

Opticianry

Health Sciences



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ABOUT THIS FIELD

One of only two such programs in the state, Opticianry prepares you to adapt and fit corrective eyewear or ophthalmic devices as prescribed by the ophthalmologist or optometrist.



WHAT YOU'LL STUDY

Students will acquire competencies in all phases of opticianry, including analysis and interpretation of prescriptions; surfacing, benchwork, dispensing, and fitting of eyewear and ophthalmic devices; maintenance of consumer records; effective communication with consumers; and business management skills.



WHAT YOU CAN DO

Employment opportunities include working in offices of optometrists or ophthalmologists. Opticians also work in stores that sell eyeglasses, contact lenses, visual aids and other optical goods. These stores may be stand-alone businesses or parts of larger retail establishments, such as department stores. Some opticians choose to own their own business.

 **Southwestern**
COMMUNITY COLLEGE

PROGRAM START DATE:

Fall Semester

FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT:

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CLASSES YOU'LL NEED TO TAKE

ASSOCIATE IN APPLIED SCIENCE (AAS) - A5560

Total Semester Hour Credits: 67

FALL SEMESTER 1

Prefix	Number	Title	Class	Lab	Clinical	Credit
ACA	111	College Student Success	1	0	0	1
ENG	111	Writing & Inquiry	3	0	0	3
MAT	143	Quantitative Literacy	2	2	0	3
OPH	121	Anatomy & Physiology of the Eye	3	0	0	3
OPH	131	Optical Dispensing I	3	0	0	3
OPH	141	Optical Theory I	3	0	0	3
		Totals	15	2	0	16

SPRING SEMESTER 1

ENG	114	Professional Research & Reporting	3	0	0	3
OPH	111	Ophthalmic Laboratory I	2	3	0	3
OPH	132	Optical Dispensing II	3	2	0	4
OPH	142	Optical Theory II	3	0	0	3
PSY	150	General Psychology	3	0	0	3
		Totals	14	5	0	16

SUMMER SEMESTER

CIS	110	Introduction to Computers	3	0	0	3
HUM	115	Critical Thinking	3	0	0	3
		Totals	6	5	0	6

FALL SEMESTER 2

BUS	110	Introduction to Business	3	0	0	3
OPH	112	Ophthalmic Laboratory II	2	3	0	3
OPH	233	Advanced Optical Procedures	3	2	0	4
OPH	251	Optical Internship I	0	0	3	1
OPH	261	Contact Lenses I	3	3	0	4
		Totals	11	8	3	15

SPRING SEMESTER 2

OPH	215	Laboratory Proficiency	0	6	0	2
OPH	222	Optical Business Management	3	0	0	3
OPH	243	Technical Proficiency	3	0	0	3
OPH	262	Contact Lenses II	3	3	0	4
OPH	282	Optical Externship II	0	6	0	2
		Totals	9	15	0	14

Opticians are licensed health professionals who fit eyeglasses or contact lenses, using prescriptions written by ophthalmologists or optometrists. Eyewear is the term used for eyeglasses, contact lenses and low vision aids.

An optician performs the following tasks in fitting and dispensing eyewear:

- Gathers eye use data from the patient (information about their job, hobbies, sports, reading habits, etc.)
- Determines relationship between the prescription and frame design; and facial features and frame design.
- Determines personal preference of patient for frames.
- Advises on appropriate frames, based on prescription and facial features.
- Presents frames and helps make selections.
- Records current information.
- Copies prescription information onto the order form.
- Verify prescriptions against old records, sometimes with the examining doctor if necessary.
- At the doctor's direction may perform vision assessment and other procedures.
- Take patient's eye measurements.
- Determine lens materials to be used.
- Determine lens tint or coatings.
- Some opticians grind lenses and fit them into eyewear.
- Check glasses when received from the lab for frame style, color, size, tint, coating and quality of work; check with lensometer for optical correctness; return to lab if necessary.
- Contact patient to dispense eyewear.
- Checks fit and adjust glasses for comfort.
- Conduct reading test.
- Instruct on care and use of glasses.
- Advises for follow-up care.