

MANCHESTER
1824

The University
of Manchester

THE UNIVERSITY OF MANCHESTER

OPTOMETRY

LIFE SCIENCES

www.manchester.ac.uk/lifesciences



THE FACTS

- The only UK Optometry degree with patient contact from Year 1
- £4 million spent on new optometry facilities
- Clinical experience at the second largest eye hospital in the country
- The only university to offer a registerable degree for optometry (MOptom)
- Most targeted UK university by top graduate employers
- 4 million books in one of the UK's best university libraries
- Guaranteed accommodation for all first-years
- The UK's largest students' union



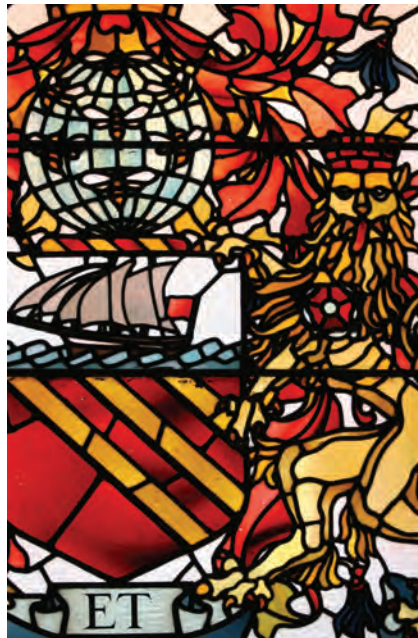
“

I love the fact that we have interactions with real patients from the first year, which really helps in applying the knowledge we learn in lectures. The teaching staff and facilities in the optometry department are fantastic.

Jessica Onah
BSc Optometry

”

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INTRODUCING MANCHESTER

OUR UNIVERSITY MAKING THINGS HAPPEN

Proud and ambitious, down-to-earth and friendly, we offer you a world-class learning experience that's rooted in a rich educational heritage at The University of Manchester. We focus on making things happen, turning enthusiasm into achievement and ground-breaking theory into cutting-edge practice.

Cutting-edge research and innovation feeds into our courses, while you'll find countless opportunities for extra-curricular activities and skills development. All this and more at the heart of Britain's most popular student city.

Learn more about us
www.manchester.ac.uk/aboutus

OUR CITY ORIGINAL MODERN

Manchester is known as the 'original modern' city, thanks to both its industrial revolution heritage and an enduring progressive, can-do attitude, resulting in ideas that challenge convention, actions that change society, and attractions that capture the imagination.

We're proud to be part of the UK's most popular student city, which shakes up the music scene, nurtures cultural creativity, tantalises tastebuds, showcases international sporting achievements, encourages entrepreneurship, attracts big business, and entertains a sociable, multicultural community with warmth, wit and a lot of fun.

Discover Manchester from a student's perspective
www.manchester.ac.uk/cityofmanchester

OUR STUDENTS AMBITIOUS AND PROACTIVE

University of Manchester students are a diverse and fascinating bunch, drawn from all corners of the globe, united in their goal to build a better future for themselves via a world-class educational experience of a lifetime.

Those who thrive best learn quickly how to balance the demands of a rigorous education with the attractions of a sociable student city, by enthusiastically making the most of the multitude of resources and opportunities we have to offer.

Meet some of our students, graduates and staff
www.manchester.ac.uk/ug/profiles

YOUR EXPERIENCE MORE THAN A DEGREE

The world of higher education is changing. To achieve your fullest potential as a graduate, you now need more than a strong academic qualification.

That's why our student experience is geared towards giving you practical skills, personal development opportunities and a professional network of colleagues and friends that will set you up for success throughout your life.

Discover the Manchester experience
www.manchester.ac.uk/ug/manchestereperience

FIND OUT MORE

Access online or order a copy of our 2013 prospectus:
www.manchester.ac.uk/ug/courses/prospectus

GET A HEAD START

Join our University of Manchester Aspiring Student Society:
www.manchester.ac.uk/umass



OPTOMETRY AT MANCHESTER

At The University of Manchester, we continually update our optometry courses in line with the constantly evolving role of the optometrist – so where better to study the cutting edge of optometry than here?

Today, the optometrist's role goes beyond the correction of refractive errors, such as long- and shortsightedness, using spectacles and contact lenses. It also includes: detection and monitoring of eye disease; management of paediatric and geriatric eye disorders, binocular vision problems; care of patients with low vision; offering advice on colour vision; and assessing the role of vision at work and in sport.

