

**SUBJECT SPECIFICATION**

Applicable to undergraduates with a 50% average in their third year of the BSc (Hons) Optometry in 2012 who can transfer to this programme.

Subject Title	Master of Optometry
UCAS/JACS Code	B510
School/Subject Area	School of Life and Health Sciences / Optometry
Final Award	<p>MOptom</p> <p>BSc Optometry (students who do not achieve an average mark of 50% or higher on completion of 480 credits i.e. less than 2:2 classification).</p> <p>Candidates who have not acquired a pre-registration position by the end of week 30 will be transferred to the BSc Optometry programme. Additionally students must hold the pre-registration position of a minimum of six continuous months. Otherwise they will not be eligible for the MOptom award and will be awarded the degree of BSc Optometry, providing they have achieved 360 credits by the end of stage III.</p>
Interim Award(s)	<p>Year 1: Certificate in Higher Education</p> <p>Year 2: Diploma in Higher Education</p> <p>Year 3: BSc (Hons) in Optometry</p>
Mode(s) of Study	<p>Years 1 to 3 Full Time</p> <p>Year 4 Distance Learning and Workshops supported by work based placement (pre-registration position)</p>
Total Credits	<p>480 credits (Master of Optometry degree)</p> <p>360 credits (BSc honours degree)</p> <p>340 credits (ordinary degree)</p> <p>320 credits (pass degree)</p>
Programme Accredited By	The General Optical Council
Dates Subject Specification Written and Revised	Written January 2012
Educational Aims of the Subject	<p>The principal aim of the Programme is to prepare a student for a career as a UK registered Optometrist. On graduation, students will have the knowledge and skills to enable them to practice as an independent optometrist providing they have completed the pre-registration period administered by the College of Optometrists, satisfying the core competencies of the General Optical Council</p> <p>An additional aim of the programme is to give students an introduction into life-long learning in their chosen profession.</p>

Relevant Subject Benchmark Statements and other External and Internal Reference Points used to inform subject outcomes	QAA Benchmarking Statement "Optometry" (2002) GOC Revised Core Competency based Curriculum for Undergraduate Training in Optometry 2008
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<b>Subject Structures and Requirements: Levels, Modules and Credits</b>				
<b>Stage I</b>				
Module Title	Credits	Level	Module Code	Core/ Elective
Basic Investigative Techniques	10	4	OP1BIT	Core
Clinical Optometry	20	4	OP1CO1	Core
Clinical Visual Biology	20	4	OP1CVB	Core
Medical Biology and Pathology	20	4	OP1MBP	Core
Ophthalmic Lenses	20	4	OP1OL1	Core
Optics and Medical Imaging	20	4	OP1OMI	Core
Personal Development Planning	Nil	-	-	Core
Vision and Visual Perception	10	4	OP1VVP	Core
<b>TOTAL</b>	120			

<b>Subject Structures and Requirements: Levels, Modules and Credits</b>				
<b>Stage II</b>				
Module Title	Credits	Level	Module Code	Core/ Elective
Further Investigative Techniques	20	5	OP2FIT	Core
Clinical Practice Development	20	5	OP2CPD	Core
Contact Lenses	20	5	OP2CL1	Core
Ophthalmic Optics	20	5	OP2OO1	Core
Primary Optometric Examination	20	5	OP2POE	Core
Vision Science and Research Methods	20	5	OP2VSR	Core
<b>TOTAL</b>	120			

<b>Subject Structures and Requirements: Levels, Modules and Credits</b>				
<b>Stage III</b>				
Module Title	Credits	Level	Module Code	Core/ Elective
Anterior Eye	15	6	OP3AE1	Core
Binocular Vision and Paediatrics	15	6	OP3BVP	Core
Clinical Practice	25	6	OP3CP1	Core
Elective Studies	20	6	OP3ES1	Core
Ophthalmic Drugs	15	6	OP3OD1	Core
Posterior and General Ophthalmology	15	6	OP3PEG	Core
Professional, Occupational and Low Vision	15	6	OP3POL	Core
<b>TOTAL</b>	120			

<b>Subject Structures and Requirements: Levels, Modules and Credits</b>				
<b>Stage IV</b>				
Module Title	Credits	Level	Module Code	Core/ Elective
Advanced Ophthalmic Examination	15	7	OP4AIT	Core

Evidence Based Clinical Research	30	7	OP4EBR	Core
Glaucoma	15	7	OP4GL2	Core
Interprofessional Communication	30	7	OP4IPC	Core
Ocular Prescribing	15	7	OP4OP1	Core
Retina and Macula Disorders	15	7	OP4RET	Core
<b>TOTAL</b>	120			

