

UNIVERSITY OF LOUISVILLE
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TEACH-OUT PLAN

**BACHELOR OF SCIENCE IN
ATMOSPHERIC SCIENCES**

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BACHELOR OF SCIENCE IN ATMOSPHERIC SCIENCES

Background

The Atmospheric Sciences (ATMS) program is housed in the department of Physics and Astronomy. It is a 121 credit hour program. The department of Physics and Astronomy proposes to suspend the Bachelor of Science in Atmospheric Sciences effective Spring 2021.

- The number of Atmospheric Sciences majors has declined.

Fall 2015	Fall 2016	Fall 2017	Fall 2018	Fall 2019
22	23	28	31	18

- The number of Atmospheric Sciences degrees have remained low.

2014-2015	2015- 2016	2016-2017	2017-2018	2018-2019
5	1	8	2	7

The Kentucky Council on Postsecondary Education (CPE) maintains the statewide program inventory database and will be notified of the pending program suspension. The CPE practice is that programs are suspended for five years before they are considered officially closed. This approach allows for the reporting of enrollments and degrees for students in the pipeline.

Students

While we are proposing the major's suspension, we are not proposing to cease offering course work in atmospheric sciences that will lead to a degree. Effective Summer 2021, study in atmospheric sciences will be available in the new Atmospheric Physics track in Physics, and specialized study for students interested in meteorology will be available in the department of Geography and Geosciences Meteorology track. Courses in the current BS in Atmospheric Sciences will continue to be offered in Physics or Geography and Geosciences, so students will be able to complete the existing degree or will have the option to pursue one of the new tracks mentioned above.

After the Dean of the College of Arts and Sciences and faculty in Geography and Geosciences and Physics and Astronomy agreed to the ATMS suspension, all majors were informed of the decision either directly from the College of Arts and Sciences or through e-mails and phone calls. Per Assistant Dean for Advising Danielle Dolan, only four active students have opted to remain in the ATMS major, three of whom should graduate during the 2020-21 academic year.

All current students who have declared the ATMS major will be able to complete that degree or the Meteorology track in Geography and Geosciences. Student progress to degree will not be affected. There will be no additional expenses or charges to current students. The current teach-out plan does not require that students take courses during the summer nor does it require overloads, so students will not incur additional tuition charges.

Faculty

No faculty or staff will be negatively impacted by ATMS program suspension. The following faculty members will be deployed as follows:

- **Dr. Tim Dowling, Professor of Physics:** Dr. Dowling, the former director of the ATMS program, will remain in Physics and Astronomy and will offer courses in the Atmospheric Physics track.
- **Dr. Jian Du, Associate Professor of Physics:** Dr. Du will remain in Physics and Astronomy and will offer courses in the Atmospheric Physics track.
- **Dr. Jason Naylor, Assistant Professor of Geography and Geosciences:** Dr. Naylor held a joint appointment in Physics and Geography and Geosciences. He has transferred 100% into Geography and Geosciences, where he will manage the Meteorology track.

No faculty will be displaced by the suspension of this program.