

An abstract graphic of a human eye where the iris and pupil are replaced by a dense, glowing network of blue fiber-optic cables. The cables radiate from a central dark circular area, creating a complex, web-like pattern that fills the upper two-thirds of the image. The background is a deep, dark blue.

CARDIFF
UNIVERSITY

PRIFYSGOL
CAERDYDD

School of Optometry and Vision Sciences **Postgraduate** Programmes

cardiff.ac.uk/optometry-vision-sciences



Important Legal Information

The contents of this prospectus relate to the Entry 2018 admissions cycle and are correct at the time of going to press in March 2018. However, there is a lengthy period of time between printing this prospectus and applications being made to and processed by us, so please check our website **www.cardiff.ac.uk** before making an application in case there are any changes to the course you are interested in or to other facilities and services described here. Where there is a difference between the contents of this prospectus and our website, the contents of the website take precedence and represent the basis on which we intend to deliver our services to you.

Any offer of a place to study at Cardiff University is subject to terms and conditions, which can be found on our website **www.cardiff.ac.uk/offertterms** and which you are advised to read before making an application. The terms and conditions set out, for example, when we might make changes to your chosen course or to student regulations. It is therefore important you read them and understand them.

If you are not able to access information online please contact us:

Email: **enquiry@cardiff.ac.uk**

Tel: **+44 (0)29 2087 4455**

Your degree:

Students admitted to Cardiff University study for a Cardiff University degree.

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Welcome to the School of Optometry and Vision Sciences



Cardiff's School of Optometry and Vision Sciences is extremely proud to introduce this suite of programmes for postgraduate vision science researchers and practising optometrists.

We are committed to providing an outstanding learning experience. We offer you the opportunity to study with us and be part of a friendly, supportive network of researchers and eye care professionals.

We offer a PhD degree in a wide range of research fields at the forefront of the vision sciences. These are focused on independent research in both basic lab-based and clinical science. Students enrolled on the PhD in Vision Sciences programme are supervised by our outstanding academics.

Our postgraduate taught programmes are primarily designed for eye care professionals in community or hospital practice who wish to gain postgraduate qualifications. These will be useful to them in their work, and are recognised by professional bodies and academic institutions. All of our teaching is informed by research, and many of the staff are leading experts in their fields.

I very much hope you will decide to enhance your research or professional career by choosing to study with us. I believe you will find your postgraduate studies with us both rewarding and interesting and we are here to support you every step of the way!



Professor Marcela Votruba
Head of School

We are committed to providing an outstanding learning experience.

Cardiff: a Capital City



Key

Cardiff City Centre

- 1 Cardiff University
- 2 Bute Park
- 3 Cardiff Castle
- 4 Principality Stadium
- 5 Shopping centre
- 6 Student neighbourhood

Cardiff is a thriving and attractive city, and an outstanding place in which to live and study.



A beautiful part of the world

Cardiff is located on the coast of South Wales, which has beautiful national parks and beaches only 30 minutes away. Cardiff is approximately two hours from London by train, with excellent transport links to the rest of the UK. Cardiff also boasts an international airport that flies to many cities in Europe.

Cardiff is a small, safe, friendly and affordable city with a population of about 360,000 people, with approximately 20% of the population being made up by students.

Cardiff is a capital city full to the brim with culture, sports, shops, entertainment, and work opportunities.



© Andrew Hazard, courtesy of www.visitcardiff.com



Cardiff is a city of history, art and culture. The home of the biannual Artes Mundi exhibition and prize (the UK's largest art prize), Cardiff also plays host to the world-renowned Welsh National Opera.

Cardiff is a modern European metropolis that has played host to the Rugby World Cup and UEFA Champions League Final.

A diverse, international city

Cardiff was one of the UK's first multicultural cities, where an estimated 94 languages are spoken by residents. Across the city you'll find a diverse range of religious and cultural facilities, including mosques, synagogues, churches and temples. Cardiff also has a thriving international culinary culture, with specialist supermarkets ready to provide specific ingredients and cooking equipment.



Cardiff Fact Check

- ▶ Cardiff has a 74,500 seater stadium, an international sports village and a professional football club: Cardiff City FC
- ▶ Cardiff has more than 330 parks and gardens
- ▶ Cardiff has been confirmed as Europe's 'third best' capital city to live in, a European Union survey has revealed
- ▶ The popular TV shows Doctor Who and Sherlock are filmed in Cardiff
- ▶ Cardiff has one of the UK's biggest shopping centres, with around 40 million shoppers each year.
- ▶ Cardiff boasts prestigious concert venues such as the Wales Millennium Centre, St David's Hall and the Motorpoint Arena, as well as the iconic Principality Stadium
- ▶ Welsh, Europe's oldest living language, is spoken by 20% of the population
- ▶ Cardiff also plays host to the National Museum Cardiff and Gallery of Wales, several theatres and the historic Cardiff Castle.

Cardiff: the University



Cardiff University has an international reputation for excellence in teaching and research, built on a history of service and achievement since 1883, and recognised by our membership of the Russell Group of leading research-led universities.

A History of Achievement

Cardiff University was founded in 1883, with our first degree being awarded in 1896. Today, we are a member of the Russell Group, the UK's top 24 research-intensive universities. We attract students from more than 100 countries and our research funding from the Research Councils, public bodies, industry, commerce and other sources exceeds £90m annually.

We have celebrated a number of notable achievements during the past few years. In 2014 Cardiff University was ranked 5th amongst UK universities when judged on research quality and second when judged on its impact in the Research Excellence Framework, a prestigious national assessment exercise carried out periodically by the UK funding councils. This has confirmed our place as a world-leading centre of research excellence. Our research staff are world-class and include Nobel Laureates, fellows of the Royal Society and members of other prestigious institutions. We were also awarded our fifth Queen's Anniversary Prize – an award that recognises universities and colleges across the UK for work of outstanding excellence.

