



OPTOMETRY

Optometrists are concerned with the diagnosis, treatment, and prevention of abnormalities associated with the visual system. Doctors of Optometry (O.D.) evaluate the refractive status of the eye, as well as the selection, design, provision, and adaptation of corrective measures for the eye. Optometrists provide patient care in private offices, group practices, health maintenance organizations, and hospital outpatient clinics. They may also work in conjunction with ophthalmologists. Optometrists may also be involved in work place design, and even the creation of highway lighting and marking systems. The median annual salary (year2008) is \$117,000 for those in private practice.

Students may elect to major in any chosen field. However, there are certain required courses which a student must complete prior to admission to optometry school. To apply to optometry school, students should:

- 1) Complete the prerequisites listed on the opposite side as part of their chosen degree plan.
- 2) Register for and score competitively on the Optometry Admission Test. The OAT should be completed no later than the fall preceding entry to the program.
- 3) Obtain relevant volunteer experience with an Optometrist.
- 4.) Complete and submit the application to the application service, OptomCAS. Applications are typically due in February of the calendar year the student plans to attend. However, students are urged to apply as early as possible.



NFSC Advisors

Poppy Capehart '75

Senior Academic Advisor II
127 Catter Matil
(979)845-2142
poppy@tamu.edu

Rebecca Hamilton '11

Academic Advisor II
128 Catter Matil
(979) 845-2142
rebeccahamilton@tamu.edu

Professional School Advising

221 TAMU Henderson Hall
College Station, Texas 77843-4256
Phone: (979) 847-8938
Fax: (979) 458-0873
<http://opsa.tamu.edu>



Catter Matil, 2253 TAMU
College Station, TX 77843-2253
Ph: (979)845-2142 • Fax: (979) 862-6842
nfsc@tamu.edu • nfs.tamu.edu

OPTOMETRY



**NUTRITION &
FOOD SCIENCE**
TEXAS A & M UNIVERSITY

SELECTION CRITERIA

- Grades:** A minimum of a 2.8 GPR is required for consideration of the application. Most candidates average at least a 3.39 GPR or better.
- Test scores:** Students should register for the Optometry Admission Test which is offered online. Knowledge in Biology, Inorganic and Organic Chemistry, Reading Comprehension, Quantitative Reasoning (algebra and trigonometry) and Physics is necessary for successful completion of the exam.
- Volunteer/Work experience:** Students can strengthen their application by gaining practical experience with a practicing Optometrist. In order to complete one of the two required essay questions on the application, a student must have some type of experience with at least one practicing optometrist.
- Letters of evaluation:** Students should obtain supportive letters of evaluation from professors and/or Optometrists with whom they have worked. These should address the student's motivation, dedication and integrity.
- Interview:** Interviews are conducted on a rolling basis throughout the application period.
- Course load and selection:** Withdrawals, frequent Q-Drops, and low course loads are reason for concern with admission committees. Ideally, students should enroll in no less than 15 hours each semester.

The number and type of courses taken each semester will also be considered. Evidence of ability to successfully handle a full to heavy course load will be weighed in the applicant's favor.



UIW ADDITIONAL COURSES

Applying to IUW without a baccalaureate degree:

- 6 hours of Humanities- Theology, Phil, Hist, Art, Lit, Foreign Language
- 6 hours of Social/Behavioral Sciences- Soci, Psyc, Pols, Hist, Anth, Geog, Econ, Comm

Other equivalent courses required for various majors in science and engineering may be acceptable. Please consult your academic advisor for acceptability towards your degree plan and optometry programs for acceptability for their prerequisites. Students should be aware of any Texas A&M University prerequisite courses needed for each course. Courses for non-science majors are usually not accepted.

PREREQUISITES

| Course | Acceptable Courses |
|--|--|
| Math (a 2nd math is required for U of H) | MATH 131, 151, or 171 |
| Physics & Lab (Mechanical) | PHYS 201 or 218 |
| Physics & Lab (Electrical) | PHYS 202 or 208 |
| Statistics with Research Design | STAT 301, 302 or 303 |
| Psychology | PSYC 107 |
| General Chemistry & Lab | CHEM 101/111 |
| General Chemistry & Lab | CHEM 102/112 |
| Organic Chemistry & Lab | CHEM 227 & 237 |
| Biochemistry | BICH 410 |
| Biology I and Lab | BIOL 111 |
| Biology II and Lab | BIOL 112 |
| Microbiology/Bacteriology | BIOL 351 or VTPB 405 |
| English (UIW only) | 2 semesters |
| 8 hours upper level Biology (UHCO only) | Anatomy & Physiology |
| Recommended: | |
| *Human Anatomy and Physiology | BIOL 319 & BIOL 320 or VIBS 305 & VTPP 423 |

All prerequisites and information are subject to change at any time and without notice. It is the responsibility of the applicant to remain up to date on all requirements for their TAMU major and their desired program.

