2002

College of Optometry Program Overview

Nova Southeastern University

Follow this and additional works at: https://nsuworks.nova.edu/hpd_coursecatalogs

Part of the Optometry Commons

NSUWorks Citation
Nova Southeastern University, "College of Optometry Program Overview" (2002). Health Professions Divisions Course Catalogs. 187. https://nsuworks.nova.edu/hpd_coursecatalogs/187

This Program Overview is brought to you for free and open access by the NSU Course Catalogs and Course Descriptions at NSUWorks. It has been accepted for inclusion in Health Professions Divisions Course Catalogs by an authorized administrator of NSUWorks. For more information, please contact nsuworks@nova.edu.
Health Professions Division

NSU NOVA SOUTHEASTERN UNIVERSITY

COLLEGE OF OPTOMETRY
2002 Entering Class
Nova Southeastern University, synonymous with dynamic innovation and intellectual challenge, is the largest independent not-for-profit university in the State of Florida, and, with an enrollment of approximately 20,000, among the 20 largest in the United States. Situated on a beautiful 232-acre campus in Fort Lauderdale, Florida, the University is experiencing a sustained period of academic growth, fiscal strength, and commitment to the challenges of the 21st century.

In this environment of expansion and stability, the University is capitalizing on its strengths in such areas as academic innovation, comprehensive clinical training, and flexible educational delivery systems.

Founded in 1964 as Nova University, the institution merged with Southeastern University of the Health Sciences in 1994, creating Nova Southeastern University. To date, the institution has graduated over 55,000 alumni. Fully accredited by the Commission on Colleges of the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools, the University awards bachelor's, master's, educational specialist, and doctoral degrees in a wide range of fields including, in addition to the health professions, law, business, marine sciences, psychology, social sciences, computer and information sciences, and education.

The University's programs are administered through fifteen academic centers that offer courses at the main campus as well as at field-based locations throughout Florida, across the nation, and at selected international sites in Europe, Canada, the Pacific Rim, Central and South America, and the Caribbean.

With a budget of over $200 million a year and an upward trend in enrollment, the University will continue to maintain a solid record of academic and fiscal strength and excellence in teaching and community service, while expanding its mission in research and scholarship.
MISSION STATEMENT

Nova Southeastern University is a dynamic, not-for-profit, independent institution dedicated to providing high quality educational programs of distinction from preschool to the professional and doctoral levels, as well as service to the community.

Nova Southeastern University prepares students for lifelong learning and leadership roles in business and the professions. It offers academic programs at times convenient to students, employing innovative delivery systems and rich learning resources on campus and at distant sites. The University fosters inquiry, research, and creative professional activity by uniting faculty and students in acquiring and applying knowledge in clinical, community, and professional settings.
As a student in the Health Professions Division of Nova Southeastern University, you can anticipate a remarkable experience. You will train, study, interact, and share facilities, faculty, and resources with other health professions students. This interdisciplinary approach distinguishes the Health Professions Division as unique, and will better prepare you to master your discipline with a sensitivity and understanding of the entire health care system. We think this is an opportunity unmatched in health professions education.

The Health Professions Division, with a student body of more than 2,500, is home to the only College of Optometry in the state of Florida. The College of Optometry awards the Doctor of Optometry (O.D.) degree. The Division has five other colleges. The College of Osteopathic Medicine, the first one in the southeastern United States, grants the Doctor of Osteopathic Medicine (D.O.) degree. The College of Pharmacy, the only one in South Florida, offers the Doctor of Pharmacy (Pharm.D.) degree. The College of Allied Health offers a dual degree Physician Assistant program that awards the Bachelor of Science/Master of Public Health (B.S./M.P.H.), as well as master's level Occupational Therapy (M.O.T.), Physical Therapy (M.P.T.) and Public Health (M.P.H.) programs and doctoral programs in Occupational Therapy (Dr.O.T.) and Physical Therapy (Ph.D., P.T.). In addition to these programs, the College of Allied Health offers a Master of Medical Science (M.M.S.) degree open to practicing mid-level clinicians and allied health professionals. The College of Medical Sciences grants the Master of Biomedical Sciences (M.B.S.) degree, and in the Fall of 1997, the College of Dental Medicine admitted its charter class into the Doctor of Dental Medicine (D.M.D.) program.

