

PRE-OPTOMETRY

Offered by Health Science Programs (<http://catalog.unk.edu/undergraduate/departments-programs/health-science-programs/>)

The requirements for admission to colleges of optometry vary. A suggested program of study is listed below, but the student should check with the college of optometry of his/her choice for its specific requirements. A minimum of three years (90 credit hours) of pre-optometric study is required. However, in most cases a baccalaureate degree¹ should be completed before matriculating into a college of optometry, especially since admission to a optometry school is not guaranteed. The student is also expected to submit scores from the Optometry Admissions Test (OAT).

Code	Title	Credit Hours
A suggested program of study is as follows		
BIOL 106	Biology II	4
BIOL 225 & BIOL 226	Anatomy and Physiology and Anatomy and Physiology	8
BIOL 211	Human Microbiology	4
CHEM 160 & 160L	General Chemistry and General Chemistry Laboratory	4
CHEM 161 & 161L	General Chemistry and General Chemistry Laboratory	4
CHEM 351	Biochemistry I	4
CHEM 360 & 360L	Organic Chemistry and Organic Chemistry Laboratory ²	5
CHEM 361 & 361L	Organic Chemistry and Organic Chemistry Laboratory ²	5
ENG 101	Introduction to Academic Writing	3
ENG 102	Special Topics in Academic Writing and Research	3
MATH 102	College Algebra ³	3
MATH 103	Plane Trigonometry	3
MATH 115	Calculus I with Analytic Geometry	5
PHYS 205 & 205L	General Physics I and Physics I Laboratory	5
PHYS 206 & 206L	General Physics II and Physics Laboratory II	5
PSY 203	General Psychology	3
SPCH 100	Fundamentals of Speech Communication	3
STAT 241	Elementary Statistics	3
Strongly recommended		
BIOL 465	Physiology	
NUTR 108	Introduction to Nutrition	
Total Credit Hours		74

Students should check with the specific school(s) to which they intend to apply to ensure that all requirements are fulfilled. Requirements vary among schools, especially in regard to mathematics, microbiology, and general biology. Some schools also require additional electives in the social and behavioral sciences.

1

Students pursuing a program of study in pre-optometry are expected to choose a major so that they can be working towards a baccalaureate degree concurrently with the pre-optometry program. This requires a major/minor combination or a comprehensive major as well as completion of the UNK general studies requirements and other degree requirements as set forth in the college catalog. (Students who are accepted into optometry school prior to completing a baccalaureate degree at UNK may be eligible to receive a BS Degree in Applied Health Sciences (<http://catalog.unk.edu/undergraduate/departments-programs/health-science-programs/applied-health-sciences-bs/>) if they have completed all General Studies requirements (<http://catalog.unk.edu/undergraduate/general-studies/general-studies-courses/>) and have at least 85 semester credit hours completed in pre-opt studies.)

2

Some colleges of optometry will accept CHEM 250 in lieu of CHEM 360 & CHEM 361.

3

Students with sufficient preparation may enter the mathematics program at a higher level; however some schools do require two courses in mathematics. Most schools require a course in calculus.