

Master of Optometry (374JA.1)

Please note these are the 2022 details for this course

Domestic students

Selection rank	
Delivery mode	On campus
Location	Bruce, Canberra
Duration	2.0 years
Faculty	Faculty of Health
Discipline	Discipline of Optometry
UAC code	
English language requirements	<p>There are non-standard English language requirements for this course. To be eligible you must have an overall IELTS Academic score (or equivalent) of 7.0, with no band score below 7.0. For alternate/equivalent ways of meeting the English requirements for this course please view the English Proficiency Requirements document on the university website.</p> <p>View IELTS equivalences</p>

International students

Academic entry requirements	<p>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.</p>
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[View UC's academic entry requirements](#)

Delivery mode	On campus
Location	Bruce, Canberra
Duration	2.0 years
Faculty	Faculty of Health
Discipline	Discipline of Optometry
CRICOS code	094979G
English language requirements	<p>There are non-standard English language requirements for this course. To be eligible you must have an overall IELTS Academic score (or equivalent) of 7.0, with no band score below 7.0. For alternate/equivalent ways of meeting the English requirements for this course please view the English Proficiency Requirements document on the university website.</p> <p>View IELTS equivalences</p>

About this course

The Master of Optometry is a two-year program. It will provide students with advanced knowledge, clinical skills and professional attributes related to the optometry profession.

The course incorporates the latest research and technology, and has been developed by a group comprising academics, practitioners and representatives from international optometry companies and independent practitioners.

Work Integrated Learning (WIL)

This course includes a high volume of work integrated learning to allow students to gain clinical practice experience of optometry.

Placements are only provided on a full-time basis and will require interstate travel. Accommodation and transport costs are the student's responsibility.

Students will be expected to purchase specialist optometry equipment prior to going on placement during their studies for the Master of Optometry. Students should expect to spend around \$5,000 on equipment. Life expectancy of the equipment is in the range of 15 to 20 years.

Career opportunities

Graduates can expect employment as or in the below sectors:

- optometrist
- private practice and retailer
- vision-related government and non-government organisations
- hospitals
- health clinics and services
- research institutes
- optometrist in a state government hospital and health service
- clinical optometrist in an ophthalmic surgery practice
- community outreach optometrist.

Course-specific information

Prior to undertaking any clinical placement students will be required to:

- undertake a National Police Check
- obtain a Working with Vulnerable People registration
- provide your immunisation history
- have a qualification in First Aid including CPR.

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.

Admission requirements

The Master of Optometry (374JA) is only open to students who have completed the Bachelor of Vision Science (372JA) at the University of Canberra.

Applicants who are studying a Bachelor of Vision Science from another institution are encouraged to apply for admission into the Bachelor of Vision Science (372JA) at UC to become eligible for the Masters. These applicants are eligible to apply for consideration of credit towards a UC Bachelor of Vision Science (in accordance with UC's credit policy and procedure) to reduce the duration of this course.

Additional admission requirements

Limited Commonwealth-supported places (CSPs) are available for this course and will be awarded on academic merit. To be considered

for a CSP, please submit your application by 31 October 2024. Eligible applicants will be notified from 15 November 2024. The University will continue to issue fee-paying (FEE) offers until this date, offers for any eligible CSP applicants will be updated accordingly.

Assumed knowledge

None.

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

Master of Optometry (374JA) | 48 credit points

Required - Must pass 48 credit points as follows

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

Research Planning PG (6486) | 3 credit points — Level P

Research Project in Health PG (9592) | 3 credit points — Level P

Advanced Primary Care Optometry PG (10328) | 9 credit points — Level P

Optometry for Special Populations PG (10329) | 9 credit points — Level P

Assessment of Optometric Competence PG (10330) | 3 credit points — Level P

Community Optometry PG (10331) | 9 credit points — Level P

Optometry Residency PG (10412) | 9 credit points — Level P

Optometry in Practice PG (10413) | 3 credit points — Level P

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

[Optometry for Special Populations PG \(10329\)](#)

[Research Planning PG \(6486\)](#)

Semester 2

[Advanced Primary Care Optometry PG \(10328\)](#)

[Research Project in Health PG \(9592\)](#)

Year 2

Semester 1

[Optometry Residency PG \(10412\)](#)

[Optometry in Practice PG \(10413\)](#)

Semester 2

[Assessment of Optometric Competence PG \(10330\)](#)

[Community Optometry PG \(10331\)](#)

Course information

Course duration

Standard 2 years full time. Maximum 6 years from date of enrolment to date of course completion. This course is only available for full-time enrolment.

Learning outcomes

Learning outcomes	Related graduate attributes
3. Be able to demonstrate the professional attributes necessary for independent practice and autonomous prescribing in ocular therapeutics	UC graduates are professional:

	<p>Communicate effectively; and</p> <p>Take pride in their professional and personal integrity.</p> <p>UC graduates are global citizens:</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;</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>
<p>Graduates of the Master of Optometry will:</p> <p>1. Be able to demonstrate the requisite knowledge for independent practice and autonomous prescribing in ocular therapeutics</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>2. Be able to demonstrate the requisite skills for independent practice and autonomous prescribing in ocular therapeutics</p>	<p>UC graduates are professional:</p> <p>Employ up-to-date and relevant knowledge and skills.</p> <p>UC graduates are global citizens:</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; and</p> <p>Evaluate and adopt new technology.</p>
<p>4. Have the expertise and skills to critique, synthesise and apply evidence from research and science to inform optometric practice</p>	<p>UC graduates are professional:</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>Think globally about issues in their profession;</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>
<p>5. Demonstrate an awareness of the inter-professional nature of the health profession and its diverse cultural and social setting</p>	<p>UC graduates are professional:</p> <p>Communicate effectively;</p> <p>Work collaboratively as part of a team, negotiate, and resolve conflict; 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>
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Awards

Award	Official abbreviation
Master of Optometry	MOpt

Enquiries

Student category	Contact details
Current and Commencing Students	Email Health.Student@canberra.edu.au
Prospective Domestic Students	Email study@canberra.edu.au or Phone 1800 UNI CAN (1800 864 226)
Prospective International Students	Email international@canberra.edu.au or Phone +61 2 6201 5342

Download your course guide



Scholarships

Find the scholarship that's the right fit for you

[Explore Scholarships](#)

Printed on 02, July, 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.