You will study in the newly dedicated $60 million Health Professions Division complex, covering 21 acres of the University campus. The Division includes eight buildings totaling 900,000 square feet of space for classrooms, laboratories, offices, the Health Professions Division Library, an outpatient health center, and a pharmaceutical care center. The adjacent 1,600-vehicle parking garage overlooks the Miami Dolphins Training Camp.
The Doctor of Optometry program at Nova Southeastern University College of Optometry is accredited by the American Optometric Association’s Council on Optometric Education. The AOA Council on Optometric Education (243 N. Lindbergh Ave., St. Louis, MO, 63141; telephone number 800-365-2219) is the accrediting body for programs in colleges and schools of optometry in the United States.

Nova Southeastern University is accredited by the Commission on Colleges of the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools (1866 Southern Lane, Decatur, Georgia 30033-4097; telephone number 404-679-4501) to award bachelor’s, master’s, educational specialist, and doctoral degrees.

Policy of Non-Discrimination

Nova Southeastern University admits students of any race, color, sex, age, non-disqualifying disability, religion or creed, or national or ethnic origin to all the rights, privileges, programs, and activities generally accorded or made available to students at the school, and does not discriminate in administration of its educational policies, admissions policies, scholarship and loan programs, and athletic and other school-administered programs.

This brochure is for information purposes only and does not represent a contract. Information contained herein is subject to change at any time by administrative decision or the direction of the Board of Trustees.
Optometric physicians serve a vital role in today's health care system as primary vision care providers. The extent of the profession is expanding rapidly and the breadth of training for modern optometry students must keep pace with these changes. At Nova Southeastern University, the College of Optometry is rooted in the Health Professions Division, along with medicine, dentistry, pharmacy, and allied health, as a reflection of the expanded scope and stature of the optometric profession. The modern facilities and equipment enhance learning, beginning with training in the basic medical and optometric sciences and continuing throughout your clinical experiences. Our faculty, representing all of the optometric specialties, are dedicated to optimal teaching by using traditional and modern technology in both classroom and clinical settings.

You will have the opportunity for a diverse clinical experience within the College's Eye Institute as well as at selected clinical venues from our externship program. Whether you choose to practice in an urban or rural community or a private, corporate or public health setting, the Optometry Program will prepare you to provide quality eye care with an interdisciplinary approach. This makes the NSU Optometry Program truly unique. If you have the interest, desire, and dedication to become an eye care professional, I encourage you to apply to our program.

David S. Loshin, O.D., Ph.D.
Dean
MISSION STATEMENT
of the College of Optometry

To educate and train optometric physicians to practice
at the highest level of proficiency, integrity, and professionalism,
and to provide a multidisciplinary environment that encourages and supports
lifelong learning, scholarship, and community service.

One of our most precious gifts is sight, and the optometric physician is
dedicated to the preservation and enhancement of this gift. The optometric
physician, through academic and clinical training, is able to examine, diagnose,
treat and manage disorders and diseases of the visual system and associated
structures. The profession of optometry offers many challenges and rewards to
those willing to devote themselves to serving others through a lifetime of study
and dedication to excellence.

Nova Southeastern University College of Optometry is the only optometric
academic institution in the state of Florida. Students are able to enjoy South
Florida’s renowned weather, beaches and other attractions and participate in the
college’s numerous active optometric student organizations while receiving a
strong didactic and clinical training that will thoroughly prepare them for their
professional careers.
COURSE OF STUDY

The Doctor of Optometry degree is awarded after successful completion of four years of professional study. The didactic focus of the first two years is in the basic sciences, including biochemistry, microbiology, anatomy, physiology, pharmacology, optics, and the vision sciences. Concurrently, students initiate the study of general optometric theory and methods, general pathology and diagnosis, treatment and management of binocular vision anomalies in preparation for direct patient care in our primary care clinics.

In the third academic year, students provide supervised direct patient care in our clinics, The Eye Institute. They also study general physical assessment, contact lenses, pediatric, geriatric, and rehabilitative optometry and develop a deeper understanding and ability to diagnose, treat, and manage increasingly complex ocular and systemic conditions. The fourth year of the academic program is entirely clinical with intensive training in the University-based Eye Institute or affiliated external primary, specialty, and medical/surgical care facilities. By the completion of the four-year academic program, our students have been trained to be optometric physicians capable of providing quality eye care.

