

Vision Care Technology (A.A.S.)

The Vision Care Technology degree program introduces students to the field of opticianry. Students receive training in laboratory techniques of measuring and grinding eyeglasses to prescription and in fitting and final adaptation of eyewear. 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 caused by growth in the elderly population and the trend toward high fashion eyewear. The Vision Care Technology program is accredited by the Commission on Opticianry Accreditation (COA), PO Box 592, Canton, NY, 13617 (Phone: 703-468-0566).

Program Requirements

GENERAL EDUCATION REQUIREMENTS

Written & Oral Communication (6 credits)

[ENG 101](#) (3 credits)

[ENG 102](#) or [ENG 105](#) (one 3-credit course)

Quantitative Knowledge & Skills (4 credits)

[MTH 100](#) (4 credits)

Technological Competency (3 credits)

[CIS 107](#) or [CIS 131](#) (one 3-credit course)

Society & Human Behavior (6 credits)

Choose two of the following courses: [ANT 101](#)[ANT 105](#)[ECO 101](#)[ECO 102](#)[POL 101](#)[POL 104](#)[PSY 101](#)[PSY 102](#)[PSY 219](#)[SOC 101](#)[SOC 108](#) or [SOC 219](#) (two 3-credit courses)

Historical Perspective (3 credits)

Choose one of the following history courses: [HST 101](#)[HST 102](#)[HST 111](#)[HST 112](#)[HST 121](#)[HST 122](#)[HST 131](#)[HST 132](#)[HST 134](#)[HST 135](#)[HST 136](#)[HST 137](#)[HST 161](#) or [HST 162](#) (one 3-credit course)

MAJOR COURSE REQUIREMENTS

[BIO 125](#) Anatomy & Physiology of the Eye (3 credits)

[OPH 123](#) Ophthalmic Laboratory I (4 credits)

[OPH 124](#) Ophthalmic Laboratory II (4 credits)

[OPH 126](#) Ophthalmic Materials I (3 credits)

[OPH 127](#) Ophthalmic Materials II (3 credits)

[OPH 201](#) Ophthalmic Dispensing I (5 credits)
[OPH 202](#) Ophthalmic Dispensing II (5 credits)
[OPH 203](#) Contact Lenses I (3 credits)
[OPH 204](#) Contact Lenses II (3 credits)
[OPH 210](#) Principles of Refraction (3 credits)
[OPH 273](#) Supervised Clinical Experience (3 credits)
[PHY 111](#) Theory of Optics I (3 credits)

ADDITIONAL COURSE REQUIREMENTS

[ACC 101](#) Principles of Accounting I – Financial (4 credits)
[BUS 101](#) Business Organization & Management (3 credits)

Notes:

(1) The minimum passing grade for all courses designated BIO, OPH, or PHY is "C." If you earn a grade below "C", you need to repeat the course.

(2) For individuals who already possess a New Jersey Apprentice Dispensing permit, the following courses are offered to fulfill the requirement to obtain college credit to qualify for the State licensing examination:

[OPH 123](#) Ophthalmic Laboratory I (4 credits)
[OPH 124](#) Ophthalmic Laboratory II (4 credits)
[OPH 126](#) Ophthalmic Materials I (3 credits)
[OPH 127](#) Ophthalmic Materials II (3 credits)
[OPH 201](#) Ophthalmic Dispensing I (5 credits)
[OPH 202](#) Ophthalmic Dispensing II (5 credits)
[OPH 203](#) Contact Lenses I (3 credits)
[BIO 125](#) Anatomy and Physiology of the Eye (3 credits)
[PHY 111](#) Theory of Optics I (3 credits)

RECOMMENDED SEQUENCE OF COURSES

Total Credits Required for Degree: 71

First Semester

[ENG 101](#) College Composition I (3 credits)
[PHY 111](#) Theory of Optics I (3 credits)
[MTH 100](#) Introductory College Mathematics (4 credits)
[OPH 123](#) Ophthalmic Laboratory I (4 credits)
[OPH 126](#) Ophthalmic Materials I (3 credits)

Second Semester

[ENG 102](#) College Composition II or [ENG 105](#) Technical Writing (3 credits)
[BIO 125](#) Anatomy and Physiology of the Eye (3 credits)
[CIS 107](#) Computer Literacy or [CIS 131](#) Microcomputers in Business (3 credits)
[OPH 124](#) Ophthalmic Laboratory II (4 credits)
[OPH 127](#) Ophthalmic Materials II (3 credits)

Summer Session

Society & Human Behavior requirement (one 3-credit course)

Third Semester

[ACC 101](#) Principles of Accounting – Financial (4 credits)

[BUS 101](#) Business Organization and Management (3 credits)

[OPH 201](#) Ophthalmic Dispensing I (5 credits)

[OPH 203](#) Contact Lenses I (3 credits)

Society & Human Behavior requirement (one 3-credit course)

Fourth Semester

[OPH 202](#) Ophthalmic Dispensing II (5 credits)

[OPH 204](#) Contact Lenses II (3 credits)

[OPH 210](#) Principles of Refraction (3 credits)

[OPH 273](#) Supervised Clinical Experience (3 credits)

Historical Perspective requirement (one 3-credit course)