

PRE-OPTOMETRY

FIRST YEAR ADVISING 2008-2009

PRE-OPTOMETRY

The Pre-Optometry program consists of courses required for admission into optometry schools such as Illinois College of Optometry. Students in the Pre-Optometry program typically choose a Biology Liberal Arts major and Pre-Professional Health Science minor.

The program is sequential. Biol 110 (Ecology & Evolution) and 111 (Cell Biology Genetics), and Chem 103 (General Chemistry) or (Chem 115, Chemical Principles) must be taken during the first year. Biol 211 (Organismal Form and Function) and other advanced biology and Chem 323 (Organic Chemistry), Chem 325 (Organic Chemistry I with Lab), Chem 326 (Organic Chemistry II with Lab), if chosen, are taken during the sophomore year.

Chem 352 (Biochemistry), if chosen, and Phys 211 and Phys 212 (General Physics I and II) are taken during the junior year. Other courses required for admission into most schools of optometry include: Math 246 (Elementary Statistics), Math 114 (Calculus and Analytic Geometry I), Psychology (one course) and English (one course in addition to Engl 110, Introduction to College Writing).

COURSE SELECTION

UW-Eau Claire respects individual differences. This guide complements rather than substitutes for individual advising.

• ESSENTIAL COURSES

The following is a list of courses students should take during their first year to graduate in four years: Biol 110, Biol 111 and Chem 103 (or 115)

• PROGRAM READINESS

Students should be able to handle at least two science courses each semester (i.e. Biol 110 and Chem 103 in the first semester). Optometry schools also are looking for students who take at least 15 credits per semester so they will be prepared for the intensive course loads in optometry school.

GENERAL EDUCATION

The General Education program for the Bachelor of Science degree in the College of Arts and Sciences meets the General Education for the Pre-Optometry program.

Category IB will be met by Math 114 and Category II will be met by required courses in biology, chemistry and physics.

TYPICAL SCHEDULE

The following program is suggested for a student with a Biology major and Pre-Professional Health Science minor. It is designed so that you can take the Optometry Admission Test (OAT) at the end of your junior year or the beginning of your senior year.

FRESHMAN YEAR

<u>FALL</u>	<u>CREDITS</u>
Biol 110 Ecology & Evolution	4
*Chem 103 General Chemistry or Chem 115 Chemical Principles	5-6
**Math 109, 112, 113 or 114	4
General Education	3
<u>SPRING</u>	
Biol 111 Cell Biology Genetics	4
Chem 104 General Chemistry or Chem 213 Quantitative Analysis	5
Math 112, 113, 114, or 245	3-4
Engl 110 Intro. to College Writing or General Education	3-5

SOPHOMORE YEAR

FALL

Biol 211 Organismal Form and Function	4
Chem 325 Organic Chemistry	4
General Education	6
Wellness	2

SPRING

Biol 300 level	4
Chem 326 Organic Chemistry	4
General Education	6

JUNIOR YEAR

FALL

Biol 300 level	4
Chem 352 Biochemistry	4
Phys 211 General Physics	5
Engl 305 Technical Writing or Engl 308 Scientific Comm. for Expert Audiences	3

SPRING

Biol 300 level	4
Phys 212 General Physics	4
General Education	6-8

Take OAT and Apply to Optometry School (3 year plan)

SENIOR YEAR

FALL

Complete major requirements
Complete minor requirements
Complete courses that meet the University General Education, Cultural Diversity, Foreign Language and Service-Learning requirements.

SPRING

Complete major requirements
Complete minor requirements
Complete courses that meet the University General Education, Cultural Diversity, Foreign Language and Service-Learning requirements.

Take OAT and Apply to Optometry School (4 year plan)

PRE-OPTOMETRY CONTINUED

*Beginning course in chemistry is dependent upon high school background in chemistry and mathematics.

**Beginning course in mathematics is dependent upon Mathematics Placement Examination.

#Courses that meet the University Foreign Language/Culture, Cultural Diversity and Service-Learning requirement should be worked in whenever possible. They must be completed for graduation.

MESSAGES FOR NEW MAJORS

- Pre-Optometry students must gain experience in the optometry profession, which is typically done through an internship with a practicing optometrist.
- The Association of Schools and Colleges of Optometry (ASCO) has a Web site that is extremely useful for people who want to apply to optometry school:
<http://www.opted.org/>

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

- Optometry Admission Test (OAT) is required for admission.
- Average college GPA for admission to optometry school ranges from 3.1 to 3.6.

FOR MORE INFORMATION

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To learn how to declare this major, visit
<http://www.uwec.edu/registrar/ChgofMajor/procedures/index.htm>

Academic requirements change every year. For the most current information, refer to your catalogue and degree audit.



*Excellence. Our measure,
our motto, our goal.*