For further information on the profession and optometric education, please refer to the following Websites:

Association of Schools & Colleges of Optometry (ASCO)
www.opted.org

American Optometric Association (AOA)
www.aoanet.org
## FIRST YEAR

### Fall Semester
- OPT 1011 Histology & Embryology
- OPTC 1134 Gross Anatomy/Anatomy of the Head & Neck
- OPTC 1233 Biochemistry
- OPT 1323 Microbiology
- OPT 1445 Geometric Optics
- OPT 1511 Vision Testing and Technology
- OPT 1621 Public Health I
- OPT 1724 Optometric Theory and Methods I

### Winter Semester
- OPTC 2023 General Neuroanatomy
- OPTC 2144 General Physiology
- OPT 2223 Physical Optics
- OPT 2323 Visual Optics
- OPT 2422 Ocular Anatomy
- OPT 2522 Visual Neurophysiology
- OPT 2622 Ocular Motility
- OPT 2724 Optometric Theory and Methods II
- OPT 2822 Public Health II

## SECOND YEAR

### Fall Semester
- OPTC 3033 General Pathology
- OPT 3122 Ocular Physiology
- OPTC 3244 General Pharmacology I
- OPT 3344 Psychophysics/Monocular Sensory Processes
- OPT 3434 Ophthalmic Optics I
- OPT 3533 Ocular Disease I (Anterior Segment)
- OPT 3624 Optometric Theory and Methods III
- OPT 3741 Vision Screening I

### Winter Semester
- OPTC 4022 General Pharmacology II
- OPT 4122 Ocular Pharmacology
- OPT 4234 Ophthalmic Optics II
- OPT 4322 Introduction to Binocular Vision
- OPT 4434 Anomalies of Binocular Vision
- OPT 4524 Optometric Theory and Methods IV
- OPT 4633 Ocular Disease II (Posterior Segment)
- OPT 4722 Public Health III
- OCS 4811 Public Health IV: Epidemiology
- OPT 4941 Vision Screening II

## THIRD YEAR

### Summer Session
- OPT 7111 Primary Care Clinic I
- OPT 5021 Clinic Conference

### Fall Semester
- OPT 5023 Anomalies of Binocular Vision II
- OPT 5123 Contact Lenses I
- OPT 5233 Ocular Disease III: Ocular/Systemic Disease
- OPT 5323 Clinical Medicine/Physical Diagnosis Laboratory
- OPT 5522 Practice Management I
- OPT 5633 Learning Disabilities/Pediatrics
- OPT 7122 Primary Care Clinic II

### Winter Semester
- OPT 6123 Contact Lenses II
- OPT 6233 Ocular Disease IV: Neuro-Optometry

## FOURTH YEAR

### OPT 6323 Rehabilitative Optometry
- OPT 5411 Geriatric Optometry
- OPT 6411 Environmental Optometry
- OPT 6522 Practice Management II
- OPT 7132 Primary Care Clinic III

- OPT 7146 Primary Care Clinical Externship
- OPT 7214 Cornea and Contact Lens Externship
- OPT 7224 Pediatric and Binocular Vision Externship
- OPT 7233 Vision Rehabilitation and Geriatric Externship
- OPT 7308 Medical/Surgical Care Clinical Externship
- OPT 7408 Clinic Elective Externship

---

*The curriculum is frequently being revised and modified to meet the demands of the profession. These courses are representative of the overall requirements of the program at the time of publication.*
The College of Optometry selects students based on the candidate's application content, pre-professional academic performance, scores from the Optometry Admissions Test (OAT), letters of evaluation and personal interview.

Prior to matriculation, applicants must have completed a minimum of 90 semester hours (30 of which must be taken at a four-year institution) of specified course work at a regionally accredited college or university. Applicants should have a minimum 2.75 GPA on a four-point scale.

For the entering class of 2002, the College requires students to earn a grade of 2.0 or better in each of the following required courses. For subsequent entering classes, please contact the Office of Admissions for any changes.

