

School of Optometry and Vision Sciences

Undergraduate Degree Programmes

www.cardiff.ac.uk/optometry



Welcome

Ranked No. 1
for optometry
in The Complete
University Guide,
2017 and 2018.

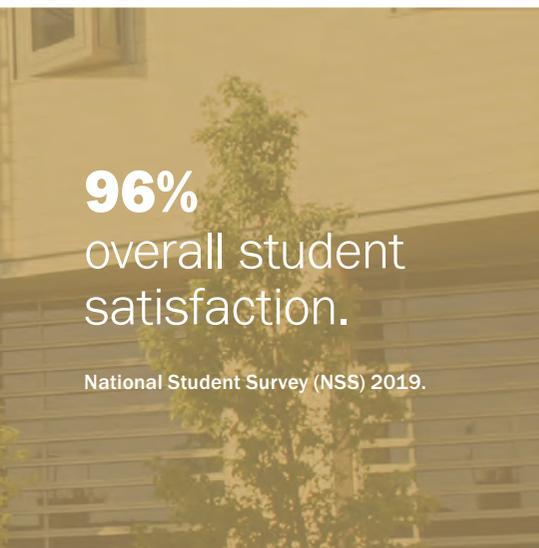
100% of our
graduates are in
employment and/
or further study
six months after
graduating.

For the last 5 years, **89%**
of our students pass in the
first sitting of the College
of Optometrists Final
Assessments at the end of
their pre-registration year,
**consistently the highest
pass rate in the UK.**

100% of our
submitted research
rated at least of
international standard
with **94%** classed as
**“internationally
excellent”** or
“world-leading”.

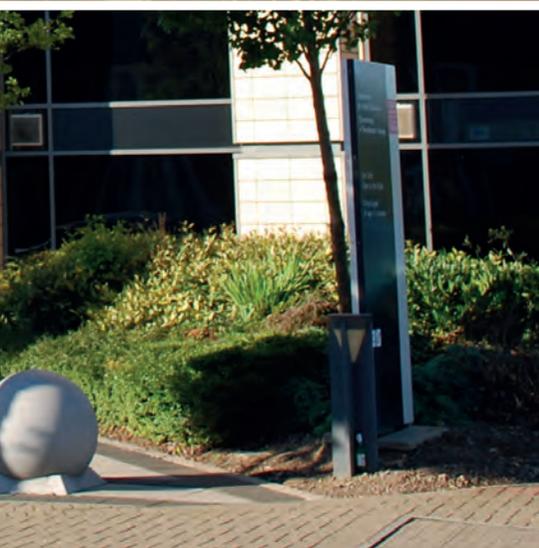


£22 million
purpose-built
optometry facility
with on-site
eye clinic.



96%
overall student
satisfaction.

National Student Survey (NSS) 2019.



**Accredited
by the GOC.**



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Choose Cardiff

Discover the intricacies of the human visual system and take the first step to becoming a practising optometrist.



An undergraduate degree is a life changing and wonderful experience, and it is a major investment in your future.

Your choice of subject, and university, is of major significance to you, and we believe that at Cardiff you can achieve your full potential.

Optometry is a dynamic and respected profession and opens a range of options to graduates. The role of the optometrist as part of the professional eye care team is changing and expanding, and the opportunities for a fulfilling career have never been better.

The School of Optometry & Vision Sciences offers a highly acclaimed degree in optometry, renowned for delivering excellent teaching and learning, and superb professional prospects to its graduates.

We have an international reputation for our teaching and research. You will be taught by a highly motivated staff body, many of whom are world-leading experts in their fields. The School places a strong emphasis on vision sciences and encourages an ethos of enquiry and evidence-based learning and practice.

My colleagues and I are passionate about our academic standards, in both teaching and learning and research.

All our teaching is informed by research that has been shown to lie at the very cutting-edge of optometry and vision sciences. We have strong links with future employers and encourage our graduates to embark on life-long learning.

In addition, every year there are a number of highly motivated graduates who embark on higher research degrees or taught courses. We have a strong reputation amongst our alumni and value links to our graduate community highly.

The School has extensive facilities and offers a friendly, modern, dynamic and stimulating environment in which to study. The location is excellent, and in Cardiff, there are also many opportunities to participate in a wide range of sporting, cultural, community-support and social activities, both through the School and University.

