ADVANCED CLINICAL OPTOMETRY AND OPHTHALMOLOGY MSc / 2019/20 ENTRY

www.ucl.ac.uk/graduate/
Advanced Clinical Optometry and Ophthalmology
MSc / PGCert / PGDip / MSc

UCL Institute of Ophthalmology has partnered with Moorfields Eye Hospital, one of the world’s leading eye hospitals, to create an exciting environment in which to study this challenging and rewarding programme. The aim of the programme is to provide ophthalmic non-medical professionals the opportunity to undertake a Masters, which will develop their clinical practice and contribute to the advancement of eyecare delivery in primary, secondary or tertiary care settings.

**Degree summary**

You will develop the following skills and knowledge: understand the disease process underlying common ophthalmic conditions (e.g. glaucoma, medical retina and those requiring medical contact lenses) ability to detect changes in clinic status be confident using diagnostic criteria to formulate patient management plans develop decision making skills underpinned by academic and clinical knowledge

// The structure of this programme is designed to suit busy professionals. It uses blended learning, where some of the programme is carried out online*, and is supplemented by face-to-face days. The face-to-face days involve workshops, case discussions, patient assessments and discussion of clinical "pearls" from experienced practitioners. *80% online and 20% face-to-face.

// This master’s programme is designed in partnership between clinicians from Moorfields Eye Hospital and UCL scientists. Modules on this programme have received professional accreditation by the College of Optometrists. For UK based optometrists, some modules provide the classroom based knowledge for the College of Optometrists specialist professional higher qualifications should you want to pursue these. In addition, you will also be able to earn CET points required to maintain your professional registration. You will be able to choose modules from a selection which you can tailor to your level of existing expertise and type of clinical practice.

// Face-to-face components on most modules which focusses on case discussions and clinical pearls. These will give you the opportunity to observe real patients and discuss their cases. The option to develop advanced clinical skills within custom-designed patient teaching clinics with one-to-one supervision at Moorfields Eye Hospital.

Most of the programme is delivered via distance learning which will include online lectures, videos, webinars, and assignments. Some modules will have a one or two-day face to face component where you will apply what you have learned online. These face to face components will be delivered during three intensive teaching weeks at the end of the second semester and will include lectures, workshops, tutorials, case discussions and patient examination sessions delivered by consultant ophthalmologists, fellows and senior specialist optometrists at Moorfields Eye Hospital. Assignments, multiple choice questions, short answer questions, patient management case scenarios, visual recognition and interpretation of clinical scenarios, objective structured case scenarios, VIVA exams which will be delivered during three intensive assessment weeks at the end of the third semester.

**Accreditation**

Some modules can be taken as College of Optometrists Higher Qualifications. These can only be obtained by UK-based GOC registered optometrists. A clinical placement may be required for some levels, which you will need to arrange. The clinical placement for some modules are available at Moorfields Eye Hospital. Please contact module leaders for more information.

**Degree structure**

Mode: Full-time: 1 year; Part-time: 2 years; Flexible: up to 5 years

Location: London, Old Street

Students must complete 180 credits for the MSc Modules and duration

MSc (180 credits) Full time 1 year Part time 2 years Flexible 5 years

PGDip (120 credits): Full time 1 year Part time 2 years

PGCert (60 credits) Full time 1 year Part time 2 years

Please note that the list of modules given here is indicative. This information is published a long time in advance of enrolment and module content and availability is subject to change.

**COMPULSORY MODULES**

* Research and Statistics - 15 credits
* Dissertation - 60 credits

**OPTIONAL MODULES**

* Glaucoma Level 1 - 15 credits
* Glaucoma Level 2 - 15 credits
* Glaucoma Level 3 - 30 credits
* Medical Retina Level 1 - 15 credits
* Medical Contact Lenses Level 1 - 30 credits
* Medical Contact Lenses Level 2 - 30 credits
* Independent Prescribing Level 1 - 15 credits
* Clinical Leadership Level 1 - 15 credits

You should complete level 1 before commencing level 2 and must complete this before embarking on level 3 etc. However, you may choose to mix subject to make up your MSc.

