

Bachelor of Vision Science (372JA.3)

Please note these are the 2025 details for this course

Domestic students

Selection rank	
Delivery mode	On campus
Location	Bruce, Canberra
Duration	3.0 years
Faculty	Faculty of Health
Discipline	Discipline of Optometry
UAC code	368073
English language requirements	An IELTS Academic score of 6.0 overall, with no band score below 6.0 (or equivalent).
	View IELTS equivalences

International students

Academic entry requirements	To study at UC, you'll need to meet our academic entry requirements and any admission requirements specific to your course. Please read your course admission requirements below. To find out whether you meet UC's academic entry requirements, visit our academic entry requirements page.
	View UC's academic entry requirements

Delivery mode	On campus
Location	Bruce, Canberra
Duration	3.0 years
Faculty	Faculty of Health
Discipline	Discipline of Optometry
CRICOS code	094977J
English language requirements	<p>An IELTS Academic score of 6.0 overall, with no band score below 6.0 (or equivalent).</p> <p>View IELTS equivalences</p>

About this course

The Bachelor of Vision Science is a 3 year program that will provide students with foundation knowledge and skills with a specific focus on optical and vision sciences. Students will broaden their learning with studies in business and management related areas. The course will also provide a pathway for students to enter the Master of Optometry. Successful completion of both the Bachelor of Vision Science and Master of Optometry is intended to allow students to apply for registration with the Optometry Board of Australia to practice as an optometrist in Australia.

Professional accreditation

This course is accredited with the Optometry Council of Australia and New Zealand (OCANZ). Successful completion of both the Bachelor of Vision Science AND the Master of Optometry course at the University of Canberra will allow graduates the chance to apply for registration with the Optometry Board of Australia to practice as an optometrist.

Please note that the Master of Optometry (374JA) is Fee Paying from 2024.

Admission requirements

Admission to this course is based on an entrance rank. A rank can be achieved by the following means:

- Year 12 ATAR
- other Australian Qualification
- work experience
- overseas qualification

We also offer a number of entry initiatives that give you the opportunity to gain entry to the University via alternate pathway programs and admissions schemes.

More information is available on our Alternative Entry page: <http://www.canberra.edu.au/future-students/applications/apply-now/alternative-entry>

Additional admission requirements

Clinical practice is a key component of the program and is assessed. Students may be required to complete this component outside of teaching time. Prior to commencing clinical practice, all students need to present a complete immunisation schedule, and First Aid certificates including CPR, as a requirement of the ACT and NSW health departments. All students are required to undergo a 'working with vulnerable people' check, an Australian Federal Police Record Check prior to undertaking clinical experience in the ACT, and a NSW Police check before undertaking practice in NSW.

Assumed knowledge

ACT: Mathematical Methods major; Chemistry major; and Physics major. NSW: Mathematics; Physics; and Chemistry.

Periods course is open for new admissions

Year	Location	Teaching period	Teaching start date	Domestic	International
2025	Bruce, Canberra	Semester 1	03 February 2025	✓	✓
2026	Bruce, Canberra	Semester 1	16 February 2026	✓	✓
2027	Bruce, Canberra	Semester 1	15 February 2027	✓	✓

Credit arrangements

There are currently no formal credit transfer arrangements for entry to this course. Any previous study or work experience will only be considered as part of the application process in accordance with current [course rules and university policy](#).

Course requirements

Bachelor of Vision Science (372JA) | 72 credit points

Required - Must pass 72 credit points as follows

[Expand All](#) | [Collapse All](#)

[Systemic Anatomy and Physiology \(6529\) | 3 credit points – Level 1](#)

[Evidence Based Medicine 1 \(8999\) | 3 credit points – Level 2](#)

[Small Business Management \(9531\) | 3 credit points – Level 2](#)

[Ocular Anatomy and Physiology \(10285\) | 3 credit points – Level 1](#)

Ophthalmic Optics (10286) | 3 credit points — Level 1

Assessment of Vision 1 (10287) | 3 credit points — Level 1

Pathology, Immunology and Microbiology (10288) | 3 credit points — Level 2

Functional and Developmental Disorders of Vision (10289) | 3 credit points — Level 2

Assessment of Vision 2 (10290) | 3 credit points — Level 2

Diseases of the Eye (10291) | 6 credit points — Level 2

Pharmacology for Health Professionals (10293) | 3 credit points — Level 2

Assessment of Vision 3 (10295) | 3 credit points — Level 3

Integrated Eye Care and Ocular Therapeutics (10296) | 6 credit points — Level 3

Assessment of Ocular Health (10408) | 3 credit points — Level 2

Ocular Pharmacology (10409) | 3 credit points — Level 3

Professional Practice in Optometry (10411) | 3 credit points — Level 2

Understanding People and Behaviour (11399) | 3 credit points — Level 1

Professional Orientation (Health) (11400) | 3 credit points — Level 1

Patient-centred Communication (11616) | 3 credit points — Level 1

Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander People's Health Contexts (11852) | 3 credit points — Level 2