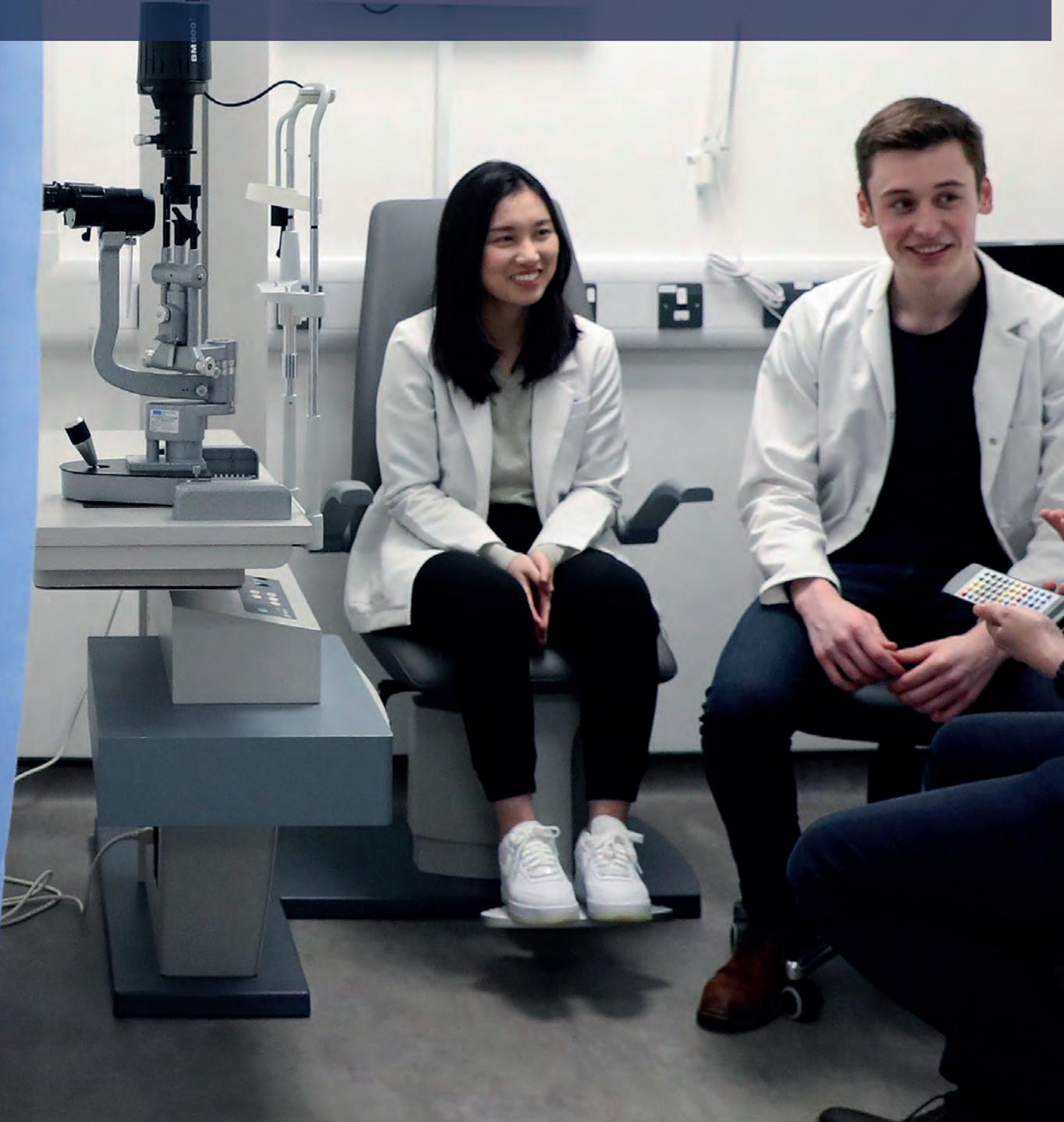
I would strongly encourage you to choose optometry as a degree. This brochure will give you more information about us, the degree programme that we offer, and our admissions requirements. If you would like further information, please visit our website or contact us directly.



Professor Marcela Votruba
Head of School

Why choose optometry?

If you are interested in the human visual system and want to make a positive difference in improving the quality of people's lives, then optometry is for you.



Optometry is a dynamic and exciting area of scientific and clinical study that is suited to people who want a rewarding career in eye care. It is a healthcare profession that not only offers the unique opportunity to vastly improve people's lives, but also allows you to gain expertise in a particular area of interest, such as glaucoma or paediatric optometry.



The study of optometry is considered a general science and it aims to prepare you to diagnose, treat and prevent a wide range of eye conditions. Studying at undergraduate level involves basic science, including anatomy and optics, as well as the development of clinical skills to assess the health of the eye and visual function.

Studying optometry offers the unique opportunity to develop a broad range of transferable scientific skills including experimental design, critical evaluation, scientific writing, statistical analyses; as well as clinical skills to evaluate patients and to detect, monitor, diagnose and treat eye conditions. Our graduates also have highly developed clinical skills and are sought after by employers, which is demonstrated by our consistently high level of employment after graduation.

Optometry is an exciting career option for graduates, especially as the roles and responsibilities of optometrists are expanding. For example, optometrists are now becoming qualified to perform minor surgical procedures such as injections to treat age-related macular degeneration.

They are also now becoming qualified as independent prescribers, meaning they can prescribe drugs to treat conditions such as glaucoma.

New and innovative ophthalmic technologies and techniques are also becoming widely used in everyday optometric practice, to support the clinical decision-making of optometrists through the use of detailed imaging of the different structures of the eye – so if you have an interest in working with cutting-edge technology, then optometry is the career for you!

At our School, we're proud of our strong student community – our students and graduates often describe studying here as a 'family-like environment'. We also have a fantastic optometry society (OPSOC) which provides both academic support as well as the opportunity to take part in a range social activities. At Cardiff, you will develop the lifelong friendships that begin as part of student life.