Until recently, the optometrist's formal responsibility was to recognise and refer abnormality, stopping short of diagnosis and management. In the last few years, however, there has been a steady increase in optometrists being involved in the primary care of patients with diabetes and glaucoma. This has given rise to more emphasis on the study and management of these conditions.

There are other changes influencing and developing the role of optometrists, not least of which is the expansion of the commercial sector.

WHY STUDY AT MANCHESTER?

Taking into consideration all of the above and more, we constantly reassess our course to ensure that our graduates are prepared for the opportunities of the future. This includes covering areas such as business management, which gives you the knowledge you need to open your own practice. The great breadth and depth of our staff research interests in optometry ensures a very high standard of teaching, which is further enhanced by over 30 optometry professionals: optometrists, dispensing opticians, orthoptists and ophthalmologists from private and hospital practice, who attend on a part-time basis. This large group of enthusiastic part-time clinical instructors specialises in many different aspects of optometry.

A major advantage of this form of instruction is that the part-time instructors all have extensive experience of ophthalmic practice outside of the academic environment. They can therefore offer you a perspective on optometric problems and their management, which complements that of the full time academic members of staff.



After completing an Honors BSc in Psychology from the University of Toronto (Canada), I decided to study Optometry as an international student at The University of Manchester, not only because it is ranked as one of the top schools in the UK, but also because of its excellent reputation in Canada.

Optometry is a growing and respected field of healthcare that affects people's vision and lifestyle all over the world, and I am glad I chose Manchester to help me achieve my goals. ”

Ridhima Talwar

FACILITIES AND RESOURCES

Our optometry clinics and labs moved into a new facility at the heart of the biomedical section of the campus in summer 2011. Over £4 million was spent on refurbishing the Carys Bannister Building, where facilities incorporate: more than 30 custom-designed optometric examination rooms; specialist low vision, binocular vision and clinical investigative techniques; facilities for contact lens and paediatric optometry education; and dedicated teaching laboratories for optics and vision science.

As an enhancement to the formal curriculum, you have opportunities to attend, free of charge, the fortnightly continuing education lectures for local optometrists that are organised by the Northern Optometric Society, and held on the university campus. Staff also organise trips to visit leading contact lens manufacturers.

A WARM WELCOME

Approximately 80 students are admitted each year to our BSc (Hons) Optometry degree course. This small, tightly knit group provides a very supportive, friendly atmosphere.

During your first day, you will meet your personal advisor, who will offer you help and guidance throughout your course. He or she will help you settle into life in Manchester and get the most from the stimulating academic and social environment of a large and lively university. You will also meet regularly with your advisor for academic tutorials, where you will combine developing your transferable skills (eg group-working, presentations, oral and written communication) with applying your optometric knowledge.

WHY MANCHESTER?

- Emphasis on practical skills at one of the few universities in the UK that enables you to see patients from Year 1
- Clinical experience at one of Europe's leading eye hospitals: the Manchester Royal Eye Hospital
- £4 million spent on new custom-built optometry facilities

The Optometry Society

Our Optometry Society is run by a committee of second-year students and includes representatives from all years. Active and sociable, the committee meets every week and organises sports events on Wednesday afternoons and social events, including the formal 'Eyeball'. These events are fantastic opportunities for you to meet other people on your course and get helpful hints and advice.

The Optometry Society also arranges for high street optical companies to come and talk about their summer placement schemes and the pre-registration year, providing refreshments after each talk. This gives you the chance to learn more about the opportunities available to you and to find out what employers look for in an ideal candidate.

COMPULSORY PAYMENTS

The General Optical Council student registration fee is currently £20 (renewable each year). At the beginning of your first year, we ask you to buy a white coat and a trial frame (up to £300), so you are equipped for your encounters with patients. By the end of your second year, you are expected to have purchased your own ophthalmoscope and retinoscope, which can cost between £800 and £1,000.

The Optometry Society invites the main manufacturers of these instruments to come and talk to you about their products and arranges for student discounts and freebies.



Optometry is a fantastic multidisciplinary degree leading into a great profession; I am really happy I chose to study it. It can be hard work at times, but it is rewarding and, although it may take up more time than other degrees, I still find time to play sport six times a week. ”

Nicola Roper



COURSE DETAILS

Optometry BSc 3yrs
UCAS Code B510

Typical offer
A-level: AAB
IB: 35

For full entry requirements, see:
www.manchester.ac.uk/ugcourses

BSC (HONS) OPTOMETRY

This is a three-year, full time course with each year organised into two semesters. You will have around 18 hours of lectures and practicals timetabled each week, plus clinics and tutorials, and are expected to spend at least an equal amount of time in private study and reading.