Introductory Clinical Reasoning and Practice (12087) | 3 credit points — Level 3

Clinical Optics and Dispensing (12088) | 3 credit points — Level 3

In addition to course requirements, in order to successfully complete your course you must meet the inherent requirements. Please refer to the [inherent requirements statement](#) applicable to your course

Typical study pattern

UC - Canberra, Bruce

Standard Full Time, Semester 1 Commencing

Year 1

Semester 1

Ocular Anatomy and Physiology (10285)

Ophthalmic Optics (10286)

Professional Orientation (Health) (11400)

Understanding People and Behaviour (11399)

Semester 2

Assessment of Vision 1 (10287)

Evidence Based Medicine 1 (8999)

Patient-centred Communication (11616)

Systemic Anatomy and Physiology (6529)

Year 2

Semester 1

Assessment of Ocular Health (10408)

Functional and Developmental Disorders of Vision (10289)

Pathology, Immunology and Microbiology (10288)

Pharmacology for Health Professionals (10293)

Semester 2

Assessment of Vision 2 (10290)

Diseases of the Eye (10291)

Ocular Pharmacology (10409)

Year 3

Semester 1

Clinical Optics and Dispensing (12088)

Integrated Eye Care and Ocular Therapeutics (10296)

Introductory Clinical Reasoning and Practice (12087)

Semester 2

Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander People's Health Contexts (11852)

Assessment of Vision 3 (10295)

Professional Practice in Optometry (10411)

Small Business Management (9531)

Course information

Course duration

Standard 3 years full time or part-time equivalent. Maximum 6 years from date of enrolment to date of course completion.

Learning outcomes

Learning outcomes	Related graduate attributes
<p>3. Demonstrate a strong understanding of the dysfunctions and diseases of the eye.</p>	<p>UC graduates are professional:</p> <p>Employ up-to-date and relevant knowledge and skills.</p> <p>UC graduates are lifelong learners:</p> <p>Reflect on their own practice, updating and adapting their knowledge and skills for continual professional and academic development.</p>
<p>4. Demonstrate an awareness of the inter-disciplinary nature of health practitioners and health professions.</p>	<p>UC graduates are professional:</p> <p>Communicate effectively;</p> <p>Work collaboratively as part of a team, negotiate, and resolve conflict;</p> <p>Display initiative and drive, and use their organisational skills to plan and manage their workload; and</p> <p>Take pride in their professional and personal integrity.</p> <p>UC graduates are global citizens:</p> <p>Think globally about issues in their profession;</p> <p>Adopt an informed and balanced approach across professional and international boundaries; and</p> <p>Behave ethically and sustainably in their professional and personal lives.</p> <p>UC graduates are lifelong learners:</p> <p>Reflect on their own practice, updating and adapting their knowledge and skills for continual</p>

professional and academic development;

Be self-aware; and

Adapt to complexity, ambiguity and change by being flexible and keen to engage with new ideas.

2. Graduates at this level will have a broad range of cognitive, technical and communication skills to select and apply methods and technologies to:

- a. Analyse health information;
- b. Provide and transmit solutions to sometimes complex problems in the health sector and;
- c. Transmit information and skills to others.

UC graduates are professional:

Employ up-to-date and relevant knowledge and skills;

Communicate effectively;

Use creativity, critical thinking, analysis and research skills to solve theoretical and real-world problems; and

Display initiative and drive, and use their organisational skills to plan and manage their workload.

UC graduates are global citizens:

Adopt an informed and balanced approach across professional and international boundaries;

Understand issues in their profession from the perspective of other cultures;

Communicate effectively in diverse cultural and social settings; and

Make creative use of technology in their learning and professional lives.

UC graduates are lifelong learners:

Reflect on their own practice, updating and adapting their knowledge and skills for continual professional and academic development;

	<p>Adapt to complexity, ambiguity and change by being flexible and keen to engage with new ideas; and</p> <p>Evaluate and adopt new technology.</p>
<p>5. Demonstrate awareness of and respect for individual human rights and cultural and social diversity.</p>	<p>UC graduates are professional:</p> <p>Communicate effectively; and</p> <p>Take pride in their professional and personal integrity.</p> <p>UC graduates are global citizens:</p> <p>Think globally about issues in their profession;</p> <p>Adopt an informed and balanced approach across professional and international boundaries;</p> <p>Understand issues in their profession from the perspective of other cultures;</p> <p>Communicate effectively in diverse cultural and social settings; and</p> <p>Behave ethically and sustainably in their professional and personal lives.</p> <p>UC graduates are lifelong learners:</p> <p>Reflect on their own practice, updating and adapting their knowledge and skills for continual professional and academic development; and</p> <p>Be self-aware.</p>
<p>2. Graduates at this level will have a broad range of cognitive, technical and communication skills to select and apply methods and technologies to:</p> <p>a. Analyse health information;</p> <p>b. Interpret and transmit solutions to unpredictable and sometimes complex problems in the health sector; and</p>	<p>UC graduates are professional:</p> <p>Employ up-to-date and relevant knowledge and skills;</p>