Our strong student community combined with our excellent facilities and dedicated teaching is why we think our School is the best place to study optometry and why we'd love to welcome you here!



Dr Jennifer Acton

Director of Recruitment and Admissions and Lecturer

Studying with us

We are one of the UK's leading optometry schools and should you choose to study with us, we are confident that you will find your time here challenging, rewarding and enjoyable.





We are the only optometric training department in Wales and have a world-class reputation for our research, with a commitment to providing teaching of the highest quality.

Our teaching space, laboratories and clinical practice are housed in our purpose-built optometry facility – providing you with the facilities you need to achieve your ambitions.

We are passionate about optometry and we pride ourselves on our friendly, supportive and inclusive environment. Don't just take our word for it though, in the latest National Student Survey (NSS), our School achieved a 96% overall satisfaction rating, reflecting the quality of our undergraduate provision. Not only that, we were also rated No.1 for optometry in the Complete University Guide for 2017 and 2018.

The quality of our teaching is also illustrated in our pass rates for the final examinations for professional registration. For the last five years, **89%** of our students pass in the first sitting of the College of Optometrists Final Assessments at the end of their pre-registration year, which is consistently the highest pass rate in the UK.

The optometry degree programme at Cardiff has been designed to be stimulating, flexible and relevant to the needs of a career in optometry. Great emphasis is placed on the practical aspects of the subject and you will spend considerable time in our on-site eye clinic to fully prepare you with real-world experience.

Teaching methods and assessment

The School follows a student-led learning philosophy to help you develop the independent working skills required by a successful healthcare professional. The teaching methods range from formal lectures to independent research projects, with practical classes and tutorials in clinical topics. At the beginning of each academic year, you will be given details of the content of each study module, which includes information about the methods of assessment used in your course.

Small group teaching and tutorials will allow you to develop your communication skills, encouraging you to present your ideas and learn the necessary skills for managing patients. You will sit assessments at the end of each semester to give you the opportunity to show what you have learned throughout the year and to earn some of the marks that contribute to your final degree.

In your final year, you will undertake a research project, working closely with an academic member of staff, that will draw on the practical skills that you have learned, and also develop your ability in scientific writing; the project carries marks that will contribute to your final degree classification.

Personal tutors

At the start of your studies, you will be assigned a personal tutor, who is a member of the academic staff of the School. Personal tutors are there to advise on academic, non-academic and personal matters, in a confidential and informal manner. They can help to support your professional development by advising on future career options.

In addition to personal tutors, the University has a whole range of specialist advisors who you can call upon. We aim to overcome any problems, however big or small, as quickly as possible.

Learning at the frontiers of knowledge

We have an international reputation for its research. This is built on the research expertise of the academic staff and the quality of the research facilities. The high quality of research contributes significantly to the teaching, with students studying in an environment where they can benefit from being taught by researchers working at the frontiers of knowledge.

We have consistently achieved the highest ratings in the periodic Research Excellence Framework, undertaken on behalf of the UK Government.

Our facilities

Along with our outstanding research facilities, we also have dedicated undergraduate facilities to ensure you have the best experience possible.

- Our own eye clinic which is open to the public and provides 'in-house' placements for our students
- Training clinics
- Computing labs
- Seminar rooms
- Vision sciences research labs
- Large lecture theatre equipped with the latest audio-visual equipment
- Meeting/conference rooms.
- Ophthalmic imaging suite
- Instrument rooms for investigative techniques
- Paediatric, special assessment, binocular vision, contact lens, low vision and primary care clinics
- Clinical research facility

Our degree programmes



Our Optometry BSc will give you the scientific and clinical knowledge you need to graduate as a pre-registration optometrist.

Optometry BSc

UCAS Code: **B510** (with Preliminary Year, UCAS Code: **B511**)



The optometry degree programme at Cardiff has been designed to be stimulating, flexible and relevant to the needs of a career in optometry. Great emphasis is placed on the practical aspects of the subject and you will spend considerable time in our purpose-built clinic.

We offer both three and four-year degree programmes which lead to gaining a BSc (Hons) in optometry. The course will provide you with the clinical skills required to ensure that the primary care needs of the public are met to the highest of standards.

We aim to ensure you become proficient in many aspects of optometric care including general eye examination, spectacle dispensing, contact lens fitting, binocular vision disorders, low vision, abnormal colour conditions, and paediatric optometry.

Optometry (Three years) (B510)

This course will provide you with the scientific and clinical knowledge to graduate as a pre-registration optometrist and enter your final training under the supervision of a practising optometrist.

The clinical aspects of the course will play a key role in each of the three years of your study and are designed to be as diverse as possible. In the final year, you will experience direct clinical contact with a broad range

of patients in primary care, low vision, dispensing, contact lenses and special assessment clinics.

A variety of e-learning packages are also available and our staff employ a wide range of educational methods to enable effective teaching and learning.

First year

In the first year, you will learn the fundamental aspects of optometry with no prior knowledge of the eye and visual system expected.

You will also gain the study skills necessary when reading for a university undergraduate degree.

You will study modules including Cells and Systems, Visual Optics, Ocular Anatomy, Ophthalmic Lens Dispensing, and Clinical Techniques. While the subject matter is diverse, special reference is continually made to the visual system and to the practice of optometry.