Lecture units are accompanied by complementary e-learning units that support and enhance your learning, providing resources such as lecture notes, discussion boards and lecture podcasts. Practical experience is undertaken in our well-equipped laboratories and clinics and at the new Manchester Royal Eye Hospital.

	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri
9am - 10am	Tutorial	Lecture	Lecture	Lecture	Lecture
10am - 11am	Clinic	Lecture	Lecture	Lecture	
11am - 12noon	Clinic	Lecture	Lecture	Lecture	Lecture
12noon - 1pm					
1pm - 2pm	Lecture	Tutorial			
2pm - 3pm		Lecture			Practical
3pm - 4pm		Practical		Clinic	Practical
4pm - 5pm		Practical		Clinic	



What you study

Year 1

You will begin to discover the scientific principles that underpin optometry, including the properties of light, the anatomy of the eye and the processing of vision in the brain. You will learn about ophthalmic appliances such as lenses, and instrumentation such as retinoscopes. The clinical element of the course will introduce general eye examination techniques, which you will initially carry out on fellow students. And in semester two you will start to meet patients – an opportunity unique to the Manchester degree course.

Course units currently include:

- Tutorials
- Geometrical Optics
- Functional Anatomy of the Eye
- Optometric Examination A
- Dispensing A
- Physical Optics
- Data Handling Skills for Optometrists
- Visual Neurophysiology and Fundamentals of Visual Perception
- Excitable Cells
- Mathematics
- Physiology I and Physiology II

Year 2

You will cover a broad range of new topics, including human disease processes, pharmacology, contact lens practice and binocular vision, and further develop your knowledge of ophthalmic appliances and optometric instrumentation. The clinical element of the course will develop your skills so that by the end of the year, under supervision, you will have the competence and confidence to examine members of the public.

You could spend a week in the Manchester Royal Eye Hospital on a one-week, full-time secondment during the summer vacation between your second and third years. This provides invaluable clinical experience in hospital departments, which sets the theoretical teaching in ocular disease in a practical context, as you examine the wide range of patients seen in hospital.

Course units currently include:

- Tutorials
- Dispensing B
- Instrumentation
- Optometric Examination B
- General Medical Science
- Visual Ergonomics, Lamps and Lighting
- Visual Optics
- Binocular Vision A
- Contact Lenses A
- Pharmacology A
- Advanced Visual Neurophysiology
- Visual Psychophysics and Neurophysiology
- Ocular Disease
- Mathematical Techniques for Optometry

Year 3

We place even greater emphasis upon the clinical element of your course in your final year. You will have several clinics each week, including contact lens, low vision, paediatric and orthoptic clinics – some of which take place at the Manchester Royal Eye Hospital. You will work on placement at a local high street opticians practice, and visit the refractive surgery facilities of a leading eye-care organisation.

We introduce you to new topics in your final-year lectures, including the legal and professional skills required to open your own practice.

You will undertake an experimental project, researching one aspect of optometry. This usually involves collecting and analysing data and writing a dissertation about your chosen project title. Our research interests embrace most aspects of visual science, from the interaction of contact lenses with the ocular surface, to the processing of retinal images in the brain, providing a wealth of topics from which you can choose.

Course units currently include:

- Clinical Practical Sessions
- Binocular Vision B
- Legal and Professional Aspects of Optometry
- Low Vision
- Pharmacology B: Ocular Pharmacology
- Contact Lenses B
- Optometric Studies
- Ocular Disease
- Clinical Studies

For full details on course units, see:

<http://bit.ly/TQCe1>

(www.manchester.ac.uk/ls/undergraduate/courses/optometry/coursemodules)

Assessment

Course units that you complete within one semester will be assessed at the end of that semester, usually by a combination of coursework, practical examination and written examination. Subjects that are taught throughout the year will be examined at the end of the second semester.

Your final degree classification is based on the marks you obtain during the first (10% weighting), second (30% weighting) and third (60% weighting) years.

Communication skills

As an optometrist, you will deal with patients who are may be worried about their condition. It is therefore essential that you develop good communication skills.

The extensive experience of working with patients that we offer you, starting from the very first year of your studies, and the presentations and group work you undertake during your tutorials, will help you build these skills.