We actively pursue collaborations that will help us to deliver social and economic benefits for Wales, the UK and the world.

We are currently part of the GW4 Alliance and have strong links with the public sector, Higher Education institutions, and industry in Wales, the UK and beyond. Looking to the future, further partnerships and collaboration are central to our mission to be a world-leading university; internally – through interdisciplinary teams – and externally, through links with organisations of all types, nationally and internationally.

Location

The University's Cathays Park campus is located in and around the impressive Portland stone buildings, parks and wide tree-lined avenues that form Cardiff's attractive civic centre. The majority of Academic Schools are located here - just a few minutes' walk from the city centre. The three Academic Schools offering healthcare courses (excluding Optometry and Pharmacy) are based at the Heath Park campus, approximately one mile away, which is also home to the University Hospital of Wales.

Facilities

The University has a mixture of historic and modern buildings and facilities. We are investing £300m in our new Innovation Campus. The new buildings will provide state-of-the-art research, teaching and student facilities.

These will include the world's first Social Science Research Park, a purpose-built Centre for Student Life and a Translational Research Facility comprising the Institute for Compound Semiconductors and Cardiff Catalysis Institute turning research questions into 'real world' answers.

In March 2016 Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II opened the Cardiff University Brain Imaging Centre (CUBRIC), a £44m brain imaging facility that stands to become one of Europe's top facilities for brain imaging. CUBRIC houses cutting-edge research that aims to have a direct impact on understanding human health and wellbeing.

We are also committed to providing high quality facilities and services to meet the specific needs of our postgraduate community. Through our Doctoral Academy, we offer dedicated study space and a wide range of skills workshops for postgraduate research students.

IT Facilities

Our modern IT facilities enable easy access to a range of support, tools and resources to help your study. Our network provides you with access to a wide range of software applications, online resources and services. You will also benefit from a free subscription to Office 365 ProPlus for the duration of your studies.



Languages for All

Learning a language opens doors to new experiences, expands your networks and improves your employability.

We offer a flexible and innovative choice of study options designed to fit with your degree, so that you can learn a new language or develop your existing skills.

Our programmes use the latest technology to ensure that you are able to make the most of your language learning at the times and the places that best suit you.

Courses are currently offered in:

- | | |
|------------|--------------------|
| ▶ Arabic | ▶ Mandarin Chinese |
| ▶ French | ▶ Portuguese |
| ▶ German | ▶ Russian |
| ▶ Italian | ▶ Spanish |
| ▶ Japanese | |

Students can also study Welsh through the 'Welsh for All' provision.

Libraries

Our modern libraries are welcoming, comfortable and offer a wide range of information resources in print and online. We provide a flexible study and research environment, with study spaces to suit all learning needs. Libraries also have long opening hours, including evenings and weekends.

There are more than 1.2m printed books in the library collection and an extensive range of online resources including eJournals, eBooks, indexes, databases, statistical collections and full text archives. Research students in particular benefit from an extensive range of specialist collections.

The Doctoral Academy

- ▶ A University-wide approach to ensure a coordinated approach to doctoral study
- ▶ A central source for doctoral students to access a comprehensive range of workshops and support to progress their project and develop their careers
- ▶ Regular cross-School activities enable a network of researchers and a stimulating research environment
- ▶ Annual student-led conferences and other research showcase events
- ▶ Guest speakers such as Jorge Cham, creator of 'PhD Comics'.

The Doctoral Academy
380 workshops covering
190 topics per year
£9,000 per annum
 awarded to researcher-led activities

(above figures based on 2016/17 session)

Facts about Cardiff University

- ▶ We have been ranked 5th among universities in the UK based on research quality (REF 2014) and in the world top 100 (Shanghai Academic Ranking of World Universities, 2017)
- ▶ We are a member of the elite Russell Group of top 24 UK research-led universities
- ▶ We have more than 30,000 students from more than 100 countries
- ▶ Accommodation in University residences is guaranteed for most international students and is within walking distance of the University
- ▶ We have 13 libraries, 28 IT suites, a Wi-Fi enabled campus and more than 1.2 million books
- ▶ The University is on two campuses at the very centre of Cardiff, the capital city of Wales
- ▶ The University generates more than £90m annually from research grants and contracts
- ▶ University Professor Sir Martin Evans FRS is a Nobel Prize winner for Medicine

Looking to the future, further partnerships and collaboration are central to the University's mission to be a world-leading university . . .

About the School



We are the only optometric training department in Wales, and undertake research at the forefront of vision sciences.

We have a world-class reputation for research and are committed to providing high quality teaching. Our teaching, research and clinical practice are housed in a purpose built school giving us the facilities we need to achieve our ambitions.

A vision for the future

For many years we have been one of the most internationally recognised and successful Schools of Optometry and Vision Sciences. The significant role of our research and the high profile that this takes within the development of teaching materials enables us to deliver a cutting edge and exciting postgraduate curriculum. This has enabled us to develop and maintain a world leading reputation for optometry and vision sciences education.

Our Postgraduate Taught courses are delivered at WOPEC (Wales Optometry Postgraduate Education Centre), which is the only dedicated postgraduate education centre in the world. Our aim is to continue to advance the delivery of optometric education that is fit for the 21st century and appropriate to the needs of the optometric profession.

Our Postgraduate Research programmes are focused on independent research, where students are supervised by our outstanding academics. Our researchers work in multidisciplinary teams enabling them to work collaboratively and share knowledge/skills with people from different scientific backgrounds.

We place a high priority on achieving outstanding scores in the Postgraduate Taught Experience Survey (PTES) and our Postgraduate Research Experience Survey (PTES).