### REQUIRED COURSES

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course</th>
<th>Semester Hours</th>
<th>Quarter Hours</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Mathematics Calculus</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sciences:</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Physics, including laboratory</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Biology, including laboratory</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chemistry, including laboratory</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Organic Chemistry, including laboratory</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Select TWO of the following:</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Microbiology or Biochemistry or Anatomy or Physiology, including appropriate laboratory</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Social/Behavioral Sciences/ Humanities</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>22</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>English (composition, literature, etc.)</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Strongly recommended background:**

Statistics

Computer Literacy

Inquiries should be directed to:

Nova Southeastern University
College of Optometry
Attn: Office of Admissions
3200 South University Drive
Ft. Lauderdale, Florida 33328
(954) 262-1101 or (800) 356-0026, ext. 1101
Website: www.nova.edu/optometry
email: optadmit@nova.edu

Optometry Admission Test

All applicants are required to take the Optometry Admission Test. This examination, offered twice a year, usually in February (spring) and October (fall), evaluates the applicant's knowledge of biology, general and organic chemistry, reading comprehension, quantitative reasoning, and physics.

Applicants are encouraged to take the examination in the fall of the year preceding anticipated application. If the results of the fall examination can be improved, the applicant can repeat the examination in the spring. For testing schedules and locations, please contact:

Optometry Admission Test
211 East Chicago Avenue
Chicago, Illinois 60611
(312) 440-2693
The Office of Admissions works on a rolling admissions basis. Applications are accepted from August 15 to April 1. Entering students are admitted to the program for the fall semester only. The application form, supporting documents and a non-refundable fee of $50.00 must be submitted by April 1. Since applications received early in the application cycle will be given priority consideration, it is in the best interest of prospective students to complete their applications quickly.

A complete application is required before an applicant can be considered. This includes the application form, application fee, a complete set of official transcripts, official Optometry Admission Test (OAT) scores, and letters of evaluation.

Application

1. The application for admission can be submitted electronically through an interactive web-based application, which can be accessed through:

   www.nova.edu/optometry/admissions

2. Applicants may also have an application mailed to them. Please contact the Office of Admissions.

3. All applications must be submitted with the application fee in order to be processed.

Transcripts

Official transcripts of all work attempted at all colleges and universities must be forwarded, by the institutions attended, to the Office of Admissions, College of Optometry. It is the responsibility of the applicant to ensure that arrangements are made for these transcripts to be sent. A final transcript, covering all of the applicant’s work, must be forwarded to the Office of Admissions prior to matriculation.

Letters of Evaluation

An evaluation by a pre-professional health advisor or committee is required from the applicant’s undergraduate institution. If this evaluation cannot be provided, three individual letters of evaluation are required from undergraduate instructors, two from science instructors and one from a non-science instructor. If possible, these letters should be from faculty who know the applicant’s scholastic abilities and personal characteristics. A site visit to an optometrist’s office and a letter of evaluation from the optometrist is also required.

Interview

A personal interview is an integral part of the admissions process; however, being granted an interview is not a guarantee of admission. It should also be clearly understood that not all applicants will be granted an interview. The Office of Admissions will notify those who are selected for an interview of the date and time of such interview.

Dual Admissions Program

A dual admissions program is open to eligible high school students only. For information and requirements, contact:

Nova Southeastern University
Office of Admissions
Farquhar Center for Undergraduate Studies
3301 College Avenue
Fort Lauderdale, Florida 33314
(954) 262-8000
Transfer Students

Circumstances may warrant that a student enrolled in one optometric college seeks to transfer to another institution. Any individual wishing to transfer to Nova Southeastern University College of Optometry must meet the following criteria.

The applicant must:

1. Meet all admissions requirements to NSU College of Optometry, which include submitting official transcripts of all college work (including optometric transcripts), Optometry Admission Test (OAT) scores, National Board (NBEO) scores, if taken, and letters of evaluation. The applicant must be interviewed.

2. Be in good standing at the transferring institution, as documented by a letter from the Dean of the transferring institution.

3. Supply a written statement outlining reasons for request to transfer.

Decisions on transfer applications are made by the Dean. The decision will be based on factors which include, but are not limited to: academic record, circumstances leading to the transfer request, available space, and admissions standards. The College of Optometry will evaluate such credit and grant that which is appropriate, with total course work and total tuition reduced proportionately.