The parts of the course I like most are the practicals. They are great for getting to know others in your year, and the majority of the supervisors are practising opticians, so learning from them provides an invaluable insight into how it is done in practice. Having patients from the first year also vastly improves your clinical and communication skills, and the patients aren't as scary as you might think!

Sophie Godley

MASTER OF OPTOMETRY (MOptom)

This is the first qualification of its kind in any country where optometry is a recognised profession.

In order to practice as an optometrist in the UK, graduates with a BSc in Optometry must spend a further pre-registration year in supervised practice undertaking the Scheme for Registration of the College of Optometrists. Our MOptom is recognised by the General Optical Council as a registerable qualification. Successful MOptom students do not therefore need to undertake the pre-registration year.

Our four-year MOptom course extends the scope of the university degree course, while simultaneously incorporating this pre-registration year into the formal structure of a masters course. Instead of obtaining a pre-registration position independently after leaving the University, MOptom students remain registered for four years.

Your clinical experience will be obtained in private practice for six months and at an eye hospital for six months, giving you an excellent opportunity to experience both types of practice before deciding which area you wish to concentrate on.

Please note: You can only apply to the BSc course; continuation on the MOptom course is dependent on your performance during your first two years. We have approximately four places per year for the MOptom course.



What you study

Years 1 and 2

The first two years of the BSc and MOptom are the same. If your performance reaches the required standards in these years, you have the option of progressing onto the MOptom.

See BSc (Hons) Optometry pages above for details of course structure and units in Years 1 and 2.

Year 3

In semester one, clinical sessions help prepare you for your placements. You will continue with lecture units, developing your existing knowledge and tackling new topics such as low vision and legal and organisational aspects of the optometric profession. At the end of your first semester this year, you will leave to gain clinical experience.

Course units currently include:

- Pre-Placement Clinical Practical Sessions
- Binocular Vision B
- Legal and Professional Aspects of Optometry
- Low Vision
- Pharmacology B: Ocular Pharmacology
- Contact Lenses B
- Ocular Disease
- Clinical Studies (General and Optometric Science)



The course at Manchester is really well structured and the year group size makes it easy to get to know everyone. Manchester is a great place to be a student, with its mix of clubs, bars, restaurants and shops. ”

Caroline Fisher

Year 4

Following your clinical experience, you return to the University for a further single semester of study. Here, clinical sessions will enhance the clinical skills you developed in your placement year. You will also learn to understand and evaluate scientific and clinical literature across a range of optometric topics.

Course units currently include:

- Post-Placement Clinical Practical Sessions
- Optometric Studies
- Project / Dissertation
- Physiology of Ocular Tissues in Health and Disease
- Investigative Techniques in Ophthalmic Diagnosis



Background reading

To get a good overview of the course, we recommend the following books for useful background reading. During the course, many lecturers will direct you to additional reading from recommended texts and journal articles. Many students choose to borrow library copies, at least in the early stages when they are unsure which book will best serve their requirements, or which of two alternatives they find easiest to read. We advise waiting before buying expensive books that might not be as useful as you hoped.

Clinical Procedures in Primary Eye Care

David Elliott, Butterworth Heinemann

Clinical Visual Optics

Bennett and Rabbetts, Butterworth Heinemann

Clinical Anatomy of the Eye

Snell and Lemp, Blackwells

Principles of Human Physiology

German and Stanfield, Pearson Benjamin Cummings

Optics

Tunnacliffe and Hirst, Association of British Dispensing Opticians (ABDO)



I have always wanted to be an optometrist, and am absolutely delighted to have had the opportunity to study at Manchester. The learning experience is remarkable, with first rate lectures and practical teaching delivered by practising optometrists, ophthalmologists and researchers at the cutting edge of development in vision and optometric study. ”

Sean Matthews



LIFE AFTER OPTOMETRY AT MANCHESTER

Most of our BSc Optometry students go straight on to do their pre-registration year and take the Scheme for Registration examinations, which, when successfully completed, allow entry to the General Optical Council register.

To help you think about the pre-registration year, our Optometry Society arranges visits from the Association of Optical Practitioners, hospital optometrists and the multiple chains. Representatives from these organisations give our students valuable presentations representing their different viewpoints of the pre-registration year and its objectives.

The main employers of graduate trainees are the large optometric groups. They have well-developed recruitment schemes, summer placement schemes and specialised courses for their students. Advisors are an ideal sounding board at this stage. We encourage you to discuss your strategy for obtaining a pre-registration position with your advisor, who will help you to prepare your CV and provide you with a reference.