The **School of Optometry and Vision Sciences** is **ranked No. 1** in The Complete University Guide 2018

We have scored over **90%** for **student satisfaction** over the last four years in the Postgraduate Taught Experience Survey

Study in our **£22 million** purpose built optometry and vision sciences facility



We collaborate with leading external institutions such as **Bristol Eye Hospital, UCL, University of Bristol** and other **GW4 universities**, as well as **Schepens Eye Research Inst (Harvard)**

Postgraduate Taught Programmes

Our programmes have been developed specifically with professionals in mind; providing an opportunity to achieve higher qualifications that will broaden your knowledge which can be utilised in your day to day work.

We offer an outstanding teaching and flexible learning experience at our dedicated postgraduate education centre.

We ensure the provision of excellent education and training for optometrists, and other eye care practitioners, to produce a workforce of professionals who are able to deliver the highest quality of care to their patients. You will be taught by leading clinical and research experts and each course has been developed specifically with professionals in mind, providing an opportunity to achieve higher qualifications that will broaden your knowledge which can be used in your day to day work.

Programmes

We provide a wide range of postgraduate taught courses for optometrists and eye care professionals in the UK and internationally, many of which are CET (Continuing Education and Training) accredited.

Our programmes are flexible offering you the opportunity to study full time, part time or through distance learning that makes use of the University's virtual learning environment and is accompanied by direct contact with your tutors.

Many of our courses and modules are and accredited by the College of Optometrists including:

- ▶ Glaucoma Certificate
- ▶ Glaucoma Higher Certificate
- ▶ Glaucoma Diploma
- ▶ Low Vision Certificate
- ▶ Low Vision Higher Certificate
- ▶ Paediatrics Certificate
- ▶ Paediatrics Higher Certificate
- ▶ Medical Retina Certificate

For more information about our postgraduate taught programmes, please email PGOptom@cardiff.ac.uk.



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OPTOMETRISTS



MSc Clinical Optometry (Part time)



Our part-time programme in Clinical Optometry has been designed to meet the continuing education and training needs of the modern eye care professional.

Over 30 modules provide routes for pursuing specialist interests and for continued professional development. Many are accredited for the College of Optometrists' Higher Qualifications and you can study a module at a time or towards a PgCert, PgDip or MSc.

The MSc provides the opportunity for you to learn with one of the leading Optometry Schools in the UK, rated excellent for teaching and research, and amongst the highest ranked for overall undergraduate student satisfaction. In 2016/17 we had 100% satisfaction in the Postgraduate Taught Education Survey.

We have designed this programme with you in mind - a busy professional who needs postgraduate studies to be flexible, to fit in with work, home and family life, to fulfill CET requirements and to achieve something worthwhile. Many of the modules available are accredited by the College of Optometrists to provide Professional Certificates, Higher Certificates and Diplomas.

WOPEC (the Wales Optometry Postgraduate Education Centre) based at Cardiff University, already has an excellent reputation for delivering quality continuing education in an accessible format.

If you have already completed a WOPEC course you may find you have already achieved some credits towards a University Award on this programme.

A deliberately wide portfolio of modules is offered in order to recognise the increasing desire for specialist training within optometry, including glaucoma, visual impairment, acute eye care, paediatrics, dry eye, medical retina, clinical teaching and leadership, amongst others. Specific programme pathways are suggested for optometrists wishing to focus on certain areas of practice, and there is a recommended programme pathway for those returning to work after a career break.

Flexible distance learning:

MSc: 4 years PT

PgDip: 4 years PT

PgCert: 2 years PT

Occasional learner-a module at a time

Course Index

Module code	Module Name
OPT001	Low Vision 1, Theory
OPT002	Low Vision, Practical
OPT004	Acute Eye Care in Optometry 1
OPT005	Acute Eye Care in Optometry 2
OPT006	Paediatric Optometry 1, Theory
OPT007	Eye Care for People with Learning Difficulties
OPT008	Study and Research Skills for Eye Care Professionals
OPT009	Glaucoma Foundation
OPT010	Glaucoma 1
OPT013	Legal Aspects of UK Optometry
OPT014	Management of Tear Film Disorders
OPT016	Evidence-Based Eye Care and Clinical Audit
OPT018	Primary Eye Care Update
OPT019	Primary Eye Care Update, Practical
OPT021	Leadership Skills for Optical Professionals
OPT025	Medical Retina
OPT026	Cataract and Refractive Surgery
OPT027	Anterior Segment; Clinical Examination and Management
OPT029	Clinical Teaching, Education and Assessment
OPT030	Low Vision Advanced
OPT031	Glaucoma 2
OPT032	Glaucoma 3
OPT033	Paediatric Eye Care 2
OPT060	MSc Research Project

MSc Clinical Optometry (Full time)

This full time MSc is a taught programme over a calendar year and students study in Cardiff. It has been designed to fulfil the learning needs of the postgraduate eye care professional in practice; to provide advanced knowledge and facilitate understanding in this rapidly expanding field of healthcare.

The course is designed so you select **110 credits of taught modules that fit in with your area of practice or interest. As well as clinical modules, modules on teaching, research and leadership are also available.**

You will spend a year studying in the state-of-the-art School of Optometry and Vision Sciences at Cardiff University. However, as the programme makes extensive use of Cardiff University's Virtual Learning Environment (VLE) Learning Central, you will be able to watch online lectures and complete online tutorials at a time and pace that works best for you. This content is delivered by a unique blend of both research-active academic staff and leading clinical experts in the field to ensure that the programme content will provide access to the latest evidence-based optometric practice.

There will be lots of opportunities to interact with tutors and other optometrists from across the globe in online discussion boards and compulsory webinars. Many of the modules contain practical skills training, directly relevant to advanced optometric practice. These workshops are delivered within our custom-designed ophthalmic clinics in January and June.

Each week you will meet with the MSc co-ordinator to discuss your progress and assist with any difficulties you encounter. They will also organise seminars and visits.

Choosing Modules

An MSc co-ordinator will help you to choose modules depending on your clinical experience and interests. Modules marked * are accredited by the College of Optometrists for Professional Certificates so it is possible to graduate with up to 4 Professional Certificates as well as an MSc.

