

# FERRIS STATE UNIVERSITY

## MICHIGAN COLLEGE OF OPTOMETRY

### TRANSFER GUIDE RECOMMENDED PRE-OPTOMETRY CURRICULUM NORTHWESTERN MICHIGAN COLLEGE

Applicants to the Michigan College of Optometry must complete a minimum of 90 semester hours or 135 quarter term hours of college or university education or have earned a baccalaureate degree. Pre-professional college/ university courses must include completion of the following pre-optometry requirements with a grade of C or better.

Catalog 2024-25

Ferris State University Michigan College of Optometry is accredited by the Accreditation Council on Optometric Education to offer the Doctor of Optometry (O.D.) program. The courses listed below are the ones that best meet the pre-optometry requirements for our program. Similar or more advanced courses may be acceptable. However, their acceptance should be determined in advance.

#### **PRE-OPTOMETRY REQUIREMENTS**

##### **GENERAL BIOLOGY**

One academic year with laboratory

##### **MICROBIOLOGY**

One course with laboratory

##### **INORGANIC CHEMISTRY**

One academic year with laboratory

##### **ORGANIC CHEMISTRY**

One course with laboratory

##### **BIOCHEMISTRY**

One course

##### **GENERAL PHYSICS** (non-calculus based)

One academic year with laboratory

##### **CALCULUS I**

One course

##### **STATISTICS**

One course

##### **GENERAL PSYCHOLOGY**

One course

#### **RECOMMENDED COURSE(S)**

**BIO 115 & BIO 115L  
BIO 116 & BIO 116L**

**BIO 208 & BIO 208L**

**CHM 150 & CHM 150L  
CHM 151 & CHM 151L**

**CHM 250 & CHM 250L or  
CHM 251 & CHM 251L**

**BIO 268**

**PHY 121 & PHY 121L  
PHY 122 & PHY 122L**

**MTH 141**

**MTH 131**

**PSY 101**

## Additional required courses for individuals applying without a baccalaureate degree:

### ENGLISH/COMPOSITION

One academic year

ENG 111

ENG 112

### BEHAVIORAL SCIENCE (SOCIAL AWARENESS)

Six semester hours in addition to the general psychology course above. (Behavioral Sciences include: Anthropology, Economics, Geography, Political Science, Psychology, Social Science or Sociology.)

- ✚ Choose two social awareness courses, in at least two different subject areas
- ✚ One of the social awareness courses must be at the 200-level or higher.

### HUMANITIES (CULTURAL ENRICHMENT)

Nine semester hours (Humanities includes: Art, Drama, Foreign Language, History, Literature, Music, Philosophy and Theology, Religion, Theatre, Architecture, Art History, Creative Writing.)

- ✚ Choose three cultural enrichment courses, with at least one course at the 200-level or higher. No more than five semester hours in music, studio arts or theater activities courses may apply to this requirement.

## In order to enhance your application the following courses are suggested but not required:

Business management or accounting  
Physiology Anatomy  
Embryology/Developmental Biology

Genetics  
Speech

## B.S. IN VISION SCIENCE

Those applying without a bachelor's degree, but wishing to seek the B.S. in Vision Science degree offered by MCO as an interim degree, will be required to complete an Advanced English/Writing course (**ENG 220**) and a Speech course (**COMM 111**) in addition to the other required English, Humanities and Behavioral Science courses.

## APPLICATION

The majority of Biology, Chemistry, Math and Physics courses need to be completed prior to the February 1 application deadline so appropriate comparisons can be made between applicants. Advanced Placement (AP)/CLEP credits can be applied towards meeting the admissions requirements for the Michigan College of Optometry.

Applicants to MCO (Michigan College of Optometry) are required to take the OAT (Optometry Admissions Test). The OAT is a specialized test, which helps identify qualified applicants to optometry colleges by measuring general academic ability and scientific knowledge necessary for successful completion of Doctor of Optometry degree. The OAT must be taken prior to the February 1 application deadline. Additional information for application and administration of the test can be found directly at <http://www.opted.org>.

The evaluation of candidates will take into consideration (1) the completion of the required pre-optometry courses, (2) academic performance, specifically, as measured by the grades obtained in chemistry, biology, mathematics, physics and generally, by the grades achieved in all pre-optometry courses, and (3) performance on the OAT. Other factors that are considered include motivation for the study and practice of optometry and demonstration of communication skills that could include optometry practice experience, preparation of a writing sample, participation in an interview and letters of reference. Visit <http://www.ferris.edu/mco> for further information on admissions.

### For further information contact:

Michigan College of Optometry  
1124 S. State Street, MCO 236  
Big Rapids, MI 49037  
231-591-3703  
[askmco@ferris.edu](mailto:askmco@ferris.edu)

### Admissions Office

800.433.7747

### Housing

231.591.3745

### Visit the FSU Websites

<http://www.ferris.edu>

<http://www.ferris.edu/mco>

### University General Information

1.800.4.FERRIS

### Financial Aid

800.433.7747

### Business Office

231.591.2125