In addition, you will have clinic and laboratory sessions every week that provide the vital 'hands-on' experience that is essential to the development of a clinical professional.

Second year

The second year of study builds on the foundation of the first. Through the integration of scientific and clinical teaching, you will gain a greater understanding of the mechanisms and processes that take place in the visual system, and of the use of instrumentation to assess visual function and health.

You will study modules in Clinical Studies and Dispensing, Contact Lenses, Investigative Techniques, Ocular Pharmacology, Binocular Vision, and Colour Vision and Perception.

The clinical practice you gain will help you to develop your professional optometric skills. During this year, you will begin to see patients.

Third year

Clinical methods and abilities are developed to a professional level throughout the year.

A high proportion of your week is spent working with patients in the clinics. These clinics provide professional services to the general public in all aspects of optometry, including primary care, contact lenses, low vision, paediatric and special assessment, binocular vision and dispensing. You will benefit from observation sessions in on-site clinics in acute eye care, in glaucoma and in seeing patients who have learning disabilities. Visits to hospital clinics support clinical tuition and supplement the theoretical knowledge gained in ocular disease. You will also complete modules in Occupational Optometry, Law and Business, Investigative Optometry and Case Studies, and Abnormal Ocular Conditions.

During your third year of study, you will also undertake a research project; this may be laboratory, clinic or literature based. Ultimately, you must produce a written thesis describing your work. These projects are of a consistently high standard and our students frequently report that project work provides the most absorbing and fulfilling part of their course because they are given the freedom to develop their own abilities and ideas.





Optometry with a Preliminary Year (Four years)

This course has been designed for students who have the desire and academic ability to study for a degree in optometry, but who do not have the suitable academic background. The four-year course consists of a foundation year, followed by the three-year B510 BSc Optometry course.

During the foundation year, you will study six modules, which not only give you the necessary scientific knowledge in order to enter the first year of the BSc Optometry programme (B510), but also emphasise the logical thinking and analysis skills necessary to succeed in a science-based discipline.

Modules currently include: Human Development, Systemic Pathology, Biochemistry for Optometry, Optometric Physics, Introductory Optometry, and Written and Communication Skills. You also get the opportunity to gain practical experience of basic clinical skills throughout the year.

Pre-Registration Year and General Optical Council (GOC) Registration

Following your degree at Cardiff, in order to become a UK-registered optometrist, you must undertake a pre-registration period. It is necessary to obtain a minimum of a lower second-class degree in order to progress to the pre-registration year. This is a period of supervised practical experience carried out in a multiple or independent practice, or sometimes in a hospital setting. Cardiff students are highly sought-after by all types of employer, given their high level of clinical skills, meaning that virtually all of our graduates quickly find a pre-registration position to suit them.



You will sit professional exams arranged by the College of Optometrists, and successful completion of these will lead to full registration with the General Optical Council, allowing you to practise independently as a registered Optometrist. Cardiff students are consistently the best performers in the UK in these professional exams, reflecting the high-quality standards of teaching that we provide.

Further study

You may wish to complete further study after obtaining your registration in order to gain specialist skills or to undertake research. Many individuals choose to come back to university full-time to undertake a master's or a PhD research degree.

We offer a variety of postgraduate taught options through WOPEC, our postgraduate education centre, which are typically undertaken through distance learning. Modules can be gained individually and accumulated to lead to a master's qualification. Alternatively, we also offer a full-time MSc course. Many optometrists choose to pursue modules as part of their chosen pathway of career progression in order to specialise in, for example, glaucoma, independent prescribing or low vision.

For those who wish to pursue a career in research, e.g. in academia or teaching, a PhD research degree represents an exciting opportunity to train in a specialist area. Our research-active members of staff supervise PhD students with a background in a variety of disciplines including biochemistry, pharmacology, physics, medicine and optometry. PhD projects are available in diverse and exciting areas including structural biophysics, visual neurosciences, retinal degeneration and public health.



Enhancing your experience





Kinza Akhter
2nd year optometry student

Studying optometry at Cardiff has been an amazing opportunity to meet, study and gain lifelong friends from around the UK and from abroad. I feel honoured to be part of one of the UK's Russell Group Universities and the teaching and support offered from the staff is exceptional.

Another aspect of studying optometry at Cardiff that has benefited me is the student clinics which are openly available for students to practise throughout the year. This is great for practical exam time as us students can practise as much as we want to better ourselves before any exam. These enabled me to perfect my optometry techniques and routines which I believe will make me a better optometrist in the future!

Being born and raised in Cardiff I've grown to love the city immensely and did not want to move away from the positivity it offers. Cardiff is full of lovely, kind people and there is so much to do here! A variety of activities, food to eat, the town centre is always a good spot to socialise and the famous Cardiff Bay, from taking a relaxing stroll along The Barrage to taking a speed boat around the bay.



Elicia Perkins
2nd year optometry student

The thing I've most enjoyed about being an optometry student at Cardiff is the sense of community between students, lecturers and supervisors. Other courses could be considered lonely due to sheer size of them, but being a student within a very social course allows us all to get know each other.

