INDIANA UNIVERSITY SOUTH BEND
PRE-PROFESSIONAL PROGRAM REQUIREMENTS

OPTOMETRY

The requirements listed in this brochure pertain to IU South Bend students planning to apply to the Indiana University School of Optometry (www.opt.indiana.edu), although requirements for other optometry schools are generally similar. You will need to determine the entrance requirements for each optometry school you plan to apply to, and make sure that you incorporate all required courses into your degree program.

A Bachelor's degree, either B.A. or B.S., is generally expected for acceptance into optometry school, although it is possible that a student may be admitted without a degree upon completion of all required pre-requisite courses and at least 90 credit hours. Students may major in any subject, but the most common major is Biology due to the overlap between the degree requirements and entrance requirements for optometry school. When choosing a major, you should choose a subject area that allows you the potential to pursue other career options as well as optometry. The IU School of Optometry minimum requirements are a 3.0 cumulative GPA and a 3.0 science and math GPA, and no grade lower than a C in any required prerequisite course. If a course is repeated, the two grades earned will be averaged. All applicants are also required to take the Optometry Admission Test (OAT). The average matriculant to the IU School of Optometry has a 3.5 GPA and a Total Science score of 336 on the OAT (the national mean is 300).

Once you have declared a major, you will need to be advised by an academic advisor in that department regarding the requirements for a Bachelor's degree. You must include the science courses listed below as part of your curriculum no matter what degree you choose to pursue; each course must be for science majors, not general education or survey courses, and must include both a lecture and laboratory component except as listed. Please check the current Bulletin for information about Math Placement Level requirements and other pre-requisites for these courses.

**Biological Sciences**
L101  Introduction to Biological Sciences I, lecture and laboratory (5 cr.)
L102  Introduction to Biological Sciences II, lecture and laboratory (5 cr.)
L211  Molecular Biology (3 cr.)
M310  Microbiology (3 cr.)
M315  Microbiology Laboratory (2 cr.)
P261  Human Anatomy and Physiology I, lecture and laboratory (5 cr.)
P262  Human Anatomy and Physiology II, lecture and laboratory (5 cr.)

**Chemistry**
C105/C125  Principles of Chemistry I (3 cr.) and Experimental Chemistry I (2 cr.)
C106/C126  Principles of Chemistry II (3 cr.) and Experimental Chemistry II (2 cr.)
C341/C343  Organic Chemistry I (3 cr.) and Organic Chemistry Lab I (2 cr.)
Physics
P201  General Physics I, lecture and laboratory (5 cr.)
P202  General Physics II, lecture and laboratory (5 cr.)
OR
P221  Physics I, lecture and laboratory (5 cr.)
P222  Physics II, lecture and laboratory (5 cr.)

Math
M215  Calculus I (5 cr.)
Statistics (Biology L220 or Math K310 or Math M261) (3 cr.)

English
English W131  Elementary Composition (3 cr.)
English W231  Professional Writing Skills (3 cr.)

Humanities and Social Sciences
Psychology P103  General Psychology (3 cr.)
Two additional social sciences courses  (6 cr. total)
Two additional arts and humanities courses  (6 cr. total)

All required pre-optometry courses must have letter grades; no courses taken on a pass-fail basis will be accepted. Students interested in completing pre-optometry course work at IU South Bend should contact the Department of Biological Sciences soon after admission to discuss an appropriate degree program. Additional information about optometry school and the application process in general can be obtained from the American Optometric Association website, www.aoa.org. A complete list of every accredited optometry school in the US can be found at http://www.optometrystudents.com/all-schools/.