Autumn SEMESTER 1

There is one compulsory module:

- ▶ **OT008:** Research and Study Skills (10 credits)

Then choose 50 credits from:

- ▶ **OPT001:** Low Vision 1* – Theory (10 credits)
- ▶ **OPT002:** Low Vision 2* – Practice (10 credits)
- ▶ **OPT006:** Paediatric Eye Care* – Theory (10 credits)
- ▶ **OPT009:** Glaucoma Foundation* – Theory (10 credits)
- ▶ **OPT018:** Primary Care Update: Theory (10 credits)
- ▶ **OPT019:** Primary Care Update – Practical (10 credits)
- ▶ **OPT025:** Medical Retina* (20 credits)
- ▶ **OPT026:** Cataract and Refractive Surgery (10 credits)

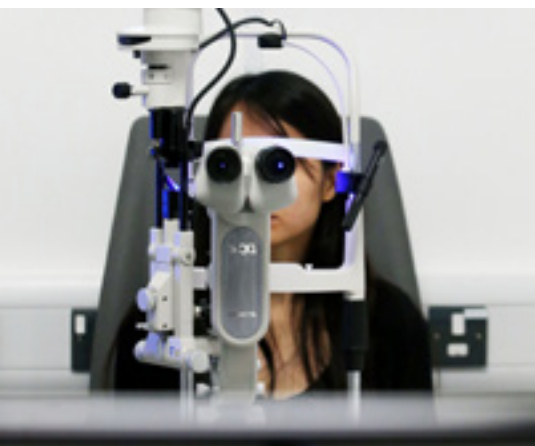
Spring SEMESTER 2

There is one compulsory module:

- ▶ **OPT063:** Research project (60 credits)

Then choose 60 credits from:

- ▶ **OPT004:** Acute Eye Care 1 – Theory (10 credits)
- ▶ **OPT005:** Acute Eye Care 2 – Practical (10 credits)
- ▶ **OPT010:** Glaucoma 1* (10 credits)
- ▶ **OPT014:** Management of Tear Film Disorders (10 credits)
- ▶ **OPT021:** Leadership (20 credits)
- ▶ **OPT027:** Anterior Segment – Clinical Examination and Management (10 credits)
- ▶ **OPT029:** Clinical Teaching, Education and Assessment (10 credits)
- ▶ **OPT033:** Paediatric Optometry* – Practice (10 credits)



Certificate in Eye Care Governance



Our Postgraduate Certificate (PgCert) in Eye Care Governance seeks to provide those involved in clinical governance in the UK with a professional qualification. It is aimed at those who provide advice to eye care commissioners or providers.

The Postgraduate Certificate (PGCert) in Optometry in Eye Care Governance is a 60 credit Level 7 qualification, which seeks to provide those involved in the governing of eye care in the UK with a professional qualification.

Whilst we also run highly successful qualifications for those involved in clinical practice, this qualification is aimed at those who undertake clinical governance and advisory roles in the sector.

This course consists of three core modules – leadership skills, evidence-based eye care and audit, and legal aspects of UK optometry – as well as a free choice of 20 credits to allow students to follow their interests and increase their knowledge and understanding of a specific area. The aim of the course is to provide eye care professionals with the skills required to successfully oversee ophthalmic services, with the opportunity to become effective leaders within the sector, and with a comprehensive overview of their legal obligations in optometric practice in the UK.

Distance learning:

PgCert: 2 years PT



Certificate in Glaucoma



Our distance learning Postgraduate Certificate (PgCert) in Glaucoma aims to help eye care professionals to develop the specific skills and knowledge to manage patients with glaucoma.

Our suite of Glaucoma modules provides optometrists with the knowledge and skills to provide glaucoma care, either in the community or hospital-based schemes, and which includes the diagnosis, treatment and monitoring of patients with Glaucoma or Ocular Hypertension. All of the modules are accredited for the College of Optometrists' Professional Higher qualifications: Certificate, Higher Certificate and Diploma.

Each 10 credits make up a Postgraduate Certificate.

The modules are:

Glaucoma Foundation (10 credits) – designed to provide optometrists with background knowledge and understanding of the pathogenesis and detection of Glaucoma (people with LOCSU Glaucoma

or EHEW accreditation are able to apply for accreditation of prior Learning); Glaucoma Level 1 (10 credits) – building on from Foundation to facilitate knowledge and understanding in IOP measurement and interpretation.

Together with the Foundation module this is accredited for the Professional Certificate in Glaucoma; Glaucoma Level 2 (20 credits) – provides training in auxiliary techniques used to monitor and diagnose OHT and Glaucoma.

This module is accredited for the Professional Higher Certificate in Glaucoma); Glaucoma Level 3 (20 credits) – gives optometrists a thorough understanding of all methods and instrumentation used to detect Glaucoma or OHT, of Glaucoma medication, side effects and contra-indications and of risks and benefits of surgical interventions. This module is accredited for the Professional Higher Diploma in Glaucoma.

Distance learning:

PgCert: 2 years PT



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All the modules in this programme are accredited by the College of Optometrists enabling you to obtain a Professional Certificate, a Professional Higher Certificate and a Professional Diploma in Glaucoma as well as the Cardiff University award of a Postgraduate Certificate in Glaucoma.

Certificate in Therapeutic Prescribing

The Postgraduate Certificate in therapeutic Prescribing aims to help you to develop your theoretical know-how and clinical skills in the management of common ophthalmic conditions. The programme is designed to train UK Optometrists towards the Independent Prescribing qualification.

The aim of the programme is to prepare optometrists to practise as Independent prescribers and to meet the standards set by the General Optical Council for entry on to the specialist therapeutic prescribing register.

The Postgraduate Certificate in Therapeutic Prescribing for Optometrists consists of three taught modules of 20 credits each.