**Subject Outcomes and Learning, Teaching and Assessment Strategies**

**A. Knowledge and Understanding**

	Subject Outcomes	Teaching, Learning and Assessment Strategies to enable outcomes to be achieved and demonstrated	
	On successful completion of the subject component of their programme students are expected to have knowledge and understanding of:	Learning and Teaching Methods	Assessment Methods
1	<p><u>Basic Sciences</u>                      Graduates should possess knowledge and understanding of fundamental scientific principles relevant to the practice of Optometry in the context of primary eye care. In particular, they should be able to apply these principles to the following subject areas:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) medical biology</li> <li>b) ocular and visual biology</li> <li>c) visual perception and psychology</li> <li>d) geometrical and physical optics</li> <li>e) clinical examination techniques</li> </ul>	Lectures Related practical sessions Tutorials Seminars Directed learning Group work VLE delivered e-lectures	Examinations (theory and practical) Class tests (theory and practical) Group presentations Essays Viva examinations VLE delivered Multiple Choice examinations
2	<p><u>Clinical Science</u>                      Graduates will be able to examine patients safely and competently under the supervision of an experienced optometrist and be conversant with the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) functional and developmental conditions</li> <li>b) ophthalmic optics and the dispensing of ophthalmic appliances, including contact lenses</li> <li>c) ocular disease and abnormality</li> <li>d) pharmaceuticals</li> <li>e) systemic disease</li> </ul>		

**B. Intellectual Skills**

	Subject Outcomes	Teaching, Learning and Assessment Strategies to enable outcome to be achieved and demonstrated	
	On successful completion of the subject component of their programme, students are expected to be able to:	Learning and Teaching Methods	Assessment Methods
1	Assimilate scientific knowledge	Lectures	Examination (theory and oral)
2	Critically review scientific literature	Seminars Tutorials	Essays, elective study Case notes, hospital practice diary
3	Form clinical judgements based on the evidence from test results and patient history and symptoms	Independent study Clinical practice	

<b>C. Professional Skills</b>			
	Subject Outcomes	Teaching, Learning and Assessment Strategies to enable outcome to be achieved and demonstrated	
	On successful completion of the subject component of their programme, students are expected to be able to:	Learning and Teaching Methods	Assessment Methods
1	Carry out eye examinations using skills in the following areas: Contact lenses	Practical and clinical teaching sessions  Hospital and specialist clinic placements	Clinical assessment by observation of accuracy and familiarisation with techniques  Assessment of clinical records  Oral assessment of cases seen on hospital placement  Practical assessments of techniques  Clinical case presentations to peer groups
2	Dispensing spectacle appliances		
3	Routine eye examination		
4	Binocular vision		
5	Specialist ocular assessment		
6	Professional practice		

<b>D. Transferable Skills</b>			
	Subject Outcomes	Teaching, Learning and Assessment Strategies to enable outcome to be achieved and demonstrated	
	On successful completion of the subject component of their programme, students are expected to show:	Learning and Teaching Methods	Assessment Methods
1	The ability to maintain clear, accurate and appropriate records	Clinical practice  Self reflection  Student centred learning  Hospital reports  Work based learning  Problem based learning	Clinical assessment  Dissertation  Hospital report viva  Oral presentations  e-portfolio
2	Communication skills, covering both written and oral communication and the ability to relate to various social and ethnic groups. Demonstrate communication skills between practitioner and patient and other practitioners and professionals.		
3	Numeracy skills to evaluate data generated through audit and research		
4	Critical evaluation of relevant literature		
5	Problem-solving skills relating to qualitative and quantitative information		

6	Computation skills involving word processing, data manipulation and IT skills for self-directed and lifelong learning		
7	Sufficient learning skills to sustain lifelong learning and continuing professional development		

Entry Requirements	<p>A levels: AAA    Specific subject requirements: two sciences, preferably Biology with either Maths or Physics. General Studies is not accepted.</p> <p>IB: 34 points including: six points in Higher Level Biology and six points in Higher level Chemistry or Physics, or five points in Higher Level Maths or six points in Standard Level Maths and five points in Standard Level English.</p> <p>BTEC: Students applying with BTEC qualification are considered on an individual basis. Please contact LHS admissions for more information.</p> <p>GCSE: English and Maths grade B, Physics grade B (if not held at A level) or Dual Award Science grade BB</p> <p>Applicants with professional qualifications, degrees and International students are advised to contact LHS admissions for more information.</p> <p>In addition to satisfying the general entry requirements, candidates must also satisfy the entry requirements determined by the Learning and Teaching Committee and approved by Senate</p>

