Bachelor of Vision Science (OP45)

Year offered: 2011
Admissions: Yes
CRICOS code: 065380A
Course duration (full-time): 3 years
Domestic Fees (indicative): 2011: CSP $2,177 per semester (indicative)
International Fees (indicative): 2011: $13,750 (indicative) per semester
Domestic Entry: February
International Entry: February
QTAC code: 425312
Past rank cut-off: 98 - Selection within the rank or additional ranks were used in the selection process
Past OP cut-off: 2 - Field positions were used as part of the selection process in this minimum OP 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.qut.edu.au/assumed-knowledge
Total credit points: 288
Course coordinator: Enquiries to optometry.enquiries@qut.edu.au or phone 07 3138 3368
Campus: Kelvin Grove

Overview
This course is the first component of a five year dual degree program comprising a three year Bachelor of Vision Science, followed by a two year Master of Optometry (OP85). Both degrees need to be completed before a graduate can apply for registration as an optometrist.

The profession of Optometry is undergoing expansion in its scope of practice as a result of legislative amendments occurring (or pending) in all states and territories to allow appropriately trained optometrists to use therapeutic pharmaceutical agents in the practice of Optometry. This program increases graduates’ depth of knowledge in the areas of general and ocular pharmacology, with training in the therapeutic management of eye disease.

Professional recognition
The dual degree program Bachelor of Vision Science/Master of Optometry meets the requirements for accreditation by the Optometry Council of Australia and New Zealand. Graduates of the program meet the requirements for registration by the Optometry Board of Australia.

The Australian Health Practitioner Regulation Agency (AHPRA) requires that graduates demonstrate English language skills at IELTS level 7 or equivalent before being considered for professional registration. For further information visit the AHPRA website: http://www.ahpra.gov.au/Registration/Registration-Process/Registration-Requirements.aspx

Please refer to the Optometry Board of Australia website http://www.optometryboard.gov.au/Registration-Standards.aspx for additional information on the Board's Registration Standards.

Student registration
QUT automatically registers students enrolled in this course with the Optometry Board of Australia in accordance with the Health Practitioner Regulation National Law Act 2009. Details about student registration are available from the Australian Health Practitioner Regulation Agency at www.ahpra.gov.au

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://student.qut.edu.au/studying/jobs-and-work-experience/work-experience-and-placements/blue-cards

Additional costs Ophthalmic instruments costing approximately $5000 are required for the clinical program from the beginning of 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.

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.edu.au

Potential Careers:
Optometrist.