The modules are taught principally using distance learning through a variety of learning tools including webinars, online lectures and through reading articles on the diagnosis and management of relevant eye conditions as well as on the principles of medical prescribing. You will also partake in contact days (one session of two days per module) where you will attend clinical hands-on workshops and face to face case discussions.

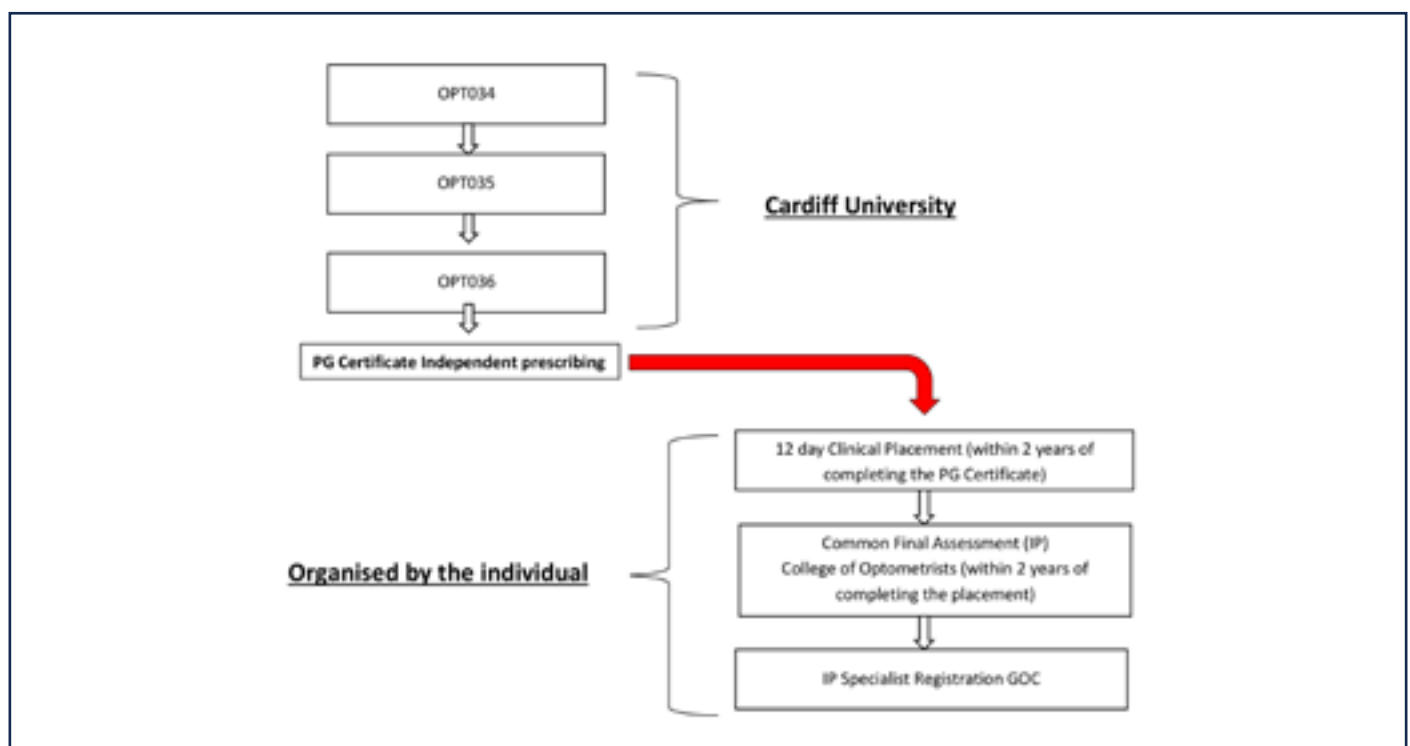
Upon completion of the third module, a clinical placement is required and the passing of a final exam set by the College of Optometrists for registration for candidates who are aiming for 'Independent Prescriber' registration (IP) with the GOC. For international candidates not wishing to register their qualification in the UK, a clinical placement is not mandatory. In line with other UK courses, the placement is not part of the University provision.

Credits accumulated in this course can be used in the future for further study towards Master-level qualifications.

