

Vision Care Technology Certificate Program

Division of Nursing & Allied Health— Curriculum Code: 3310

Will Earn Upon Program Completion: Certificate in Vision Care Technology

Why major in Vision Care Technology?

The program introduces students to the field of opticianry. Students receive training in the laboratory techniques of measuring and grinding eyeglasses to prescription, and in fitting and final adaptation of eye wear. The curriculum also prepares students for the business administration functions of the profession and to pass the state licensing examination for Ophthalmic Technician and Ophthalmic Dispenser. To be successful in the field, you must combine scientific and clinical skills with the ability to work well with patients. Job opportunities include owning or working in a retail optical dispensary, or sales and marketing of ophthalmic materials. Employment prospects are increasing in the profession with the growth in the elderly population and the trend toward high fashion eyewear. All course work on the Certificate can be applied towards earning an A.A.S. degree in Vision Care Technology.

If I major in Vision Care Technology, can I transfer to an upper-division college or university?

The program is career-oriented, although students may choose to transfer their credits to four-year institutions in pursuit of a bachelor's degree in optometry, opticianry, or a related field.

Are there any requirements I must satisfy before I start taking courses in my major?

All new students must take the basic skills competency tests. Based on the results of the tests, you may be required to take developmental courses in reading, English and/or mathematics. Prior completion of trigonometry, biology and physics at the high school level is strongly recommended.

How long will it take for me to complete this degree?

It will take 3 years in conjunction with New Jersey's Apprentice Dispensing Permit.

Where should I direct specific questions about this program?

Call the Division at (973) 877– 3367.

Upon completion of this program, graduates will be able to:

- ◆ Demonstrate understanding of the responsibilities of the practicing optician, optometrist, and ophthalmologist;
- ◆ Explain how glass and other optical materials are manufactured;
- ◆ Analyze the ophthalmic prescription and its parts;
- ◆ Demonstrate the use of the lens meter;
- ◆ Perform ophthalmic finishing techniques;
- ◆ Keep basic records;
- ◆ Apply laboratory workshop safety procedures;
- ◆ Demonstrate proper dispensing skills;
- ◆ Demonstrate knowledge of the refractive implications of accommodation and convergence;
- ◆ Explain how a refractionist may determine the “ADD” power;
- ◆ Use Basic optical problem-solving techniques; and
- ◆ Use basic techniques in bifocal height measurements.

Vision Care Technology — Certificate Program

<p>GENERAL EDUCATION REQUIREMENTS: (None)</p> <p>MAJOR COURSE REQUIREMENTS: (33 credits)</p> <table style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <tr><td>OPH 123</td><td>Ophthalmic Laboratory I</td><td style="text-align: right;">4</td></tr> <tr><td>OPH 124</td><td>Ophthalmic Laboratory II</td><td style="text-align: right;">4</td></tr> <tr><td>OPH 126</td><td>Ophthalmic Materials I</td><td style="text-align: right;">3</td></tr> <tr><td>OPH 127</td><td>Ophthalmic Materials II</td><td style="text-align: right;">3</td></tr> <tr><td>OPH 201</td><td>Ophthalmic Dispensing I</td><td style="text-align: right;">5</td></tr> <tr><td>OPH 202</td><td>Ophthalmic Dispensing II</td><td style="text-align: right;">5</td></tr> <tr><td>OPH 203</td><td>Contact Lenses I</td><td style="text-align: right;">3</td></tr> <tr><td>BIO 125</td><td>Anat. & Physiology of the Eye</td><td style="text-align: right;">3</td></tr> <tr><td>PHY 111</td><td>Theory of Optics I</td><td style="text-align: right;">3</td></tr> </table> <p>ADDITIONAL COURSE REQUIREMENTS:</p> <p>A New Jersey Apprentice Dispensing Permit should be obtained so that the Certificate will qualify the student for taking the State licensing examination. The minimum passing grade for all courses is "C". If you earn a grade below "C", you need to repeat that course.</p> <p>Total Credits Required for Certificate 33</p>	OPH 123	Ophthalmic Laboratory I	4	OPH 124	Ophthalmic Laboratory II	4	OPH 126	Ophthalmic Materials I	3	OPH 127	Ophthalmic Materials II	3	OPH 201	Ophthalmic Dispensing I	5	OPH 202	Ophthalmic Dispensing II	5	OPH 203	Contact Lenses I	3	BIO 125	Anat. & Physiology of the Eye	3	PHY 111	Theory of Optics I	3	<p>RECOMMENDED SEQUENCE OF COURSES:*</p> <p>First Semester</p> <table style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <tr><td>OPH 123</td><td>Ophthalmic Laboratory I</td><td style="text-align: right;">4</td></tr> <tr><td>OPH 126</td><td>Ophthalmic Materials I</td><td style="text-align: right;">3</td></tr> </table> <p>Second Semester</p> <table style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <tr><td>OPH 124</td><td>Ophthalmic Laboratory II</td><td style="text-align: right;">4</td></tr> <tr><td>OPH 127</td><td>Ophthalmic Materials II</td><td style="text-align: right;">3</td></tr> </table> <p>Third Semester</p> <table style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <tr><td>OPH 201</td><td>Ophthalmic Dispensing I</td><td style="text-align: right;">5</td></tr> <tr><td>OPH 203</td><td>Contact Lenses I</td><td style="text-align: right;">3</td></tr> </table> <p>Fourth Semester</p> <table style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <tr><td>OPH 202</td><td>Ophthalmic Dispensing II</td><td style="text-align: right;">5</td></tr> </table> <p>Fifth Semester</p> <table style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <tr><td>PHY 111</td><td>Theory of Optics I</td><td style="text-align: right;">3</td></tr> </table> <p>Sixth Semester</p> <table style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <tr><td>BIO 125</td><td>Anat. & Physiology of the Eye</td><td style="text-align: right;">3</td></tr> </table>	OPH 123	Ophthalmic Laboratory I	4	OPH 126	Ophthalmic Materials I	3	OPH 124	Ophthalmic Laboratory II	4	OPH 127	Ophthalmic Materials II	3	OPH 201	Ophthalmic Dispensing I	5	OPH 203	Contact Lenses I	3	OPH 202	Ophthalmic Dispensing II	5	PHY 111	Theory of Optics I	3	BIO 125	Anat. & Physiology of the Eye	3
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***NOTE:** This plan assumes the completion of all required developmental courses in reading, writing, and mathematics as well as other pre- and co-requisites for some of the courses, as listed in the Course Descriptions section.