<p>Programme Regulations</p>	<p>This programme is governed by the University's current General Regulations for Undergraduate Programmes except where they are modified by the following Programme Regulations below.</p> <p><b><u>Duration of Study</u></b>  The period for which credit is valid for progression from one stage of the programme to the next shall be two years. Should the credit of the previous stage of the programme become invalid, then the student will be required to withdraw from the programme.</p> <p>Normally, for the award of a Master in Optometry (MOptom) to be awarded, there should be a maximum of seven years between first registration and graduation. For the exit award of BSc Optometry, stages I, II and III must be completed within five years.</p> <p><b><u>Attendance requirements</u></b>  In stages I, II and III, undergraduates who do not have a 100% record of attendance for practical classes in a module run the risk of having to take all practical classes for that module again in the following academic year, even if all examinations and coursework requirements have been met. Registers of attendance are taken and absences are considered by the Examinations Board. For students who have not met the attendance requirement for a module determined by the Examinations Board but passed the module assessments and examinations, the credits for that module will be held back until satisfactory attendance has been achieved by repeating the practical element of that module. Continued absence may result in withdrawal from the Programme.</p> <p><b><u>Progression to Stages II and III</u></b>  A pre-requisite for progression to stage II from stage I and from stage III from stage II is that all modules in the previous stage must be passed.</p> <p><b><u>Progression to Stage IV</u></b>  A pre-requisite for completion of Stage IV is that the undergraduate must have acquired a pre-registration position by the end of week 30. The General Optical Council requirement for entry to a pre-registration position is that the undergraduate must have gained 360 credits with a weighted average mark of 50% on completion of Stage III (calculated from module marks in Stages II and III). All Stage III modules must be passed at the first attempt.</p> <p>On successful completion of Stage III, candidates who have not achieved the progression requirements for Stage IV of the programme but have gained 360 credits will exit the programme with the degree of BSc Optometry. The degree classification will be based on 25% weighting from stage II and 75% weighting from stage III.</p>
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**Industrial/Professional Training**

Stage IV requires that students have acquired a pre-registration optometrist position in order that they can complete the modules that constitute the stage. Students are required to draw on their work based experience to present clinical case studies, demonstrate inter-professional communication and complete the evidence based clinical research.

**Options in the case of failure**

The classification for the MOptom will be based on 20% weighting from stage II, 20% weighting from stage III and a 40% weighting from stage IV.

A student who fails to obtain sufficient credits or who achieves an overall mark of less than 50% at the end of Stage IV will automatically be awarded a BSc Hons Degree in Optometry with Professional Training. The BSc classification will be calculated using marks from Stages II and III and a weighting of 25% and 75% respectively.

The decision to condone a module is at the discretion of the Board of Examiners and will be based upon the student's overall performance in the Stage assessments. There is no automatic right to condonement.

For Stages I and II, normally condonement may be applied only when the overall mark is within 2% of the normal pass mark (40%) for the module and when the candidate's overall weighted mark for the first stage is 50% or above. Where exceptional circumstances have been received and accepted by the Examinations Board, condonement may be applied when the overall mark is within 5% of the normal pass mark for the module and when the candidate's overall weighted mark for the stage is 50% or above.

A maximum of 20 credits can be condoned in stages I and II. Where performance in a module is condoned, the student shall be awarded the full credits available for the module but the mark achieved shall be used to calculate the overall mark for the stage.

For Stage III, normally condonement (up to 40 credits) may be applied only when the overall mark is within 5% of the normal pass mark (40%) for the module and when the candidate's overall weighted mark for the stage is 50% or above. For Stage IV the pass mark for each module will be 50% and normally module condonement (up to 40 credits) may be applied when the overall mark is within 5%.

Further Information	<p><b><u>Professional Exemptions</u></b>  Successful completion of 360 credits at the end of stage III with a weighted average mark of 50% from stages II and III is equivalent to the 2:2 classification which is the minimum requirement for direct entry into the College of Optometrists pre-registration period.</p> <p><b><u>Requirement for progression into Stage IV and eligibility for the award of the degree MOptom</u></b>  Students are responsible for obtaining their own pre-registration optometrist position. This position has to be found by the last day of the third term of Stage III. The University provides assistance to students seeking such positions.</p>
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This specification provides a concise summary of the main features of the programme and the threshold learning outcomes that a student might normally be expected to achieve and demonstrate if he/she takes full advantage of the learning opportunities that are provided. **The individual modules included in the programme may differ from those included in this programme specification as our programmes are subject to continuous review.** Information on admissions requirements and career opportunities is available in the relevant prospectus. More detailed information on the learning outcomes, content and teaching, learning and assessment methods of each module can be found in the appropriate module guides and programme handbook(s) which are available to students on enrolment.