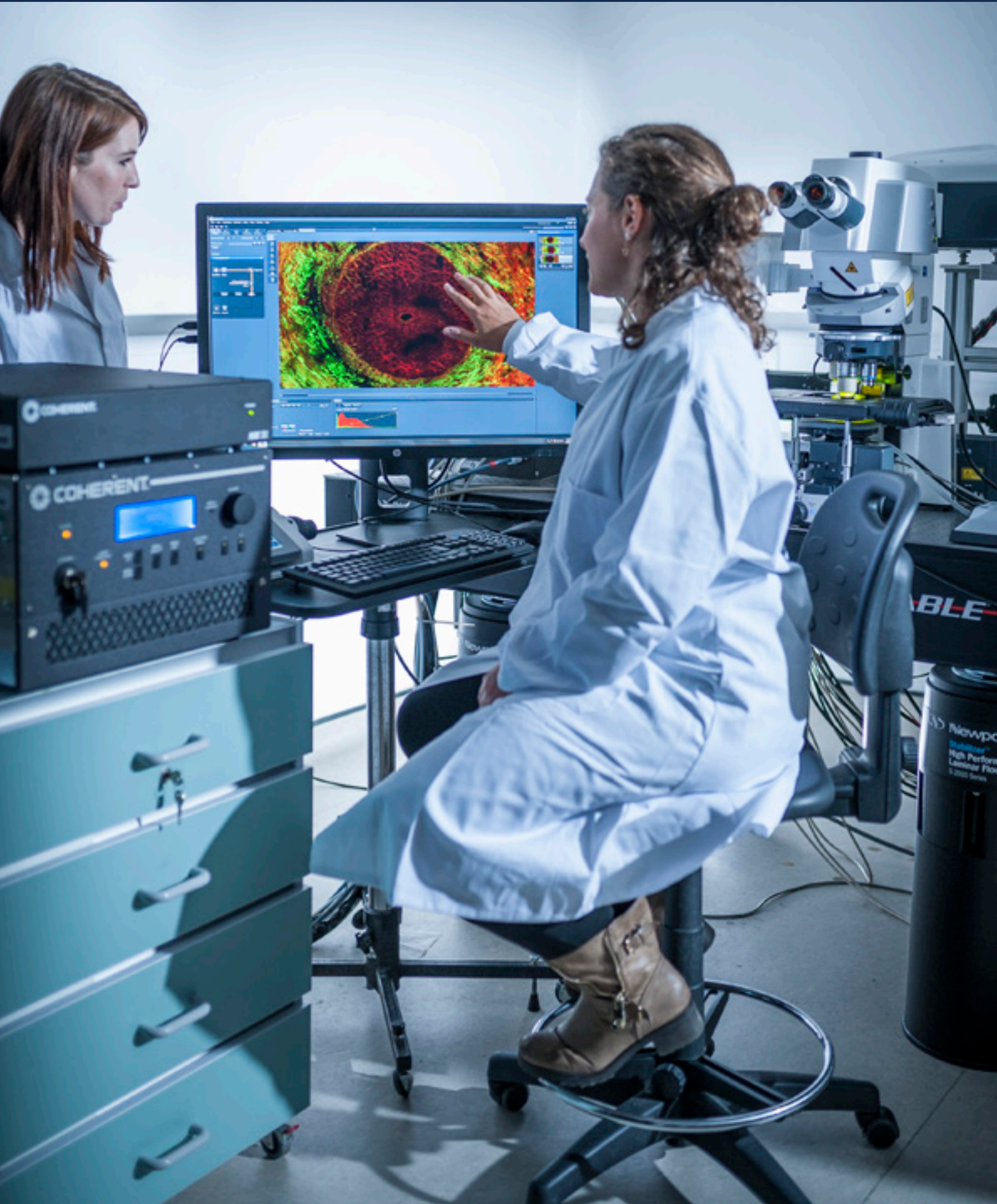


There are three 20 credit modules in this programme:

- ▶ **OPT034:** Ocular Therapeutics (20 credits)
- ▶ **OPT035:** Practical Prescribing (20 credits)
- ▶ **OPT036:** Independent Prescribing (20 credits)



Postgraduate Research Programmes



PhD in Vision Sciences

Our PhD in Vision Sciences comprises student-led, frontier translational research spanning a diverse range of basic science and clinical disciplines.

Structural biophysics

We are increasing our understanding of eye structure-function relationships using state-of-the-art techniques including: synchrotron X-ray diffraction, laser scanning multiphoton microscopy, 3-D electron tomography and volume scanning electron microscopy. Research areas include:

- ▮ corneal transparency and development
- ▮ corneal diseases such as keratoconus
- ▮ cataract formation
- ▮ sclera and optic nerve head changes in glaucoma and myopia
- ▮ development of new treatments including corneal crosslinking, stem cell therapy and tissue engineering

Visual neuroscience

Our multidisciplinary investigations into eye disease from the molecular to brain systems level are leading to new scientific discoveries in areas including:

- ▮ inherited optic neuropathies
- ▮ oxidative damage and retinal function
- ▮ myopia
- ▮ neurobiological disorders
- ▮ eye movement disorders
- ▮ diabetic retinopathy
- ▮ age-related macular degeneration
- ▮ glaucoma
- ▮ magnetoperception