Being able to use new advanced technologies to supplement our learning has also benefited me and I have thoroughly enjoyed being able to refract patients that we don't tend to see until we leave for our pre-reg. This has given us a true insight into what we would be doing for the rest of our careers. I take pride in being able to make patients feel valued by understanding their wants and needs from me as a student healthcare practitioner.

I've loved studying at Cardiff – everything is in one place or within 10-minute walking distance, such as, the Students' Union, pubs, library, the optometry building and the city centre. The cost of living here is low and public transport is very efficient and affordable.



Charmaine Murphy
2nd year optometry student

Studying optometry at Cardiff has benefited me greatly. The access to the facilities, equipment and staff within the University has helped me develop my training as a student optometrist. I particularly enjoy the clinic orientated modules as getting to meet patients with a range of different visual anomalies allows us to put what we learn in lectures into practice. The student Optometry Society (OPSOC) has also made my University experience so enjoyable!

Don't just take our word for it . . .

The Optometry and Vision Science program at Cardiff University is second to none. The quality of research being conducted in the department is outstanding, and that manifests itself in the quality of teaching; I always felt as though I was surrounded by Professors, Lecturers and Supervisors that are truly passionate about what they do.

As this is my second degree, I was pleasantly surprised by the amount of one-on-one time with Supervisors for feedback and questions. This, paired with being in a facility with up-to-date technology, allowed for an applied and hands-on approach to clinical teaching and training, ensuring we were prepared and confident to begin our new careers as Optometrists.

There is an atmosphere of togetherness amongst Cardiff University optometry students, with everyone helping each other along the way, each wanting the other to succeed.

Drew Johnson – School of Optometry and Vision Science Graduate



Careers in optometry

Our optometry degree will equip you with the specialist skills you will need to embark on a career as an optometrist.





Optometrists are primary healthcare specialists trained to examine and test the visual system and where necessary, provide refractive correction using optical appliances such as spectacles and contact lenses.

Optometrists are also able to detect diseases that affect the eye and visual system and, therefore, well educated in all aspects of vision science and pathology of the eye.

As a qualified optometrist, you will have a wide range of career options available to you with excellent progression opportunities. Private practice, the hospital eye service, teaching, and research are just some of the careers available for optometry graduates. Registration also opens possibilities to work abroad as an optometry qualification from the UK is highly regarded worldwide.

Our reputation and the high quality of our teaching means that our students are in demand after graduating. In fact, in 2017, 2018 and 2019, 100% of our graduates were in employment and/or further study within six months of graduation. Employers included universities, various NHS Trusts, multiple and independent optometrists and companies such as Astra Zeneca and Johnson & Johnson.



Professional training

Having completed your degree, you will need to spend a further 'pre-registration' year of training under the supervision of a qualified optometrist and pass qualifying professional examinations. Graduates from our School rarely experience difficulties in obtaining 'pre-registration' posts. You will then be able to register with the General Optical Council as an optometrist and begin to practice in your own right.



Our optometry building

A £22 million building that provides you with outstanding facilities.



The ground floor of the building is occupied by our dedicated eye clinic which is open to the public. There are also several training clinics and a large lecture theatre, which is equipped with the latest audiovisual equipment. Facilities on the upper floors, include student study spaces, numerous teaching and research labs, seminar rooms, IT rooms and office space.

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.

Cardiff University Optometrists Practice

Integral to the School is its Eye Clinic, where third year students conduct thorough eye examinations under the supervision of a fully qualified optometrist. The clinic offers free examination tests for the general public throughout the autumn and spring semesters. There is also an extensive range of designer frames to suit every budget, as well as a full contact lens service.

Thousands of people have benefited from the expertise of 'Cardiff University Optometrists' in the past and there are currently 17,000 patients on the register.

Cardiff University Optometrists also offer innovative Special Assessment and Low Vision Clinics that are internationally recognised. The Special Assessment Clinic provides eye care for adults and children with learning disabilities.

These unique clinics can achieve great results by testing in a more comforting environment, creating a positive experience for those who can find eye tests intimidating. They have helped transform the lives of many young people. Meanwhile, the Low Vision Clinic caters for patients with severe sight problems, helping them to make use of their remaining vision.

Special Assessment Clinic

Dr Maggie Woodhouse OBE is a Senior Lecturer in our School, and one of our longest serving members of staff. In 2014 she celebrated 40 years with the University.

With her colleagues Andy Millington, Mike George and Emma Percy, Maggie runs our



Special Assessment Clinic which specialises in eye care for children and adults with disabilities.

