

Optometry Progression to Pre-registration Period (1 Year, Full Time, CPD) Programme Specification

Academic Year:	2021/2
Degree Awarding Body:	University of Bradford
Final and interim award(s):	Certificate of Continuing Education
Programme accredited by (if appropriate):	General Optical Council (GOC)
Programme duration:	1 Year, Full Time
QAA Subject benchmark statement(s):	Optometry (2015)
Date last confirmed and/or minor modification approved by Faculty Board	June 2021

Please note: This programme specification has been published in advance of the academic year to which it applies. Every effort has been made to ensure that the information is accurate at the time of publication, but changes may occur given the interval between publishing and commencement of teaching. Any change which impacts the terms and conditions of an applicant's offer will be communicated to them. Upon commencement of the programme, students will receive further detail about their course and any minor changes will be discussed and/or communicated at this point.

Introduction

This programme is aimed at students who have not achieved the required degree outcome, 2:2 or above, from their period of study in a UK-based BSc (Hons) Optometry programme. This degree outcome is mandated by the General Optical Council (GOC) in order to allow a graduate to proceed into the Pre-Registration Period. Successful completion of the Pre-Registration Period allows a candidate to register with the GOC as a fully qualified optometrist and to practise unsupervised in the UK.

Success on the Optometry Progression to Pre-registration Period programme of study does not alter the degree classification that has been awarded previously. Students should be aware that the GOC allow only one attempt at this programme of study.

The aims and learning outcomes of the programme are informed by the Quality Assurance Agency for Higher Education (QAA) benchmark statement for Optometry 2015, the General Optical Council specification for Optometry learning outcomes and clinical competencies 2016, and the University of Bradford Learning, Teaching and Assessment Strategy.

Programme Aims

The programme is intended to provide:

- A supportive, structured learning environment that encourages an attitude of continuing professional development and independent lifelong learning.
- Diversity of approaches to teaching and learning, incorporating both formative and summative methods of assessment.
- Integration of theoretical, practical and clinical aspects of the curriculum.

The programme is intended to encourage the development of:

- A systematic understanding of the basic and clinical sciences relevant to the practice of optometry.
- A professional attitude towards patients and colleagues.
- A range of transferable (key) skills.
- Interpersonal and communication skills, including effective use of relevant information technologies.
- Awareness of the legal, ethical and commercial context of optometric practice.
- Ability to think critically and proficiency in clinical reasoning.
- Insight into research and scientific method.

Clinical competencies required for entry to the pre-registration period in optometry practice.

Programme Learning Outcomes

On successful completion of the programme, students will be able to:

1. Demonstrate knowledge of the principles behind techniques used for the investigation of the visual function of the human eye.
2. Demonstrate knowledge of the methods available for the correction of ametropia.
3. Demonstrate knowledge of the fundamental techniques behind the assessment of ocular health.
4. Demonstrate knowledge of the ethical principles underlying the practice of optometry and the role of optometry in a health care system.
5. Demonstrate knowledge of the skills required to obtain and communicate relevant information from and to patients.
6. Demonstrate knowledge of the principles underlying evidence-based practice.
7. Demonstrate an understanding and application of the principles behind techniques used for the investigation of the visual function of the human eye.

8. Demonstrate an understanding and application of the methods available for the correction of ametropia.
9. Apply a range of techniques to assess ocular and systemic health and recognise abnormal findings.
10. Apply ethical principles to the examination of patients.
11. Employ a range of skills to communicate effectively with patients and other health care professionals.
12. Detect and correct or relieve defects of visual function.
13. Detect ocular disease or the ocular side effects of systemic disease.
14. Produce and agree an appropriate management plan with a patient including referral to another health professional where appropriate.
15. Demonstrate knowledge of the fundamental legal principles underlying optometry practice.
16. Complete the requirements for a professional Certificate of Clinical Competence, which includes an appropriate number of patient episodes and demonstration of the full range of clinical competencies as defined by the General Optical Council.

Curriculum

FHEQ Level	Module Title	Core/ Option/ Elective	Credits	Study Period	Module Code
6	Clinical Competence	Core	0	1 & 2	OPT6012-Z
6	Management of Ocular Disease	Core	40	1 & 2	OPT6019-D
6	Clinical Practice and Professional Practice	Core	40	1 & 2	OPT6017-D
6	Clinical Case Studies	Core	20	1 & 2	OPT6014-B

Learning and Teaching Strategy

The Optometry programme articulates with the Teaching and Learning strategy of the University of Bradford.

A wide variety of teaching methods appropriate to the learning outcomes are employed throughout the programme. They focus progressively on student-centred approaches to learning, such that students are expected to take increasing responsibility for their learning as they progress through the programme, in order to encourage development of the attributes needed for lifelong learning and continued professional development.

Key skills are embedded throughout the curriculum.

Assessment Strategy

Assessment provides an evaluation of the students 'competence in meeting specified objectives, but it is also an essential part of the teaching and learning process. Properly selected assessment tasks signal the importance of particular content, concepts and skills, influence approaches to study and help students to allocate their time appropriately. Constructive and timely feedback on assessment helps students to gain a sense of achievement and progress, an appreciation of the performance and standards expected in a particular discipline or professional area, and to learn from their endeavours.

The Optometry programme aims to select from a range of assessment methods for each module. All modules include both formative and summative assessments. Formative assessment has a developmental purpose and is designed to help students learn more effectively by giving them feedback on their performance and on how it can be improved and/or maintained. Reflective practice by students sometimes contributes to formative assessment. Summative assessment is used to indicate the extent of a student's success in meeting the assessment criteria used to gauge the intended learning outcomes of a module or programme. In addition, some of the assessments in later stages of the programme, for example in clinical practice, clinical case studies and the research project, are synoptic in nature. Synoptic assessments are those that encourage students to combine elements of their learning from different parts of a programme and to show their accumulated knowledge and understanding of a topic or subject area. A synoptic assessment normally enables students to show their ability to integrate and apply their skills, knowledge and understanding with breadth and depth in the subject. It can help to test a student's capability of applying the knowledge and understanding gained in one part of a programme to increase their understanding in other parts of the programme, or across the programme as a whole.

Assessment Regulations

This Programme conforms to the standard University Assessment Regulations which are available at the <https://www.bradford.ac.uk/regulations/>

However, there is exception to these regulations as listed below:

There is no compensation. This means that all modules must be passed at 40% or higher in order to successfully complete the programme.

Admission Requirements

The University welcomes applications from all potential students and most important in the decision to offer a place is our assessment of a candidate's potential to benefit from their studies and of their ability to succeed on this particular programme. Consideration of applications will be based on a combination of formal academic qualifications and other relevant experience.

The minimum entry requirements for the programme are as follows:

Applicants must have completed an Optometry programme within a UK university and been awarded a degree in either Optometry or Vision Science. Candidates who have left an Optometry programme before completing the final year are not eligible for this course.

Recognition of Prior Learning

If applicants have prior certificated learning or professional experience which may be equivalent to parts of this programme, the University has procedures to evaluate and recognise this learning in order to provide applicants with exemptions from specified modules or parts of the programme.

Minor Modification Schedule

Version Number	Brief description of Modification	Date of Approval (Faculty Board)
1	Specification reformatted and made accessible	April 2021
2	Annual changes for 2021 academic year	June 2021