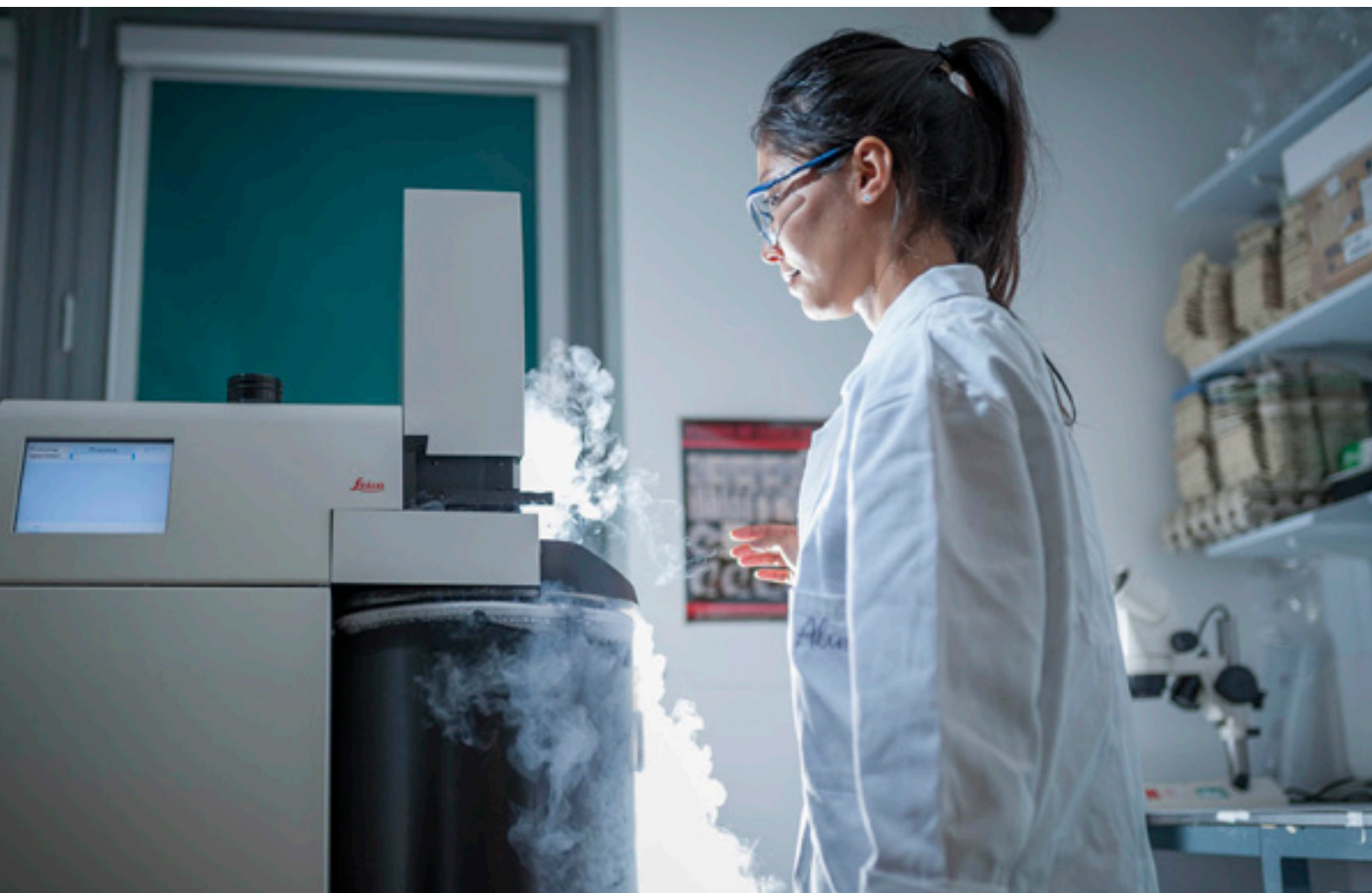
Retinal degeneration and ageing

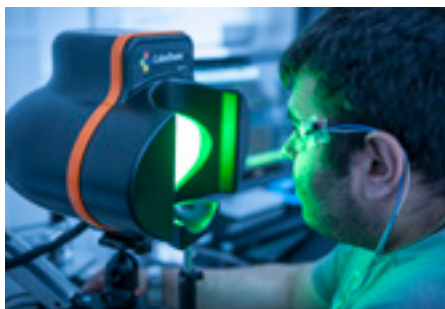
We are seeking to reduce vision loss by the development of new treatment and biomarker technologies for retina associated conditions such as:

- ▮ age-related macular degeneration (AMD)
- ▮ diabetic eye disease
- ▮ glaucoma

Current research areas include:

- ▮ outer retinal functional imaging
- ▮ clinical trials for early stage AMD
- ▮ establishment of normative databases
- ▮ development of novel visual field tests
- ▮ optical coherence tomography





Human Vision & Clinical Translation

We engage in multidisciplinary investigations of sight loss and its management using a patient-centered approach. Current research areas include:

- ▶ development of novel techniques and new instruments for measuring visual function in children and adults with, and without, special needs
- ▶ detection of ocular defects
- ▶ ways to promote psychological well-being in people with low vision
- ▶ evaluation of interventions and service delivery, particularly focussing on development of patient-reported outcome measures eg assessment of self-reported visual function, quality of life and well-being
- ▶ investigation of how vision is lost in the early stages of conditions such as glaucoma, diabetes and age-related macular degeneration (AMD), and how such changes progress over time. This knowledge is essential for the development of effective diagnostic tests and evaluation of the efficacy of novel therapies in individuals with eye disease.

PhD: 3-4 years FT

Intake: January, April, July, October

Research areas:

Visual neuroscience, retinal degeneration and ageing, structural biophysics, human vision & clinical translation.

Entry requirements:

A 1st or 2:1 UK honours degree, Master's degree, or equivalent, is required.

Suitable for graduates in optometry, medicine, psychology, biomedical science, physics, biology, biochemistry, mathematics, neuroscience or any relevant scientific discipline.

English language: IELTS 6.5.

Contact:

Email: visionpgr@cardiff.ac.uk

Tel: +44 (0)29 2087 6163



International students



Cardiff University has a long tradition of welcoming international students. Over 4,000 students from 100 countries enjoy the many benefits of a diverse student population.

Services for international students

We provide dedicated support and guidance to help ease the transition to life as a Cardiff student.

Once you have been made an offer, you will receive advice on matters such as immigration, visas, healthcare, climate and living and studying in Cardiff.

We also provide a comprehensive induction and orientation programme which includes events for all international students during the week before enrolment. This includes a coach collection service from Cardiff and Heathrow airports, welcome talks and activities to introduce you to Cardiff and welcome you to Wales.

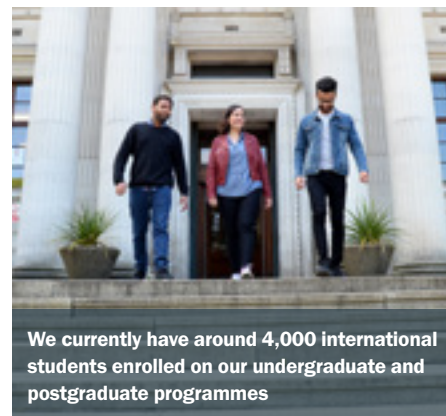
Throughout your studies, support and advice is available from a number of sources both within your School and the University as a whole. These include your academic tutors and supervisor, the Student Advisory Service and the Careers Service.

English Language Support

Our English Language Programmes Section provides English language courses to full-time international students studying, or intending to study, at Cardiff University. Language and study skills courses are offered throughout the year for periods from a few weeks to a full year to improve your level of general and academic English.

Our Pre-session Programme in English for Academic Purposes is particularly popular. These are full-time, intensive summer courses of between 8 or 11 weeks in length and are designed specifically to prepare students starting degrees at Cardiff University for academic study. Places on the courses are limited so students holding conditional offers are encouraged to apply as soon as possible.

Once you are enrolled as a full fee-paying international student, you can select from a range of free and optional English language support classes. The courses run part-time so you can fit language development around your studies. We are an IELTS Test Centre.



