

UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN OSHKOSH COLLEGE OF LETTERS AND SCIENCE

PRE-OPTOMETRY

Students interested in optometry as a profession can take three years (90 credits) of pre-optometry course work at the University of Wisconsin Oshkosh and then transfer to on or 17 optometry schools for four years of professional optometry training leading to a Doctor of Optometry (O.D.). Some schools give preference to students who have completed a bachelor's degree.

There is no requirement that a student major in a particular area as long as the program of study includes the following courses:

- One year of general chemistry (105 and 106)
- One year of physics (107 and 108)
- Two years of biology (include a semester of microbiology 233 or 309; genetics 343 and cellular physiology 323 are recommended)
- Organic chemistry (235)
- Statistics (course taken depends on mathematics background)
- Calculus (171)
- Psychology (101)
- Other social science electives

In addition, applicants for admission to schools and colleges of optometry in the United States are required to take the Optometry Admission Test (OAT). Many schools would like this to be taken in the spring semester of the year before application is made. Students are also encouraged to contact the school at which they plan to complete their Doctor of Optometry (O.D.) degree early in their academic career.

More information, including a list of optometry schools, is provided on the following sheets. All of this information is available from the American Optometric Association and can be found on the organization's website.

American Optometric Association
243 North Lindbergh Blvd.
St. Louis, MO 63141-7881
Voice Mail: (314) 991-4101
Fax: (314) 991-4101
http: www.aoanet.org

Faculty Advisor: Dr. Vaughan, Biology Dept. (Halsey 152) Email:
Vaughan@uwosh.edu

Academic Advisor: Ron Cardo (Dempsey 130) Email: cardo@uwosh.edu

Looking for a dynamic and challenging career which allows you to help people, achieve personal growth, community respect, job flexibility and financial success and offers virtually unlimited opportunities? Consider optometry!

As primary eye care providers, doctors of optometry examine, diagnose, treat and manage diseases and disorders of the visual system, the eyes and associated structures as well as diagnose related systemic conditions.

Optometrists examine the internal and external structure of the eyes to diagnose eye diseases like glaucoma, cataracts and retinal disorders; systemic diseases like hypertension and diabetes; and vision conditions like nearsightedness, farsightedness, astigmatism and presbyopia. They also determine the patient's ability to focus and coordinate the eyes, to judge depth and to see color accurately.

They prescribe eyeglasses and contact lenses, low vision aids, vision therapy and medications to treat eye diseases as well as perform certain surgical procedures.

Optometrists work in private practices, multidisciplinary medical practices, hospitals, teaching institutions, research positions, community health centers and the ophthalmic industry. Optometrists can also build successful careers in the military, public health or government service.

There is a need for optometrists in all types of practice, particularly in the areas of pediatric and gerontological optometry. Practice opportunities exist throughout the U.S. with a particular need in rural areas.

Optometrists are required to complete a four-year post-graduate degree program to earn their doctor of optometry (O.D.) titles. The four-year program includes classroom and clinical training in geometric, physical, physiological and ophthalmic optics, ocular anatomy, ocular disease, ocular myotology, ocular pharmacology, neuroanatomy and neurophysiology of the vision system, color, form, space, movement and vision perception, design and modification of the visual environment, and vision performance and vision screening.

Unique to the educational requirements for optometrists is the advanced study of optics, the science of light and vision, and extensive training in lens design, construction, application and fitting.

Since optometrists are members of the primary health care team, optometric education also includes a thorough study of human anatomy, general pharmacology, general pathology, sensory and perceptual psychology, biochemistry, statistics and epidemiology.

After graduation from an accredited school or college of optometry, optometrists must successfully complete a state board examination to become licensed to practice in a particular state.

Information can be found on <http://www.aoanet.org/x2664.xml>

There are 19 accredited schools and colleges of optometry in the U.S. and Canada. They are:

University of Alabama at Birmingham

School of Optometry
HPB 124
1530 3rd Ave. South
Birmingham, AL 35294-0010
(205) 934-6150
admissions@icare.opt.uab.edu
www.icare.opt.uab.edu

Illinois College of Optometry

3241 South Michigan Avenue
Chicago, IL 60616
(312) 225-1700
admissions@eyecare.ico.edu
www.ico.edu/ico2/flindex.html

University of Missouri – St. Louis

College of Optometry
One University Blvd.
St. Louis, MO 63121-4400
(314) 516-6263
opstuaff@umsl.edu
www.umsl.edu/~optometry

Southern California College of Optometry

2575 Yorba Linda Blvd.
Fullerton, CA 92631
(714) 449-7444
leswalls@scco.edu
www.scco.edu

Indiana University

School of Optometry
800 E. Atwater Ave.
Bloomington, IN 47405
(812) 855-1917
iuopt@indiana.edu
www.opt.indiana.edu

State University of New York

State College of Optometry
33 W. 42nd St.
New York, NY 10036

University of California, Berkeley

School of Optometry
360 Minor Hall
Berkeley, CA 94720-2020
(510) 642-9537
ubcso@spectacle.berkeley.edu
<http://spectacle.berkeley.edu/>

New England College of Optometry

424 Beacon St.
Boston, MA 02115
(617) 266-2030
admissio@ne-optometry.edu
www.ne-optometry.edu

The Ohio State University

College of Optometry
320 W. 10th Ave.
P.O. Box 182342
Columbus, OH 43218-2342
(614) 292-2647
optometry@osu.edu
www.optometry.ohio-state.edu

Nova Southeastern University

Health Professions Division
College of Optometry
3200 S. University Dr.
Fort Lauderdale, FL 33328
(954) 723-1125
Admissions:astella@hpd.nov.edu
www.nova.edu/cwis/centers/hpd/optometry

Michigan College of Optometry

Ferris State University
1310 Cramer Circle
Big Rapids, MI 49307
(231) 591-3700
olsonc@ferris.edu
<http://www.ferris.edu/mco/>

Northeastern State University

College of Optometry
600 N. Grand Ave.
Tahlequah, OK 74464

(212) 780-5100
Admissions@sunnyopt.edu
www.sunnyopt.edu

Pacific University
College of Optometry
2043 College Way
Forest Grove, OR 97116
(503) 359-2900
admissions@pacificu.edu

University of Houston
College of Optometry
Houston, TX 77204-6052
(713) 743-2040
www.opt.uh.edu

Southern College of Optometry
1245 Madison Ave.
Memphis, TN 38104
(800) 238-0180
jhauser@sco.edu
www.sco.edu

**University of Montreal, Ecole
d'Optometrie**
3744 Jean-Brillant, Suite 260-7
Montreal, QC, Canada H3T 1P1
Pierre Simonet, O.D., Ph.D. Director
514-343-6325

Other Resources:
Association of Schools and Colleges of
Optometry www.opted.org.

(918) 456-5511
stratton@cherokee.nsuok.edu
<http://arapaho.nsuok.edu/~optometry>

Inter American University of Puerto Rico
School of Optometry
P.O. Box 191049
San Juan, PR 00919-1049
(787) 765-1915
Admissions:jcolon@inter.edu
www.optonet.inter.edu

Pennsylvania College Of Optometry
8360 Old York Road
Elkins Park, PA 19027
(215) 780-1301
(800) 824-6262
Admissions@pco.edu
www.pco.edu

**University of Waterloo, School of
Optometry**
Waterloo, ON, Canada N2L 3G1 Graham
Graham Strong, O.D., Ph.D., Assoc. Dean of
Science
519-888-4567 X 5039