OPTOMETRY PREREQUISITE COURSES

[REQUIREMENTS CAN CHANGE AT ANY TIME. REVIEW APPLICATION SERVICE AND SCHOOL WEB SITES FOR CHANGES THAT MAY OCCUR BETWEEN UPDATES OF THIS DOCUMENT.]

General information on the profession and a list of accredited programs in the United States are available at:

Association of Schools and Colleges of Optometry (ASCO)
American Optometric Association Career Guidance Coordinator

Texas offers accredited programs where one can earn a Doctor of Optometry (OD). Check school web sites for program details.

University of Houston College of Optometry (Houston) (public institution)
University of the Incarnate Word, Rosenberg School of Optometry (San Antonio) (private institution)

Application Service:
The Optometry Centralized Application Service (OptomCAS)
Texas and most out-of-state optometry schools participate in OptomCAS. The application generally opens in July and closes in early June. Although the application season is long, it is best to submit a complete application by early fall of the senior year. For programs that do not participate in this service, see individual program web sites for application information.

Supplemental (or secondary) applications may be required. Check school web sites for current information.

Admission Exam:
The Optometry Admissions Test (OAT) is required for applicants; this computerized test is available year round. Students are strongly encouraged to take the OAT during the calendar year before applying. See details on the OAT web site regarding test content and complete relevant course work before sitting for the exam.

Other Resources:
We provide links to Pre-Optometry resources on our Pre-Optometry Pathway web page.

PAGES 2-3: DETAILED PREREQUISITE COURSES INFORMATION

Schools vary on the date for completion of prerequisite courses, and many schools have minimum GPA requirements. Check individual school admissions web sites for this information and other detailed admissions requirements and preferences. Ultimately, it is the student’s responsibility to ensure proper courses are being taken and to stay informed of current admission policies.

Pre-Optometry students are strongly encouraged to review school web sites and take advantage of opportunities to visit with school admission representatives at the annual UT Austin Health Professions Fair and when they speak at the Pre-Optometry Professional Society (POPS) meetings here at UT Austin.

The following courses offered by The University of Texas at Austin meet the admission requirements for the Texas optometry schools listed below. Read all the footnotes for important details.
### OPTOMETRY PREREQUISITE COURSES

[REQUIREMENTS CAN CHANGE AT ANY TIME. REVIEW APPLICATION SERVICE AND SCHOOL WEB SITES FOR CHANGES THAT MAY OCCUR BETWEEN UPDATES OF THIS DOCUMENT.]

Prerequisite courses must be completed with a letter grade of C or higher. C- is not accepted.

*Course(s) listed in brackets are not required by the optometry program but are prerequisites for courses at UT Austin.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>University of Houston</th>
<th>University of the Incarnate Word</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Gen Biology w/lab (BIO)</strong></td>
<td>311C AND 311D &amp; 206L</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Genetics (BIO)</td>
<td>[325]*</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Microbiology (BIO)</strong></td>
<td>326R or 326M AND 226L</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Advanced Biology (8 hrs) (BIO)</strong></td>
<td>446L AND 365S &amp; 165U</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Gen Chemistry w/lab (CH)</strong></td>
<td>301 AND 302 &amp; 204 OR 301H AND 302H &amp; 317</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Biochemistry (BCH)</td>
<td>BCH 369 OR BCH 339F</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Physics w/labs (PHY) [Note b]</strong></td>
<td>302K &amp; 102M AND 302L &amp; 102N</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Math (M)</strong></td>
<td>M 305G (recommended) M 408N OR M 408K OR M 408C</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Statistics [Note c, d]</td>
<td>SDS 302 ...</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>English</strong></td>
<td>Not Required</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Psychology</strong></td>
<td>PSY 301</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Other Non-Science</strong></td>
<td>Not Required</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AP/IB</td>
<td>Contact school for approval</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Entrance Exam - OAT</td>
<td>yes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bachelor's Degree</td>
<td>yes</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**IMPORTANT NOTES a through e ON PAGE 3**

[Click here for Optometry Prerequisite Courses Time Line]
IMPORTANT NOTES for OPTOMETRY PREREQUISITE COURSES

[REQUIREMENTS CAN CHANGE AT ANY TIME. REVIEW APPLICATION SERVICE AND SCHOOL WEB SITES FOR CHANGES THAT MAY OCCUR BETWEEN UPDATES OF THIS DOCUMENT.]

FOOTNOTES

a UHCO : Acceptance of other advanced biology courses to satisfy prerequisite requirements is at the discretion of the admissions committee. It is recommended that applicants receive prior approval from the Dean of Students for applicable courses. Courses such as genetics, molecular biology, cell biology, neuroscience, anatomy, physiology, advanced human physiology, mammalian physiology, immunology, and endocrinology will be acceptable. Courses such as plant physiology, ecology, biodiversity, biotechnology will not be accepted.

UIW : Recommends but does not require taking anatomy and physiology.

b Each of the following physics sequences will satisfy this requirement.

PHY 302K & PHY 102M; PHY 302L & PHY 102N
PHY 317K & PHY 117M; PHY 317L & PHY 117N
PHY 303K & PHY 103M; PHY 303L & PHY 103N
PHY 301 & PHY 101L; PHY 316 & PHY 116L

c As of the date of this document, CH 301 and CH 302 have a co-requisite of one of the following: SDS 302 or M 305G or one semester of calculus. Check the Course Schedule for current course prerequisites.

If you take SDS 302 to satisfy the CH 301 and CH 302 co-requisite, you will satisfy the statistics requirement for UHCO. See [Note d] for other options.

d UHCO has approved M 316 or SDS 302, 303, 304, 328M, 325H or PSY 418. Contact the school for approval of other statistics courses.

UIW approved M 316, SDS 303, SDS 304, or SDS 306 in prior years. We have requested approval of other UT Austin statistics courses, including SDS 302, and will update this document when additional courses are approved by UIW. Meanwhile, please contact UIW Admissions for approval of other statistics courses.

NOTE: SDS courses used the prefix SSC prior to Fall 2014.

e UIW requires the following course work for those who do not complete a bachelor’s degree.

Humanities - 2 semesters: may include: Theology, Philosophy, History, Foreign Language, Literature, Art

Behavioral & Social Sciences - 2 semesters: may include: Sociology, Psychology, Political Science, History, Anthropology, Geography, Economics, Communications