For a full time MSc, 120 credits and the dissertation should be taken in one academic year

For a 2-year part time route, 60 credits should be taken per annum and the dissertation.

For a 5-year flexible MSc, 30 credits should be taken per annum and a dissertation in the final year.

**DISSERTATION/REPORT**

* The MSc programme will culminate in a dissertation.

The programme team support students in obtaining placements in relevant fields, but this is not a formal part of the UCL programme and is entirely optional. For students doing the UK College of Optometrists qualifications, a placement is a College requirements.

Additional costs will apply for students who wish to do a placement at Moorfields Eye Hospital.
Your career

Training will enable multidisciplinary ophthalmic clinicians and scientists to carry out extended roles in ophthalmology as well as providing the scientific knowledge required in these areas.

Employability

The programme is designed to teach you to apply knowledge from a range of clinical subjects to extended roles in ophthalmology and advanced clinical practice in optometry and clinical leadership. Innovative and authentic learning methods help you to develop necessary skills such as clinical decision making, critical appraisal of evidence, and reflective practice.
Entry requirements

A minimum of an upper second-class UK BSc (Hons) Optometry, Orthoptics, Nursing or an overseas qualification of an equivalent standard. Applicants with other appropriate professional qualifications and/or work experience will also be considered on an individual basis. Overseas students will have to provide evidence of their proficiency in the English language. Applicants wanting to take the contact lens modules are required to have an upper-second class UK BSc (Hons) Dispensing (for students who want to take the contact lens modules).

English language proficiency level

If your education has not been conducted in the English language, you will be expected to demonstrate evidence of an adequate level of English proficiency.

The level of English language proficiency for this programme is: Good. Information about the evidence required, acceptable qualifications and test providers is provided at: www.ucl.ac.uk/graduate/english-requirements

Your application

Students are advised to apply as early as possible due to competition for places. Those applying for scholarship funding (particularly overseas applicants) should take note of application deadlines. When we assess your application we would like to learn:

- why you want to study Advanced Clinical Optometry and Ophthalmology at graduate level
- why you want to study Advanced Clinical Optometry and Ophthalmology at UCL
- what particularly attracts you to the chosen programme
- how your academic and professional background meets the demands of this challenging programme
- where you would like to go professionally with your degree.

Together with essential academic requirements, the personal statement is your opportunity to illustrate whether your reasons for applying to this programme match what the programme will deliver.

This is a very rewarding, challenging programme and preference will be given to those candidates who meet the academic criteria and those who are able to demonstrate a clear commitment to the programme of study. This should be demonstrated as part of your personal statement on the application form. Candidates must be able to meet all deadlines and attend all of the teaching sessions.

There is an application processing fee for this programme of £75 for online applications and £100 for paper applications. Further information can be found at: www.ucl.ac.uk/prospective-students/graduate/taught/application.

FEES AND FUNDING 2019/20 ENTRY

- UK: £10,150 (FT), £5,100 (PT)
- EU: £10,150 (FT), £5,100 (PT)
- Overseas: £20,170 (FT), £10,150 (PT)

The tuition fees shown are for the year indicated above. Fees for subsequent years may increase or otherwise vary. Further information on fee status, fee increases and the fee schedule can be viewed on the UCL Students website.

Fees for flexible, modular study are charged pro-rata to the appropriate full-time Master’s fee taken in an academic session.

Full details of funding opportunities can be found on the UCL Scholarships website: www.ucl.ac.uk/scholarships

APPLICATION DEADLINE

All applicants: 26 July 2019

Details on how to apply are available on the website at: www.ucl.ac.uk/graduate/apply

CONTACT

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EU referendum

For up-to-date information relating to specific key questions following the UK’s decision to leave the EU, please refer to www.ucl.ac.uk brexit