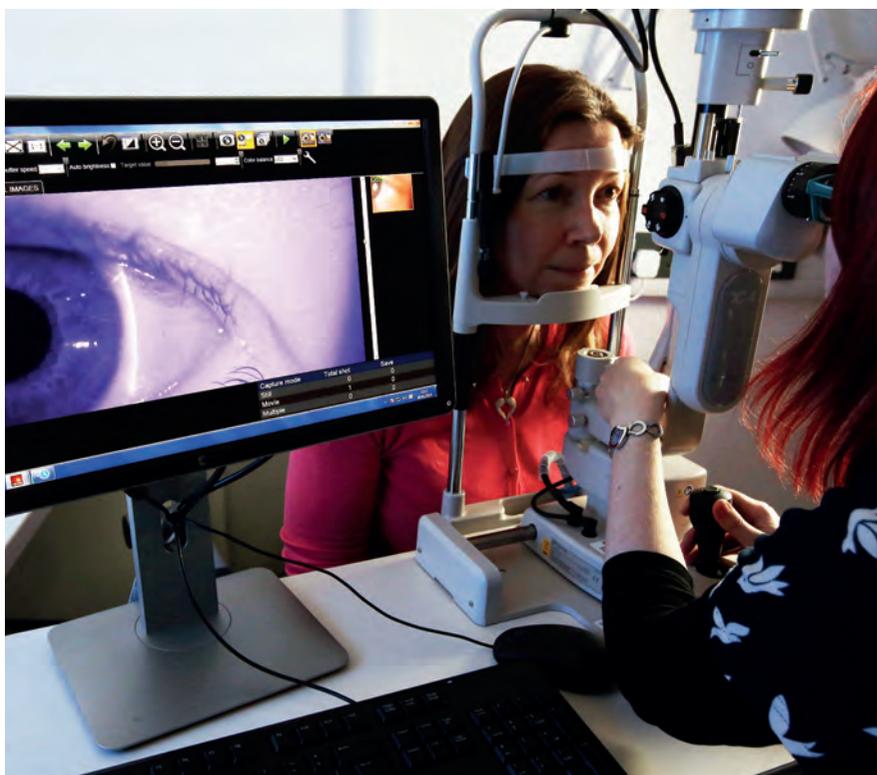
Students have the opportunity to spend time in this unique clinic during their final year because of her pioneering work in this field, Maggie is a very well-known figure in optometry, and gives talks all over the UK (and beyond) to eye care practitioners, healthcare workers, teachers and many others.

In research, Maggie is best known for her work with children with Down's Syndrome, work that has changed the way hospital clinics and optometrists care for these children. Her contribution was recognised in 2014 with an OBE in the Birthday Honours List, in 2015 with a Lifetime Achievement Award from the Association of Optical Practitioners, and in 2017 with a Queen's Anniversary Prize.



Applications





To be considered for entry onto any of the undergraduate courses offered in the School of Optometry and Vision Sciences you should apply through UCAS: www.ucas.com

Number of places available in the first year: **80**

Entry requirements

B510 – 3 Year Optometry Degree Course

A-level: A typical offer would be AAA – AAB, two of which would normally be from Mathematics, Physics, Chemistry or Biology. Please note, General Studies or Critical Thinking will not be accepted.

Extended Project Qualification: Applicants with grade A in the EPQ will typically receive an offer one grade lower than the standard A level offer. Please note that any subject specific requirements must still be met.

All applicants must have a minimum of 5 GCSEs at grade C, including English Language and Mathematics.

Irish Leaving Certificate: A typical offer would be H2x4/H3x2 or H2x3/H3x3

International Baccalaureate Diploma: 34 points overall, with 6 in two science subjects at Higher Level.

Other: Applications from those offering alternative/vocational/overseas qualifications are welcome, as are those who may have combinations of qualifications or other relevant work/life experience.

B511 – 4 Year Optometry degree course

A-level: A typical offer would be ABB for applicants without a science subject or BBB for applicants with one science subject (Maths, Physics, Chemistry or Biology). Please note, General Studies or Critical Thinking will not be accepted.

Extended Project Qualification: Applicants with grade A in the EPQ will typically receive an offer one grade lower than the standard A level offer. Please note that any subject specific requirements must still be met.

International students

International applicant's entry qualifications should be of equivalent to GCE A-levels as described as above. For further information on entry requirements, visits and the advisor available to help you in your home country, please contact the International Department: www.cardiff.ac.uk/study/international

Applications *continued*

General Optical Council Registration

The General Optical Council (GOC) requires that all students studying on an optometry training course in the UK are registered with the GOC.

The following is taken from the GOC website:

By law, students on a GOC-approved training course in optometry or dispensing optics must be registered with the GOC.

Studying for an optical qualification involves learning the core competencies that are necessary to practise safely and effectively. These competencies include technical, clinical and communication skills. To gain these skills and appropriate clinical experience, students work with patients and the public throughout their course of study. The patients they treat need to be protected in case there is a problem.

As a new entrant to the BSc Optometry course, you will be sent a student registration form, prior to enrolment, which you must complete and bring with you to enrolment.

Please visit the GOC website for more information on student registration. If, after looking at the GOC website you are unsure whether you will have a problem gaining registration, you may not be able to complete the BSc degree course.

Notes for Welsh language applicants

We recognise that if you are a Welsh speaker you may feel more comfortable speaking to a Welsh speaking personal tutor. Provided there are Welsh speaking members of staff in your subject area, every effort will be made to allocate a Welsh speaker to you. If you wish, you can also submit your assessed work and take your examinations through the medium of Welsh, regardless of the language of tuition of the course you are following.

Some of the accommodation at Talybont and Senghennydd Court student residences has been allocated for Welsh speakers and learners who would like to be grouped

together. If you would like to take advantage of this please make a note of this in your application for accommodation.

