

# Opticianry

## Associate of Applied Science

**Purpose:** The Opticianry degree program is a two-year curriculum that is designed to prepare individuals in the art and science of all phases of the making and fitting of eyeglasses and contact lenses: surfacing, finishing, eyeglass dispensing, contact lens fitting and dispensing.

**Occupational Objectives:** Graduation from the program may lead to one of the following occupational goals: Optician, Private Practitioner, Ophthalmic Dispenser, Optical Laboratory Manager, Contact Lens Technician, Branch Manager, Optical Laboratory Technician, Ophthalmic Sales Representative, and Ophthalmic Research Technician.

**Admission Requirements:** General college curricular admission

**Program Notes:** Students admitted into this program will be approved for entry into major/clinical courses (Optical Theory I or higher) when they have satisfied the following requirements:

1. Completion of one unit of high school algebra with a grade of "C" or better or its equivalent (JSRCC MTH 3).
2. Completion of all JSRCC developmental coursework prescribed as a result of JSRCC placement tests.
3. All applicants to the Opticianry AAS degree program must declare their curriculum plan as the Pre-Nursing and Allied Health Career Studies Certificate prior to acceptance into the program. (Please see [http://dev.jsr.vccs.edu/curriculum/programs/Pre-Nursing\\_AlliedHealthCSC.htm](http://dev.jsr.vccs.edu/curriculum/programs/Pre-Nursing_AlliedHealthCSC.htm) for information on this career studies certificate.) In order to be officially accepted into the Opticianry program, applicants must meet with the program head to review their records and to discuss the requirements of a career in Opticianry.

It is also recommended that students have completed one unit each of high school biology and physics.

Courses in the program are offered on campus and via distance education. Students acquire direct patient-related practical skills by taking clinical course work in eyeglass and contact lens clinical sites in which actual patients are serviced. Students also learn business-related expertise by participating in a clinical management sequence and specific business course work. Students who receive a final grade lower than "C" in any of the Opticianry courses must obtain permission from the program head to continue the major in Opticianry. Graduation from this program prepares one for the licensing examination given by the Virginia State Board of Opticians for registration as a registered optician and certified contact lens fitter.

**Financial Requirements:** In addition to the regular college tuition and fees, the following expenses may be required for the Opticianry program:

Eye examination (by the 4th semester)	\$35-85
Personal pair of safety glasses	\$15-50
White Laboratory Coat	\$20-45

Name Badge	\$8
Testing center fees	\$ varies on location*

Note: The above costs are approximate, clinical site dependent, and subject to change.

\*Distance education students are required to take proctored exams throughout the curriculum. Each student must have an approved proctor and, if there is a fee, the student is required to pay for the services they decide to use.

**Computer Competency Requirement:** Students in this program will meet the college's computer competency requirement by successfully completing ITE 115. Students can also meet this requirement by passing the college's computer competency exam, administered in the testing centers on each campus, in which case they will receive college credit for ITE 115. Those students not passing the computer competency exam may retake the exam only once.

**Progression through the Program:** The college offers this program in affiliation with the healthcare agencies and practitioners in the communities the college serves. The college relies on its community affiliates to provide clinical education opportunities for its students, expert clinical preceptors, and course instructors for many courses. The often rapid changes in healthcare law, standards of practice, technology, and content of credentialing examinations increasingly necessitate sudden changes in the program's course content, policies, procedures and course scheduling. As a result, the college cannot guarantee every student continuous and uninterrupted clinical and course instruction as outlined in the printed catalog curriculum for this program. Circumstances beyond the control of the college may necessitate the postponement of course offerings or changes in the sequencing and/or location of scheduled courses or clinical assignments. Additionally, the college may have to change the instructor for courses after instruction has started.

**Accreditation:** The Opticianry program is accredited by the Commission on Opticianry Accreditation, PO Box 142, Florence IN, 47020; info@coaccreditation.com; 703-468-0566 voice; 888-306-9036 fax.

<b>CURRICULUM</b>				
<b>COURSE</b>	<b>TITLE</b>	<b>LEC. HRS.</b>	<b>LAB, HRS.</b>	<b>CRS. CRE.</b>
*SDV 100	College Success Skills	1	0	1
*MTH 120	Introduction to Mathematics	3	0	3
<b>OPT 121</b>	<b>Optical Theory I</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>3</b>
OPT 150	Optical Laboratory Theory I	3	0	3
OPT 152	Optical Laboratory Clinical I	0	6	3
* ___ __ <sup>1</sup>	Personal Wellness Elective	0-2	0-4	2
<b>TOTAL</b>		10-12	6-10	15
*ENG 111	College Composition I	3	0	3
*ITE 115	Introduction to Computer Applications	3	0	3

	and Concepts			
<b>OPT 122</b>	<b>Optical Theory II</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>3</b>
OPT 151	Optical Laboratory Theory II	3	0	3
OPT 153	Optical Laboratory Clinical II	0	6	3
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>12</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>15</b>
OPT 154	Optical Business Management	3	0	3
OPT 160	Optical Dispensing Theory I	3	0	3
OPT 165	Optical Dispensing Clinical I	0	4	2
OPT 273	Contact Lens Theory I	3	0	3
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>9</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>11</b>
*ENG 112	College Composition II	3	0	3
<b>OPT 105</b>	<b>Anatomy, Physiology, and Pathology of the Eye</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>3</b>
OPT 260	Optical Dispensing Theory II	3	0	3
OPT 271	Optical Dispensing Clinical II	0	9	3
OPT 274	Contact Lens Theory II	3	0	3
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>12</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>15</b>
OPT 253	Current Optical Trends	2	0	2
OPT 280	Contact Lens Clinical	0	6	3
OPT 272	Optical Dispensing Clinical III	0	9	3
* ___ __ <sup>1</sup>	Social/Behavioral Science Elective	3	0	3
* ___ __ <sup>1</sup>	Humanities/Fine Arts Elective	3	0	3
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>8</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>14</b>
<b>Total Minimum Credits for AAS Degree in Opticianry</b>				<b>70</b>
*This course is included in the Pre-Nursing and Allied Health Career Studies Certificate.				
<sup>1</sup> A list of approved general education electives (humanities/fine arts, social/behavioral sciences, mathematics, science, and personal wellness) is provided in the General Education section of the catalog under Curriculum Planning and Design.				