Bachelor of Applied Science (Optometry) (For continuing and advanced standing students only) (OP42)

Year offered: 2010
Admissions: No
CRICOS code: 009031J
Course duration (full-time): 4 Years
Domestic fees (indicative): 2010: Full fee tuition $8,250 (indicative) per semester
International Fees (indicative): 2010: $11,250 (indicative) per semester
Domestic Entry: Course replaced by OP45
International Entry: Course replaced by OP45
QTAC code: Course replaced by 425312 (OP45)
Past rank cut-off: 98* Second order selection ranks were used to select applicants from within the rank cut-off band
Past OP cut-off: 2* Field positions were used to select applicants from within the OP cut-off band
Assumed knowledge: English (4, SA), Maths B (4, SA), Chemistry (4, SA), and Physics (4, SA)
Preparatory studies: For information on acquiring assumed knowledge visit http://www.studentservices.qut.edu.au/apply/ug/info/knowledge.jsp
Total credit points: 384
Standard credit points per full-time semester: 48
Course coordinator: Prof Michael Collins (all enrolment queries to email: optometry.enquiries@qut.com or phone: 07 3138 3368)
Campus: Kelvin Grove

Overview
NOTE: This course is being replaced by the dual award program, Bachelor of Vision Science (OP45) / Master of Optometry (OP85). No new first year admissions were accepted into OP42 from 2009; however student with advanced standing may be considered for admission third year.

Optometrists examine people's eyes to protect and improve their vision and to detect and diagnose eye disease. As an optometrist, you will work with a range of complex instruments and techniques to test vision for defects such as short-sightedness, long-sightedness and astigmatism. Optometrists use their clinical judgement to treat patients in a variety of ways, including eye exercises, contact lenses, spectacles or advice on lighting and visual habits.

Why choose this course?
QUT has the only optometry school in Queensland and one of only three in Australia. Class numbers are small so you will receive individual attention from experienced lecturers.

An on-campus optometry clinic enables you to work directly with real patients, under the supervision of working optometrists.

You will gain hands-on experience throughout the course through participation in the practices of working optometrists, and in other clinical settings including a clinic for Indigenous patients and a clinic for children with impaired vision.

The QUT School of Optometry maintains strong professional and organisational links with industry. Clinical teachers come primarily from private practice settings, while many guest lectures are given by optometrists from private practice and allied disciplines such as ethics, financial, medical and pharmaceutical professions.

Career Options
Graduates are highly employable, with all students employed on graduation (2005 QUT Graduate Destinations Survey).

Graduates can work or specialise in areas such as contact lens practice, children's vision, occupational/public health optometry or low vision.

Many optometry graduates enter private practice and work initially in established practices, often with a view to future partnership or the establishment of their own practice. Graduates are also employed in government service, including hospitals, or they may enter the teaching and research fields after further study.

Professional Recognition
Boards of Optometrical Registration regulate the practice of optometry in Australia. QUT graduates are eligible to apply to the Optometrists' Board of Queensland for registration to practise as optometrists in Queensland and all states and territories of Australia.

Honours
A degree with honours may be awarded to students who have recorded outstanding achievement in the four-year program.

OP Guarantee
The OP Guarantee does not apply to this course.

International student
Strict quotas apply for entry to this course.
Other course requirements

**blue card** As required by the Commission for Children and Young People and Child Guardian Act (2000), students must undergo a criminal history check and be issued with a Blue Card before commencing clinical practice/field experience/practicum in an organisation where they may work with children or young people. For more information, visit http://bluecard.qut.com.

**additional costs** Ophthalmic instruments costing approximately $5000 are required for the clinical program from the beginning of the second and third years of the course. Academic staff provide advice regarding the purchase of these instruments. You will also be required to undertake first aid certification before entering the clinical program.

Deferment

QUT allows current Year 12 school leavers to defer their undergraduate admission offer for one year, or for six months if offered mid-year admission, except in courses using specific admission requirements such as questionnaires, folios, auditions, prior study or work experience.

Non-year 12 students may also request to defer their QTAC offer on the basis of demonstrated special circumstances.

Find out more on deferment.