Open Days

The University runs Open Days throughout the year giving anyone considering applying to Cardiff the chance to find out more about life at university and see what we offer.

If you apply and are offered a place, you will be invited to meet us at our specially-devised School Open Days. When making that important decision, we strongly encourage you to join us. Not only will you have the opportunity to hear more about our degrees, you will also meet staff, have the chance to talk to current students and to get the feel for our cosmopolitan capital city.

Tuition fees and financial assistance

The University charges an annual fee which covers all tuition fees, registration and examinations other than the re-taking of examinations by applicants not currently registered. Please note charges for accommodation in University Residences are additional.

Tuition fees

Please see the following website for more information: www.cardiff.ac.uk/fees

Scholarships and bursaries

For more information please visit the following website:

www.cardiff.ac.uk/scholarships

Student support

Whether or not you use student support services it's reassuring to know that they are available to you should you need them. Every student is assigned a personal tutor but should you need extra support we have a range of services available to you. Such as;

Disability and Dyslexia support

Email: disability@cardiff.ac.uk

Tel: +44 (0)29 2087 4844

Email: dyslexia@cardiff.ac.uk

Tel: +44(0) 29 2087 4844

Counselling and Wellbeing Guidance

Email: wellbeingandcounselling@cardiff.ac.uk

Tel: +44 (0)29 2087 4966

International Student Support

Email: iss@cardiff.ac.uk

Tel: +44 (0)29 2087 6009

Student Mentor Scheme

www.cardiff.ac.uk/study/student-life/student-support





The course is very vocational and has the perfect balance between theory and hands-on clinical experience. The high standard of teaching and the support available meant that I could enter my pre-registration year feeling properly prepared.

Josie Carmichael,
BSc Optometry graduate

A capital city



Cardiff is a compact city with an enormous character. Nestled between the rugged coastline and breathtaking mountainous scenery of Wales, the country's capital is a cornucopia of culture, marrying historical delights with cosmopolitan amenities.

Providing an endless array of activities, one stroll through its cobbled streets can see you learn about the rich tapestry of Cardiff's past at Cardiff Castle before soaking in the atmosphere as the crowds spill from the Principality Stadium after one of the many sporting events it holds year round.

The vibrant and independent culinary scene is the heartbeat of the city. With something

to please every palette, you can enjoy fine dining, plant-based treats and exotic cuisines from almost every corner of the globe, without forgetting Welsh Cakes for dessert!

Wales is the land of song, and Cardiff certainly contributes heftily to this legacy. This city is built with music running through its veins, from the oldest record store in the world Spillers Records, which is tucked away in Morgan Arcade, to more contemporary and intimate venues which host some of the world's most exciting new musical talent.

Though your Cardiff bucket list may be bursting at the seams, be sure to make a little room for our National Museum which is a place of

true wonder, while the iconic Wales Millennium Centre in the idyllic setting of Cardiff Bay is simply not to be missed.

Bustling with personality, Cardiff is a city made for students, offering an endless string of entertainment opportunities while remaining inexpensive and easy to navigate.

The modern shopping centres, aesthetic arcades, luscious green parks and thriving nightlife are a huge draw for living in Cardiff, though you'll always find your way back to our Students' Union, which is the true home of the student scene in the city.

“With an exhilarating mix of heavyweight cultural sights, exciting regeneration projects – not least the revitalised Cardiff Bay – world-class sport, a prolific music scene and some seriously banging nightlife, it's easy to see why Cardiff now ranks alongside London and Edinburgh as one of the UK's most compelling destinations.”

The Complete University Guide, 2017

A leading university

Part of the
**RUSSELL
GROUP**



“Cardiff University is highly rated on a local and global scale.”

The Telegraph, 2018

Our students learn from leading researchers in over 300 courses across the University. As Wales’ only Russell Group institution, we have gained an international reputation for excellence in teaching and research, which is built from our history of achievement since 1883.

Cardiff University becomes home for approximately 5,500 new undergraduate students every year. While competition for places is strong, we pride ourselves on being an inclusive university, welcoming applications from everyone who wishes to study with us.

We are a global university with over 7,500 international students from more than 100 countries and open our doors to all applications, irrespective of background.

Facilities and development

Committed to investing in our services, Cardiff University is home to new and well-equipped laboratories, lecture theatres, libraries and

computing facilities to name a few, with more exciting developments continuously underway.

We take our environmental, safety and security responsibilities seriously, embracing our comprehensive Energy, Water and Waste Policy, which is already making great savings in energy consumption and helping us to do our bit to tackle climate change.

Global Opportunities

We are partnered with over 200 leading institutions across the world, and our Global Opportunities team will help you to gain valuable international experience, through study, work or volunteering.

Supporting you

Our student support and wellbeing centres deliver a substantial range of services available to all students that are free, impartial, non-judgemental and confidential, aimed to help you make the most of student life and support you during your study.

We are also rated as one of the best universities for supporting LGBT+ students and are proud to be ranked highly in the Stonewall Workplace Equality Index.

Virtual campus tour

Discover more about the University and the city of Cardiff through our interactive online tour at:

virtualltour.cardiff.ac.uk

Living in Cardiff



“Cardiff has one of the biggest, best and most active students’ unions in the UK, with high quality facilities including Y Plas, a 2,150 capacity nightclub; and the Great Hall, a major concert venue.”

