

BERKELEY ASTRONOMY DEPARTMENT  
PRELIMINARY (PRELIM) EXAM APPLICATION FORM (MA Degree)

*Instructions:* Please fill out, obtain the signature of the Head Graduate Advisor (Eugene Chiang), and return to the Student Affairs Officer (Dexter Stewart).

Name / Year:

Please specify the Chair of the Prelim Committee. In addition to testing you on one topic, the Chair facilitates the taking of the exam by collecting paperwork, ensuring the prelim questions are fair and comprehensive, and keeping the exam on time.

Topics that overlap too much (e.g., Star Formation and ISM), or that are too narrow in scope (e.g., Gamma-Ray Bursts), are not allowed. Both Radiation and Fluids cannot be simultaneously taken, because these courses do not cover enough phenomenology. Unusual topics may be approved on a case-by-case basis; please consult your course instructor and Head Graduate Advisor.

It is recommended, but not required, that your committee members not include your research advisor. This is to avoid potential biases and conflicts of interest. For more information, see the Department website: [astro.berkeley.edu/academics/graduate](http://astro.berkeley.edu/academics/graduate).

Topic 1	Chair
Topic 2	Committee Member
Topic 3	Committee Member

Approximate date of exam (e.g., late March):

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of Head Graduate Advisor

Upon filing of this form, please schedule the exact date and time of your exam with your committee members. You will need to reserve a room (e.g., Campbell 501, 544, 635) through the front office administrator (Stephanie Stoner).