Further Information

For information about this course, please call the Public Health and Optometry Student Centre on +61 7 3138 3368 or email optometry.enquiries@qut.com

Course structure

Year 1 of the course will not be offered from 2009

Year 2 of the course will not be offered from 2010

Year 3 Semester 1

- OPB550 Diseases of the Eye 5
- OPB551 Optometry 5
- OPB552 Advanced Optometry 5
- OPB553 Clinical Practice 5

Year 3 Semester 2

- OPB650 Diseases of the Eye 6
- OPB651 Contact Lens Studies
- OPB652 Pharmacology

- OPB653 Clinical Practice 6

Year 4 Semester 1

- OPB750 Topics in Optometry 7
- OPB751 Advanced Optometry 7
- OPB752 Clinical Practice 7
- OPB753 Specialist Clinical Practice 7

Year 4 Semester 2

- OPB850 Topics in Optometry 8
- OPB851 Advanced Optometry 8
- OPB852 Clinical Practice 8
- OPB853 Specialist Clinical Practice 8

Health Unit prerequisites/corequisites

For information on prereqs & coreqs visit: www.hlth.qut.edu.au/study/forcurrentstudents/

UNIT SYNOPSES

**OPB550 DISEASES OF THE EYE 5**

This unit provides students with a knowledge and understanding of relevant general diseases and those that affect the eye. It includes general disease principles and processes, referral procedures, genetics, congenital, dystrophic and degenerative eye disease, and the ocular manifestation of general disease.

**Prerequisites:** OPB451, OPB452, and LSB475

**Credit points:** 12

**Contact hours:** 4 per week

**Campus:** Kelvin Grove

**Teaching period:** 2010 SEM-1

**OPB551 OPTOMETRY 5**

The student gains an understanding of the theory and practice of essential clinical techniques required to examine patients’ eyes and assess visual function. The subject contains the development and management of refractive errors and binocular vision accommodation anomalies.

**Prerequisites:** OPB450, OPB451, and OPB452

**Credit points:** 12

**Contact hours:** 5 per week

**Campus:** Kelvin Grove

**Teaching period:** 2010 SEM-1

**OPB552 ADVANCED OPTOMETRY 5**

This unit introduces the student to the theory and practice of advanced clinical techniques of vision assessment. It integrates these with the basic methods learned in OPB350, OPB450 and OPB551 and gives the student a thorough knowledge of all aspects of routine patient management. The unit covers areas such as visual fields, colour vision, gonioscopy, indirect ophthalmoscopy and geriatric
optometry.

**Prerequisites:** OPB450, OPB451, and OPB452  
**Credit points:** 12  
**Contact hours:** 5 per week  
**Campus:** Kelvin Grove  
**Teaching period:** 2010 SEM-1

### OPB553 CLINICAL PRACTICE 5

Clinical Practice 5 provides the vehicle for the application of examination techniques learned in previous and concurrent units. Emphasis is placed on communicating with patients, the fabrication of spectacles, basic contact lens practice and the development of appropriate clinical routines in eye examination.

**Prerequisites:** OPB450, OPB451, and OPB452  
**Credit points:** 12  
**Contact hours:** 5 per week  
**Campus:** Kelvin Grove  
**Teaching period:** 2010 SEM-1

### OPB650 DISEASES OF THE EYE 6

This is a continuation of OPB550 and covers the ocular manifestations of general disease, neuro-ophthalmology, glaucoma, inflammations/infections, tumours and trauma.

**Prerequisites:** OPB550, OPB556, and LSB384  
**Credit points:** 12  
**Contact hours:** 4 per week  
**Campus:** Kelvin Grove  
**Teaching period:** 2010 SEM-1

### OPB651 CONTACT LENS STUDIES

Contact lens design and fitting form the basis of this subject. Both soft and rigid contact lenses are covered together with lens materials, designs, manufacture, fitting assessments and appropriate clinical techniques. The subject also focuses on corneal physiology, patient management and advanced contact lens fitting.

