	Understands major concepts taught in the class. Can solve problems similar to those in homework problems.	Has little grasp of concepts taught in the course.	
<i>What specific evidence supports this evaluation? (if >1)</i>				
Scientific Reasoning	Is comfortable and fluent setting up problems at the board or on paper, and reasoning through new problems related to the course.	Demonstrates ability to reason through problems, occasionally guided by hints from the instructor.	Does not demonstrate an ability to set up new problems or reason through problems. Struggles to complete problems even with assistance.	
<i>What specific evidence supports this evaluation? (if >1)</i>				

Scientific Communication	Written and/or oral communication is of high quality. Clearly expresses ideas related to coursework.	Written and/or oral work is clear and adequately presented, but may lack precision, details, or appropriate balance.	Has difficulty articulating concepts or adequately presenting material in oral or written communication.	
<i>What specific evidence supports this evaluation? (if >1)</i>				

(optional) Preparation: Did the student come into the class without any key skills?

(optional) Extenuating circumstances: Did the student have any extenuating circumstances that affected their work in this course? (Note: the instructor should not make reference to an accommodation letter, or information therein, if one exists, since this is confidential information.)