<p>c. Transmit information and skills to others.</p>	<p>Communicate effectively;</p> <p>Use creativity, critical thinking, analysis and research skills to solve theoretical and real-world problems; and</p> <p>Display initiative and drive, and use their organisational skills to plan and manage their workload.</p> <p>UC graduates are global citizens:</p> <p>Adopt an informed and balanced approach across professional and international boundaries;</p> <p>Understand issues in their profession from the perspective of other cultures;</p> <p>Communicate effectively in diverse cultural and social settings; and</p> <p>Make creative use of technology in their learning and professional lives.</p> <p>UC graduates are lifelong learners:</p> <p>Reflect on their own practice, updating and adapting their knowledge and skills for continual professional and academic development;</p> <p>Adapt to complexity, ambiguity and change by being flexible and keen to engage with new ideas; and</p> <p>Evaluate and adopt new technology.</p>
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3. Graduates at this level will apply knowledge and skills in one or more areas of the health sector to demonstrate autonomy, judgement and defined responsibility in known or changing contexts and within broad but established parameters.

UC graduates are professional:

Work collaboratively as part of a team, negotiate, and resolve conflict; and

Take pride in their professional and personal

integrity.

UC graduates are global citizens:

Behave ethically and sustainably in their professional and personal lives.

UC graduates are lifelong learners:

Reflect on their own practice, updating and adapting their knowledge and skills for continual professional and academic development;

Be self-aware; and

Adapt to complexity, ambiguity and change by being flexible and keen to engage with new ideas.

2. Perform common optical and visual diagnostic assessments.

UC graduates are professional:

Employ up-to-date and relevant knowledge and skills.

UC graduates are lifelong learners:

Reflect on their own practice, updating and adapting their knowledge and skills for continual professional and academic development.

Learning outcomes for the Associate Degree in Health Studies.

1. Graduates at this level will have broad technical and theoretical knowledge of a specific health area or of a broad range of areas within the health sector.

UC graduates are professional:

Employ up-to-date and relevant knowledge and skills.

UC graduates are global citizens:

Think globally about issues in their profession; and

Make creative use of technology in their learning

and professional lives.

UC graduates are lifelong learners:

Reflect on their own practice, updating and adapting their knowledge and skills for continual professional and academic development.

Learning outcomes for the Diploma of Health Studies:

1. Graduates at this level will have technical and theoretical knowledge in one or more of a broad range of areas within the health sector.

UC graduates are professional:

Employ up-to-date and relevant knowledge and skills.

UC graduates are global citizens:

Think globally about issues in their profession; and

Make creative use of technology in their learning and professional lives.

UC graduates are lifelong learners:

Reflect on their own practice, updating and adapting their knowledge and skills for continual professional and academic development.

3. Graduates at this level will apply knowledge and skills in one or more areas of the health sector to demonstrate autonomy, judgement and defined responsibility:

- a. In contexts that are subject to change; and
- b. Within broad parameters to provide specialist advice and functions.

UC graduates are professional:

Work collaboratively as part of a team, negotiate, and resolve conflict;

Display initiative and drive, and use their organisational skills to plan and manage their workload; and

Take pride in their professional and personal integrity.

UC graduates are global citizens:

	<p>Behave ethically and sustainably in their professional and personal lives.</p> <p>UC graduates are lifelong learners:</p> <p>Reflect on their own practice, updating and adapting their knowledge and skills for continual professional and academic development;</p> <p>Be self-aware; and</p> <p>Adapt to complexity, ambiguity and change by being flexible and keen to engage with new ideas.</p>
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<p>Graduates of the Bachelor of Vision Science will be able to:</p> <p>1. Demonstrate an understanding of the fundamental sciences underpinning health, optical and vision sciences.</p>	<p>UC graduates are professional:</p> <p>Employ up-to-date and relevant knowledge and skills.</p> <p>UC graduates are lifelong learners:</p> <p>Reflect on their own practice, updating and adapting their knowledge and skills for continual professional and academic development.</p>
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Awards

Award	Official abbreviation
Bachelor of Vision Science	BVisSc

Honours

None.

Enquiries

Student category	Contact details
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Current and Commencing Students

Email student.centre@canberra.edu.au

Prospective Domestic Students

Email study@canberra.edu.au or Phone 1800 UNI CAN (1800 864 226)

Download your course guide



Scholarships

Find the scholarship that's the right fit for you

[Explore Scholarships](#)

Printed on 06, May, 2025

University of Canberra, Bruce ACT 2617 Australia

+61 2 6201 5111

ABN 81 633 873 422

CRICOS 00212K

TEQSA Provider ID: PRV12003 (Australian University)

UC acknowledges the Ngunnawal people, traditional custodians of the lands where Bruce campus is situated. We wish to acknowledge and respect their continuing culture and the contribution they make to the life of Canberra and the region. We also acknowledge all other First Nations Peoples on whose lands we gather.