**Prerequisites:** OPB550, OPB551, and OPB553  
**Credit points:** 12  
**Contact hours:** 6 per week  
**Campus:** Kelvin Grove  
**Teaching period:** 2010 SEM-1

### OPB652 PHARMACOLOGY

This subject covers both general and ocular pharmacology. It includes pharmacokinetic and pharmacodynamic principles, the mechanisms of action and therapeutic applications of drugs used in the treatment of general and ocular disease, and drugs used to assist in the diagnosis of ocular conditions.

**Prerequisites:** OPB550  
**Credit points:** 12  
**Contact hours:** 5 per week  
**Campus:** Kelvin Grove  
**Teaching period:** 2010 SEM-2

### OPB653 CLINICAL PRACTICE 6

The subject is a continuation of OPB553, and enables students to apply eye examination techniques in a clinical setting. There is an emphasis on advanced communication skills, patient management and clinical decision-making.

**Prerequisites:** OPB550, OPB551, OPB552, and OPB553  
**Credit points:** 12  
**Contact hours:** 6 per week  
**Campus:** Kelvin Grove  
**Teaching period:** 2010 SEM-2

### OPB750 TOPICS IN OPTOMETRY 7

Students are required to choose a research topic, conduct a literature search on this topic, develop experimental hypothesis, plan and undertake a research project. Students give oral presentations of their own research project. Presentations on advanced clinical care and decision making skills include lecture and tutorial presentations and case summaries.

**Prerequisites:** OPB653  
**Credit points:** 12  
**Contact hours:** 4 per week  
**Campus:** Kelvin Grove  
**Teaching period:** 2010 SEM-1

### OPB751 ADVANCED OPTOMETRY 7

This unit provides students with a thorough knowledge of more specialised areas of patient management including patients with low vision and paediatric patients.

**Prerequisites:** OPB653  
**Credit points:** 12  
**Contact hours:** 4 per week  
**Campus:** Kelvin Grove  
**Teaching period:** 2010 SEM-1

### OPB752 CLINICAL PRACTICE 7

This unit enables students to apply knowledge and skills gained in third year to patients presenting for eye examinations, and to make decisions in effective patient management.

**Prerequisites:** OPB650, OPB651, and OPB653  
**Credit points:** 12  
**Contact hours:** 8 per week  
**Campus:** Kelvin Grove  
**Teaching period:** 2010 SEM-1

### OPB753 SPECIALIST CLINICAL PRACTICE 7

This unit enables students to apply specialist clinical knowledge in the management of patients requiring contact lenses, vision training and low vision care.

**Prerequisites:** OPB650, OPB651, and OPB653  
**Credit points:** 12  
**Contact hours:** 8 per week  
**Campus:** Kelvin Grove  
**Teaching period:** 2010 SEM-1

### OPB850 TOPICS IN OPTOMETRY 8

Students are required to analyse the results of their chosen research project and write a full report in manuscript form. Oral presentations of the project are given to their peers. Presentations on advanced clinical care and decision making skills include lecture and tutorial presentations and case summaries.

**Prerequisites:** OPB750  
**Credit points:** 12  
**Contact hours:** 4 per week  
**Campus:** Kelvin Grove  
**Teaching period:** 2010 SEM-2

### OPB851 ADVANCED OPTOMETRY 8

This unit includes optometry's role in health care; professional and ethical behaviour; relevant state and federal Acts; professional associations; types of practice; optometric practice and the law. The unit introduces the basic concepts of eye safety and visual ergonomics.
OPB852 CLINICAL PRACTICE 8
This unit enables students to consolidate skills developed in OPB752, to increase their knowledge base and achieve surety with decision making involving the management of patients’ eye and vision problems.
Prerequisites: OPB751, OPB752, and OPB753  Credit points: 12  Contact hours: 8 per week  Campus: Kelvin Grove  Teaching period: 2010 SEM-2

OPB853 SPECIALIST CLINICAL PRACTICE 8
This unit continues to consolidate skills developed in OPB753 in the specialised clinical areas of contact lenses, low vision management and paediatric optometry.
Prerequisites: OPB751, OPB752, and OPB753  Credit points: 12  Contact hours: 8 per week  Campus: Kelvin Grove  Teaching period: 2010 SEM-2