Complete University Guide, 2019



Cardiff is the perfect place to be a student. It mirrors the hive of activity a big city offers, but in an intimate and compact setting with endless character. Drink in the atmosphere, soak up the culture and get stuck into the host of activities available in our city; your new home.

A guarantee of accommodation

If you accept your offer of a place at Cardiff on a firm basis, you are guaranteed a single occupancy place in University accommodation during your first year, living with other first year undergraduate students.

The residential dates for your particular accommodation will be confirmed in your Offer of Residence.

Residence Life

While staying in Cardiff student accommodation, you will have access to the incredible service provided by the Residence Life Team who work tirelessly to enhance your student experience.

Working in partnership with Student Support and Wellbeing, the Residences Office and the Students’ Union, Residence Life will welcome you to Cardiff and help you to make a smooth transition into university.

They also help foster a strong sense of community through social events and cultural activities, as well as practical support too.

Students’ Union

Our Students’ Union is at the heart of the Cardiff student experience. It’s a student-led and independent part of the University, dedicated to making your time with us the best it can be.

Built on the foundation of inclusion, diversity, personal development and friendship, the Students’ Union runs a range of activities and services to help enhance your Cardiff University experience.

These include advice, training, skills development, entertainment, volunteering opportunities and employment throughout your time at Cardiff and to prepare you for a career after university too.

Find out more . . .

Accommodation

For further information please visit our website: www.cardiff.ac.uk/residences

You can also watch our residences film online at: www.youtube.com/watch?v=hxZX-dYlFB8

Students’ Union

 facebook.com/cardiffstudents

 snapchat.com/add/cardiffstudents

 instagram.com/cardiffstudents

 [@cardiffstudents](https://twitter.com/cardiffstudents)

 www.youtube.com/cardiffstudents



Important Legal Information

The contents of this brochure relate to the Entry 2020 admissions cycle and are correct at the time of going to press in September 2019. However, there is a lengthy period of time between printing this brochure and applications being made to, and processed by us, so please check our website at: 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 brochure and our website, the contents of the website take precedence and represent the basis on which we intend to deliver our services to you.

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



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When you have finished with this brochure it can be recycled, but please consider passing on to a friend or leaving it in your careers library for others to use.

Thank you.

Cardiff University is a registered charity, no. 1136855

How to find the School

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.

Key

-  School of Optometry and Vision Sciences
-  University and NHS buildings
-  Student residences

This prospectus can be made available in alternative formats, including large print (text), Braille and on audio tape/CD.

To request an alternative format please contact Laura Roberts:

Tel: **029 2087 4455**

Email: **RobertsL9@cardiff.ac.uk**

CARDIFF
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PRIFYSGOL
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To find out more about the
School of Optometry and Vision
Sciences please visit our website:
www.cardiff.ac.uk/optometry

Contact us

Tel: **029 2087 4374**

Email:

OPTOMAdmissions@cardiff.ac.uk

**School of Optometry and
Vision Sciences**

Cardiff University
Maindy Road, Cathays
Cardiff CF24 4HQ

Stay in touch



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VisionSciences/



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Student life

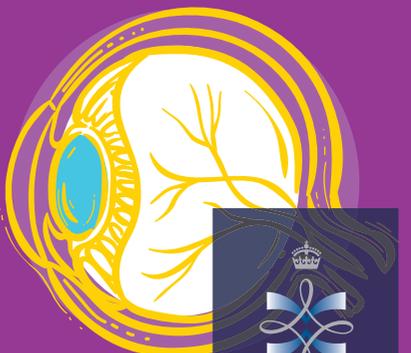
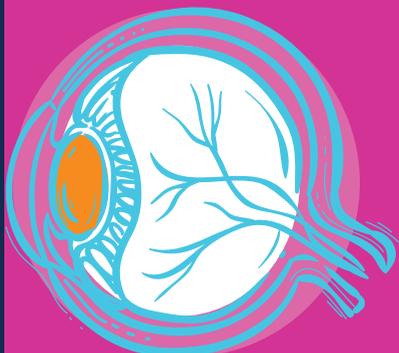
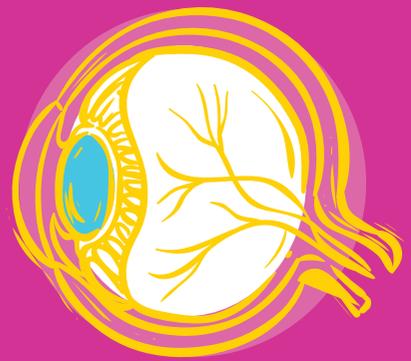
Got questions about student life?
Get them answered at:

**[www.cardiff.ac.uk/
studentbloggers](http://www.cardiff.ac.uk/studentbloggers)**

Want to know more about life at
Cardiff University? Our student
bloggers are recording their
experiences and are happy to
answer your questions.

Our student bloggers are real
students studying on a range of
courses. They are here to answer
any questions you have about life at
Cardiff University. What's a typical
day like? What clubs and societies
are there? Is Cardiff's music scene
any good? It can be almost anything.

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