After registration with the General Optometry Council, a career is open to you in practice, either privately, or within the National Health Service. Some optometrists choose to work in the Hospital Eye Service team alongside an ophthalmologist.

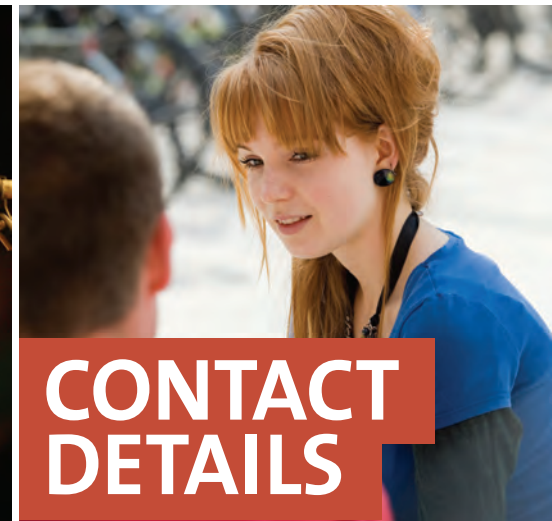
Alternatively, you could choose to teach, or undertake research in industry or academia. Many of our graduates choose to return to Manchester for further study.

Postgraduate studies

We have first-class research facilities in optometry at Manchester, and are active in a wide variety of research areas.

Our research specialities include the development of the nervous system, the molecular biology of retinitis pigmentosa and Alzheimer's disease, visual neurophysiology and psychophysics, eye movements and retinal image quality, along with more clinically oriented projects in contact lenses and corneal physiology, paediatric vision and visual impairment.

For further details of research opportunities in Optometry, contact our Faculty of Life Sciences Postgraduate Research Office on +44 (0)161 275 5608.



FIND OUT MORE ONLINE

CONTACT DETAILS

ACCOMMODATION

Discover your potential new home:
www.manchester.ac.uk/accommodation

ADMISSIONS AND APPLICATIONS

Everything you need to apply to Manchester:
www.manchester.ac.uk/ug/howtoapply

ALAN GILBERT LEARNING COMMONS

A brand-new independent learning resource for our students:
www.manchester.ac.uk/library/learningcommons

CAREERS

Many major graduate recruiters target our students; find out why:
www.manchester.ac.uk/careers

CHILDCARE

Support for students who are also parents:
www.manchester.ac.uk/childcare

DISABILITY SUPPORT

For any additional support needs:
www.manchester.ac.uk/dso

FUNDING AND FINANCE

Fees, loans, scholarships and more:
www.manchester.ac.uk/studentfinance

INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS

Discover what we offer our multinational community:
www.manchester.ac.uk/international

IT SERVICES

Online learning, computer access, IT support and more:
www.manchester.ac.uk/itservices

LIBRARY

One of the UK's largest and best-resourced university libraries:
www.manchester.ac.uk/library

MAPS

Visualise our campus, city and University accommodation:
www.manchester.ac.uk/aboutus/travel/maps

PROSPECTUS

Access online or order a copy of our 2013 prospectus:
www.manchester.ac.uk/ug/courses/prospectus

SPORT

Excellent clubs, leagues, classes and facilities, plus sport scholarships:
www.manchester.ac.uk/sport

SUPPORT

Dedicated academic, personal, financial and admin assistance:
<http://my.manchester.ac.uk/guest>

STUDENTS' UNION

Societies, events, peer support, campaigns and more:
www.umsu.manchester.ac.uk

VIDEOS

See and hear more about the University:
www.manchester.ac.uk/aboutus/video
www.youtube.com/user/universitymanchester



For further information about the courses, or about qualifications, please contact:

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Oxford Road
Manchester
M13 9PT
United Kingdom

t +44 (0)161 275 5032

e ug.lifesciences@manchester.ac.uk

For the most up-to-date course information, visit our website:

www.manchester.ac.uk/lifesciences

Disclaimer

This brochure is prepared well in advance of the academic year to which it relates. Consequently, details of courses may vary with staff changes. The University therefore reserves the right to make such alterations to courses as are found to be necessary. If the University makes an offer of a place, it is essential that you are aware of the current terms on which the offer is based. If you are in any doubt, please feel free to ask for confirmation of the precise position for the year in question, before you accept the offer.

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