

Assessment methods

Modules are assessed through various means. Students may be asked to produce academic work in the form of essays, presentations, leaflets, posters etc in order to demonstrate the knowledge and learning required for each module.

Due to the evolving nature of the optical industry, the specifics around the assessment type and questions used will be detailed in the semester previous to the module so students can make an informed selection alongside satisfying the need for assessments to be based on the latest research and concepts.

Compulsory modules

Academic Skills Development

The aim of the module is to develop and enhance the skills you will need in order to search for, access and begin to evaluate the value of information for their future academic learning and professional development. This includes the importance of referencing, plagiarism and an understanding of the range of library sources available to you.

Understanding Evidence Based Practice

The aim of the module is to develop understanding of the 'evidence' related to work practices and to gain a better understanding of the methods of enquiry. The module will enable you to develop skills necessary to evaluate research evidence, keep up to date with scientific advances in the field and to prepare you to become authors of your own research.

Transforming Ophthalmic Practice

The aim of the module is to enable you to review service delivery in your practice environment, and to critically evaluate a pilot or small scale development initiative which will enhance service provision.

Transforming ophthalmic practice gives you the opportunity to evaluate service delivery in your practice and develop a project aimed at improving service delivery. This includes making use of SWOT analysis, Gantt charts, workplace audits and liaison with stakeholders. This module will also develop project management skills.

Optional modules

Concepts of Ophthalmic Public Health

The aim of this module is to enable you to understand and explore the wider public health agenda and to undertake a critical review and analysis of an ophthalmic issue in public health.

Dry Eye and Ocular Surface Disease

Dry eye has become a common symptom reported by patients and there are many different causes. This module aims to cover the current theories regarding the constituents of the human tear film and considers the relevance of the traditional tear tests used in practice; as well as evaluating more modern techniques for dry eye assessment and treatment.

Principles of Low Vision Practice

The aim of this module is to enable you to demonstrate an in depth understanding of the patho-physiology and assessment of low vision, the application of bio psycho social models to the management of people with low vision. This will better equip students for the increasing number of visually impaired patients they come into contact with in practice.

Principles of Contact Lens Practice

The aim of the module is to enable you to critically apply person centred assessment in the assessment and fitting of contact lenses and to reflect on and evaluate the role of the Dispensing Optician in health promotion approaches and management of complications associated with contact lens use. This module will help to prepare those who wish to progress to the Contact Lens Opticians course.

Paediatric Care in Ophthalmic Practice

As this is a protected category for dispensing opticians, the aim of the module is to provide you with a detailed understanding and knowledge of how sight testing and paediatric dispensing differs from adult dispensing; including the specialist fitting of optical appliances for those children with additional needs.

Independent Study

The aim of the module is to enable you to undertake an independent study on a topic of your choice applied to an area of professional practice, using a range of graduate attributes.