APPLYING

U of H: Two letters of recommendation, prefer academic. There is a supplemental application. Average accepted GPR=3.5, OAT = 323. Due date for application is March 15th, app opens in June.

UIW: Two letters of recommendation, 1 optometrist, 1 academic. No bachelor's degree is required. Due date for application is May 1st.

Both programs use the Optometry Central Application System and both have supplemental applications available through the program.



CURRICULUM IN NUTRITIONAL SCIENCES GENERAL NUTRITION TRACK

| University Core Curriculum** | Writing Intensive Credits (must be NUTR/2 required) |
|--|--|
| Citizenship | 1. NUTR 481 |
| _____ Am. History Elective (3) (TCCN: HIST 1301) | 2. NUTR 430 or NUTR 469 |
| _____ Am. History Elective (3) (TCCN: HIST 1302) | |
| _____ POLS 206 (3) (TCCN: GOVT 2305) | |
| _____ POLS 207 (3) (TCCN: GOVT 2306) | |
| Communication | |
| _____ ENGL 104 (3) (TCCN: 1301) | |
| _____ ENGL 210 (3) (TCCN: 2311 accepted) | |
| Natural Sciences | |
| _____ CHEM 101/111 (4) (TCCN: 1411) | |
| _____ CHEM 102/112 (4) (TCCN: 1412) | |
| Language, Philosophy and Culture | |
| _____ Language, Philosophy, and Culture Elective (3) | |
| Mathematics and Statistics | |
| _____ MATH 141 (3) (TCCN: 1324) | |
| _____ MATH 142 (3) (TCCN: 1325) | |
| _____ STAT 302 (3) (must be taken at TAMU) | |
| Social and Behavioral Sciences | |
| _____ Social and Behavioral Science Elective (3) PSYC 107 | |
| Creative Arts | |
| _____ Creative Arts Elective (3) | |
| International & Cultural Diversity | |
| _____ 3 hours | |
| _____ 3 hours (can be used to satisfy other requirements) | |
| | Science Courses (Credit hrs) |
| | Anatomy/Physiology |
| | _____ BIOL 319 (4) *** (Cannot substitute BIOL 2401) |
| | _____ BIOL 320 (4) *** (Cannot substitute BIOL 2402) |
| | Biochemistry |
| | _____ BICH 410 (3) _____ BICH 411 (3) |
| | Biology and Genetics |
| | _____ BIOL 111 (4) (TCCN: 1406) |
| | _____ BIOL 112 (4) (TCCN: 1407) |
| | _____ GENE 301 (4) |
| | Chemistry |
| | _____ CHEM 227 (3) (TCCN: 2423) |
| | _____ CHEM 237 (1) (TCCN: 2423) |
| | _____ CHEM 228 (3) (TCCN: 2425) |
| | Required Nutrition/Food Science Courses |
| | _____ BIOL 351 (4) |
| | _____ NUTR 203 (3) |
| | _____ NUTR 210 (2) |
| | _____ NUTR 301 (3) |
| | _____ NUTR 430 (3) |
| | _____ NUTR 470 (3) |
| | _____ NUTR 481 "C" (1) |
| | _____ NUTR Elective (3)*** |
| | _____ NUTR Elective (3)*** |
| | Technical Electives (9 hrs total) |
| | _____ Approved Electives (3)*** |
| | _____ Approved Electives (3)*** |
| | _____ Approved Electives (3)*** |
| | Free Electives (9 hrs total) |
| | _____ Free Electives |
| | _____ Free Electives |
| | _____ Free Electives |

A total of 120 hours is required for graduation; 36 hours of 300/400 level courses are required at TAMU.

*Catalog should correspond with your first semester.

**University Core Curriculum.

***Students may choose from NUTR 211, NUTR 300, NUTR 405, NUTR 410, NUTR 430 ("W"), NUTR 440, NUTR 450, NUTR 469, NUTR 471, NUTR 485, NUTR 489, NUTR 491. One nutrition elective must be a "W" course

****Approved Electives - CHEM 238, **PHYS 201, PHYS 202**, CHEM 315 and 318, BIOL 413 or BIOL 414, BIOL 352 or BIOL 360, VTPP 425, COMM 203, 315, or 325, PSYC 306, PSYC 307, BICH 431, HLTH 354.

***** Student may choose to take biomedical anatomy and physiology. Choose VIBS 305 and VTPP 423