We currently have around 4,000 international students enrolled on our undergraduate and postgraduate programmes

Further Information:

International Office

Email: international@cardiff.ac.uk
Tel: **+44 (0)29 2087 4432**
Fax: **+44 (0)29 2087 4622**
www.cardiff.ac.uk/study/international

English Language Programmes Section

Email: elt@cardiff.ac.uk
Tel: **+44 (0)29 2087 6587**
Fax: **+44 (0)29 2087 6141**
www.cardiff.ac.uk/elt

Funding your postgraduate study

Securing funding is an important consideration for many postgraduates. Most funding sources are highly competitive, so it is essential to start researching your funding options as early as possible.

In most cases, you will need to have been offered a place to study in order to obtain financial support; therefore it's important that you apply for your chosen programme of study well in advance of the deadlines for any funding applications you intend to make.

You should research your funding options early to ensure that you can meet application deadlines. Even if you can't find full funding for your programme, you may be able to find funding from a number of different sources.

In fact, many of our students have funded their programmes through a combination of the sources listed below.

- ▶ Through our Master's Excellence Scholarship scheme, we are committed to investing up to a total of £500,000 in this competitive scheme, to support high calibre home students who are planning to start an eligible master's programme in September 2018
- ▶ We run a highly prestigious international scholarship scheme to support exceptional international students
- ▶ International students are also advised to investigate funding opportunities offered within their own country with the British Council and other external funding providers
- ▶ Our Unistaff Jobshop can help you secure part-time, casual and regular employment within the University and local organisations
- ▶ Up to £10,280 worth of UK government postgraduate loans for master's programmes are available for those home students who fulfil the eligibility criteria
- ▶ Professional Career Development Loans worth between £300 and £10,000 are available for some types of programmes and to UK residents
- ▶ Charities, trusts and foundations offer a wealth of funding for postgraduate study. We have subscribed to the Alternative Guide to Postgraduate Funding, giving you access to a range of resources to find and apply for funding from these
- ▶ Many course websites offer scholarship competitions to prospective students
- ▶ Crowdfunding and peer-to-peer loans are new, innovative means by which other postgraduate students have funded their studies.



Further Information:

Cardiff University websites:

(UK/EU students)

www.cardiff.ac.uk/postgradfunding

(International Students)

www.cardiff.ac.uk/study/international

External websites:

Graduate Prospects

www.prospects.ac.uk

British Council

www.britishcouncil.org/learning

Professional and Career Development Loans

www.direct.gov.uk/cdl

Students' Union Jobshop

www.cardiffstudents.com

Making your application

When should I apply?

Applications will be considered throughout the year. However, we recommend applying earlier especially if you are seeking funding. Many funding opportunities have early deadlines and will require you to have an offer from your chosen institution.

Submitting your application

The majority of postgraduate programmes start in September each year but applications are considered as they arrive throughout the year.

You can find our online application tool, postal forms, and full guidance documents at www.cardiff.ac.uk/postgradapply. If you apply online you can upload all your supporting documents, track your application at every stage, and contact our Admissions Team directly through our online applicant portal.

International Students (non-EU countries)

Cardiff University recognises qualifications from all over the world. To know if you would be considered for entry you can:

- 1 Look on the website. We have a dedicated section for many countries. This will give you an overview of qualifications we consider:
www.cardiff.ac.uk/study/international
- 2 Contact the International Office
- 3 Contact an educational adviser. The University has an international network of educational advisers (agents) who give free advice (see the website above for their contact details).

In addition to making your application as detailed below, you must ensure that you have a valid visa to enter the UK prior to the start of your course. The International Office can provide further guidance and support on this process.

Your Offer

Most applicants will receive a decision within four weeks of applying.

There are two types of offer:

Conditional: you have been offered a place but something is missing from your application, e.g. you may need to provide evidence that you have completed a qualification. Once you have submitted evidence that you have met the conditions, your offer will become unconditional.



Unconditional: If you have received an unconditional offer, in most cases all you need to do is accept the offer to secure your place.

It is important that you keep us informed of any changes to your email or home address otherwise important correspondence may not reach you.

Equality and Diversity

Whether you're thinking about coming to Cardiff University or you're already a student here, we want to ensure that we provide the best support to all our students. We are committed to promoting equality and diversity in all of our practices and activities, including those relating to student recruitment, selection and admission.

We aim to establish an inclusive culture which ensures equality of opportunity on the grounds of age, disability, gender, pregnancy and maternity, race (including ethnic or national origin, colour or nationality), religion or belief (including lack of belief), and sexual orientation.

Disabilities/Special Needs

We are committed to providing an accessible environment for all students. You are encouraged to make contact prior to submitting an application to discuss individual requirements or to arrange a visit to assess the suitability of facilities. Please note disclosing a disability will not affect your chances of receiving an offer to study except where courses are subject to fitness to practice criteria.

For further advice please contact
Email: disability@cardiff.ac.uk
Tel: +44 (0)29 2087 0004

Further Information:

**School of Optometry
and Vision Sciences
Postgraduate Admissions Office**

Email:
OPTOMAdmissions@cardiff.ac.uk
Tel: +44 (0)29 2087 4374



How to find us



How to find us

The School of Optometry and Vision Sciences is housed in a purpose-built, state-of-the art building. The School is conveniently located close to the other academic buildings, the Students' Union, city centre shops, attractive parkland and several of the student residences.

Terms and Conditions

Every effort has been made to ensure that the information contained within this brochure is correct at the time of going to press in March 2018. However, the University does not accept any liability for any errors that it may contain, or for any subsequent changes to the University or Government policy that may affect the information given. Cardiff University expressly excludes any representations or warranties (whether expressed or implied) and all liability including direct, indirect, special, incidental or consequential damages arising out of the use of the information on these pages, to the fullest extent possible under law.

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Tel: +44 (0)29 2087 6760

Email: catleys@cardiff.ac.uk

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School of Optometry and Vision Sciences

For further information contact:

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Tel: +44 (0)29 2087 4374

Email: OPTOMAdmissions@cardiff.ac.uk

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