



Program

Optometry and Vision Science

8073 | 72 Units of Credit

Overview

The Master of Optometry program is intended to provide students with advanced knowledge and clinical skills in Optometry and Vision Science. The program is designed to provide a broad range of courses that offer students training in clinical and theoretical aspects of Optometry with opportunities to advance their knowledge in a number of fields such as Contact Lenses, Visual Neuroscience, Business Skills, Occupational Optometry, Community Eye Health and Behavioural Optometry. Admission is limited to students with a minimum of a three-year undergraduate degree in Optometry with a credit average. Upon completion graduates will have advanced disciplinary knowledge and skills to meet the demands of the profession.

Note: The Master of Optometry program does not include any clinical training and is not appropriate for people wanting to train for registration to practice as an Optometrist in Australia.

Faculty

Faculty of Science

Campus

Kensington

Study Level

Postgraduate

Typical duration

1.7 Years

Delivery Mode

Face-to-face, Fully online, Research

Intake Period

Term 1, Term 3

Academic Calendar

3+ Calendar

Minimum Units of Credit

72

Award type

Masters (Coursework)

Award(s)

Master of Optometry -

MOptom

CRICOS Code

081122G

Learning Outcomes

1. Developed communication, critical thinking, and problem solving skills through an effective and enriched learning environment that is evidenced based.
 2. Developed advanced disciplinary knowledge that is both theoretical and practical in a number of fields in optometry.
 3. Developed knowledge and skills in the use of specialised optometric technologies and methodologies
 4. Gained appropriate training and experience in effective communication to a range of audiences including one-on-one interactions with patients and to a group
 5. Gained a national and global outlook of contemporary issues most relevant to research and the practice of optometry.
 6. Developed skills and knowledge in research methods and evidence based practices to foster life-long learning, critical analysis and independent enquiry.
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Graduate Capabilities:

For more information on Graduate Capabilities, please click on this [link](#).

Program Structure

Students must complete 72 UOC as a standalone program.

The program consists of 72 UOC comprised of:

1. 12-18 UOC of Core Courses
2. 42-60 UOC of Prescribed Electives
3. Up to 18 UOC of non-compulsory Free Electives from any Faculty in the University, subject to the approval of the Program Authority.

Core Courses

Students must take at least 12 UOC, up to a maximum of 18 UOC of the following courses.

Please Note:

- Students electing to take OPTM7208 Research Skills in Optometry (3 UOC), enrol 2 times for a total of 6 UOC.
- Students electing to take OPTM7218 Research Project (4 UOC), enrol 3 times for a total of 12 UOC.

[OPTM7302](#) | 6 UOC

[Evidence Based Optometry](#)

One of the following:

[OPTM7007](#) | 12 UOC

[Community Eye Health Project](#)

[OPTM7208](#) | 6 UOC

[Research Skills in Optometry](#)

[OPTM7218](#) | 4 UOC

[Research Project](#)

Prescribed Electives

Students must take at least 42 UOC, up to a maximum of 60 UOC of the following courses.

[OPTM7001](#) | 6 UOC

Introduction to Community Eye Health

OPTM7003 | 6 UOC

Epidemiology of Blinding Eye Diseases

OPTM7006 | 6 UOC

Eye Care Program Management

OPTM7103 | 6 UOC

Behavioural Optometry 1

OPTM7104 | 6 UOC

Advanced Contact Lens Studies 1

OPTM7115 | 6 UOC

Visual Neuroscience

OPTM7203 | 6 UOC

Behavioural Optometry 2

OPTM7205 | 6 UOC

Specialty Contact Lens Studies

OPTM7213 | 12 UOC

Ocular Therapy

OPTM7444 | 12 UOC

Business Skills in Optometry

OPTM7511 | 6 UOC

Advanced Ocular Disease 1

OPTM7611 | 6 UOC

Introduction to Myopia

Free Electives

Students may take up to 18 UOC of postgraduate courses from any Faculty in the University subject to the approval of the Program Authority.

any level 5 course

any level 7 course

any level 8 course

any level 9 course

Enrolment Disclaimer

Unless advised otherwise by your program authority, you should follow the rules for the handbook for the year you commenced your program. You are also responsible for ensuring you enrol in courses according to your program requirements. myUNSW enrolment checks that you have met enrolment requirements such as pre-requisites for individual courses but not that a course will count towards your program requirements.

Admission Requirements

Entry Requirements

The minimum requirement is the equivalent of a three-year AQF level 7 Bachelor degree in Optometry with a credit average. Students with an average between 60 and 65 will be considered for admission at the discretion of the Postgraduate Coordinator taking into consideration performance in Optometry courses completed in the undergraduate program.

Prospective international students should note that they will need to meet the [University's English language requirements](#).

Applicants with the equivalent of an AQF level 8 Bachelor Honours degree in Optometry may be awarded advanced standing for a maximum of 24 UOC and may complete the degree within one year of full time study (48 UOC). These students will still be required to complete the core course requirements for the program but will take fewer elective courses.

For more information about admission requirements for various UNSW programs, visit the following website(s):

[Domestic Students](#)

[International Student](#)

Program Requirements

Progression Requirements

Enrolled students will be allowed to exit the program with a Graduate Certificate (program 7435) or Graduate Diploma in Optometry (program 5665) provided they meet the requirements of these programs. To graduate with a Graduate Certificate students must have completed OPTM7302 and 18 UOC of elective courses (which may include OPTM7108). To graduate with a Graduate Diploma students must have completed OPTM7302 and 30 UOC of elective courses (which may include OPTM7108 or OPTM7308).

For more information on university policy on progression requirements please visit [Academic Progression](#).

Recognition of Achievement

Award with Excellence

The Award with Excellence is awarded in coursework masters programs, including Masters (Extension) but with the exception of Masters (Extended) such as JD and MD, when a Weighted Average Mean (WAM) of at least 80% has been achieved and at least 50% of the requirements of the award are completed at UNSW. All eligible programs will award 'with Excellence' except in special circumstances where approval of Academic Board has been given for a program to opt out.

For more information, please visit:

[Current Students Award with Excellence](#)

Additional Information

International students can take a maximum of 25% of their courses via distance or online. Therefore, where international students receive advanced standing into the program and are only required to take 48 UOC to complete the degree, they can take a maximum of 12 UOC of courses chosen from OPTM7003, OPTM7001 and OPTM7006.

Program Fees

At UNSW fees are generally charged at course level and therefore dependent upon individual enrolment and other factors such as student's residency status. For generic information on fees and additional expenses of UNSW programs, click on one of the following:

[Domestic Students](#)

[Commonwealth Supported Students](#)

[International Students](#)

Additional Expenses

Some courses may require students to go on field trips, the cost will be borne by the student.

Pre-2019 Handbook Editions

Access past handbook editions (2018 and prior)

[Pre-2019 Handbook Editions](#)

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Authorised by Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Academic)

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