



THOMPSON RIVERS UNIVERSITY

Academic Advising
900 McGill Road, PO Box 3010
Kamloops, BC V2C 5N3
Tel (250) 828-5075 · Fax (250) 371-5937
www.tru.ca

Pre-Optometry University of Waterloo

Student Name: _____

Student Number: _____

Date: _____

The first stage of becoming a licensed optometrist is to obtain a Doctor of Optometry degree. The University of Waterloo offers an accredited, professional, 4 year Doctor of Optometry (OD) degree. This is the only English language program for optometry in Canada (the only French language school is the [École d'Optométrie](#) - Université de Montréal).

All applicants are required to have completed a minimum of 3 years of a Bachelor of Science degree program, including:

- A minimum overall university science average of 75%, or 3.0 GPA (the actually average of students accepted in the program range from 82% to 94%)
- The science average is the overall average of all courses taken while registered in a faculty of science, and to be competitive **students should take a full course load of 5 courses each semester**

Students need to achieve more than the minimum to qualify for admission and are advised to follow the requirements for a Bachelor of Science degree, as a back up plan. To learn more about the program, please refer to the University of Waterloo's website <http://www.optometry.uwaterloo.ca/>

Educational Requirements

To be eligible for admission to the School of Optometry, each applicant must have successfully completed the following required prerequisite courses. Students who plan to complete BIOL 3130 and BIOL 3310 at TRU must also complete the prerequisite courses, CHEM 2120 and CHEM 2220 and BIOL 2130 and BIOL 2340.

Prerequisite Courses	no. terms	TRU course equivalents
Arts		
Introductory Psychology	1	PSYC 1110
Introductory Ethics	1	PHIL 2010 or Phil 2210 or 4330
English	1	ENGL 1100 or ENGL 1110
Biology		
General Biology with lab	2	BIOL 1110 and 1210
Microbiology	1	BIOL 2160
Physiology (Human or Mammalian)	2	BIOL 3540 and BIOL 3550

Chemistry		
General Chemistry with lab	1	CHEM 1500 and CHEM 1510 or CHEM 1520
Organic Chemistry	1	CHEM 2120
Biochemistry	1	BIOL 3130 (prereq. CHEM 2120, CHEM 2220, BIOL 2130)
Mathematics		
Calculus	1	MATH 1140 or MATH 1150
Statistics	1	STAT 2000
Physics		
Physics with lab	2	PHYS 1100 and 1200 or PHYS 1150 and 1250

[The Remaining Non-prerequisite BSc courses](#)

Which courses you take to fulfill the remaining B.Sc. requirements is up to you. Keep in mind that you may not be accepted to Optometry and may want to continue on with your BSc studies.

[Minimum Overall University Average of 75% \(3.0/4.0\)](#)

The average of **all** courses you have taken in your BSc studies are included in the overall average calculation. The average is **not** limited to the prerequisites. Your average must be at least 75%. In recent years, the actual average of students that have been accepted into the program have ranged from 82% to 94%.

[Non-academic Requirements](#)- In addition to completing the academic prerequisites, applicants must meet the following non-academic requirements. The applicant is responsible for completing these requirements so the results can be submitted to the School's Admission office by the deadlines.

Non-academic requirements include:

- OAT - Optometry Admissions Test (go to: www.opted.org for test preparation material, sample tests, etc.) ;
- Non-academic Application Sections (autobiographical sketch, reference letters, application fee, etc.);
- Interview

Please refer to the "Prospective Optometry Student" section of University of Waterloo's School of Optometry website for more information

Questions can be sent to the Admissions Coordinator: admissions@optometry.uwaterloo.ca