Send inquiries to:

Nova Southeastern University
College of Optometry
Office of the Dean
3200 South University Drive
Ft. Lauderdale, FL 33328

Foreign Course Work

Undergraduate course work taken at a foreign institution must be evaluated for U.S. institution equivalence. Foreign course work must be evaluated on a course-by-course basis by one of the services listed below. You should contact one of the following:

World Education Services, Inc.
P.O. Box 745 Old Chelsea Station
New York, NY 10113-0745
(212) 966-6311

World Education Services, Inc.
P.O. Box 01-5060
Miami, Florida 33101
(305) 358-6688
www.wes.org

Josef Silny & Associates, Inc.
International Education Consultants
P.O. Box 248233
Coral Gables, FL 33124
(305) 273-1616
www.jsilny.com

Educational Credential Evaluators, Inc.
P.O. Box 514070
Milwaukee, WI 53203-3470
(414) 289-3400
www.ece.org

It is the applicant’s responsibility to have this course work evaluated and an official evaluation must be sent to the Office of Admissions.

Student Housing

Located in close proximity to the Health Professions Division, Nova Southeastern University's on-campus residence halls offer one-bedroom (single) and two-bedroom (double) apartments, and married housing. Numerous apartments, condominiums, and other rental facilities are also located near campus. Information concerning housing may be obtained from the:

Office of Residential Life
Nova Southeastern University
3301 College Avenue
Ft. Lauderdale, Florida 33314
(954) 262-7052
Tuition & Fees

Anticipated tuition for 2002-2003 (subject to change by the Board of Trustees without notice): $15,995 for Florida residents and $19,995 for out-of-state students. In addition, a student activities fee of $125 each year is required from all students.

Eligible students must request in-state tuition at the time of application. For tuition purposes, students' Florida residency status (in-state or out-of-state) will be determined at initial matriculation and will remain the same throughout the entire enrollment of the student at NSU.

Accordingly, tuition will not be adjusted as a result of any change in residency status after initial enrollment registration.

Acceptance Fee: $100. This fee is required to reserve the accepted applicant's place in the entering first-year class. This advance payment will be deducted from the tuition payment due on Registration Day, but is not refundable in the event of a withdrawal. It is payable within two weeks of an applicant's acceptance.

Deposit: $400. This is due March 15, under the same terms as the Acceptance Fee.

Pre-registration Fee: $500. This is due May 15, under the same terms as the Acceptance Fee.

University Technology Fee: not to exceed $100 when implemented.

College Laboratory Fee: not to exceed $100 when implemented.

The first semester's tuition and fees, less the $1,000 previously paid, are due on or before Registration Day. Tuition for each subsequent semester is due on or before the appropriate Registration Day. Students will not be permitted to register until their financial obligations have been met.

The financial ability of applicants to complete their training at the College is important because of the limited number of positions available in each class. Applicants should have specific plans for financing four years of professional education. This should include tuition, living expenses, books, equipment, and miscellaneous expenses.

It is required that each student carry adequate personal medical and hospital insurance. Students may avail themselves of the hospitalization insurance plan obtainable through the University.

Expenses & Financial Aid

Students should anticipate spending approximately $2,000 a year for books, a one-time $5,000 expense for equipment, and $13,000 for living expenses for a nine-month academic year.

Students who do not own a computer with the specified configuration will be required to purchase one.

The primary financial responsibility for a student's education rests with the student and his or her family, but economic circumstances for some families may make it necessary for the student to obtain assistance from other sources.

The purpose of the Student Financial Aid Program at Nova Southeastern University is to help as many qualified students as possible to complete their health professions education. Various loans, scholarships, and grants are available to qualified students to help ease the high cost of a health professions education. These financial assistance programs are described in a separate University publication: A Guide to Student Financial Assistance. For a copy or information, contact:

Nova Southeastern University
Department of Student Financial Aid
3301 College Avenue
Ft. Lauderdale, FL 33314
(954) 262-3380

For general information about financial aid, call 800-806-3680 or go to www.nova.edu.

Opportunity for a limited number of part-time work assignments is available. However, the demands of a program of professional study limit the number of hours a student can work.
WELCOME TO OUR CAMPUS

1 TERRY ADMINISTRATION BUILDING
First Floor
- Student Affairs
- Admissions
- Financial Aid
- HPD Cafeteria

Second Floor
- College of Allied Health
- Occupational Therapy Program
- Physical Therapy Program
- Physician Assistant Program
- Public Health Program
- Medical Science Program

Third Floor
- College of Medical Sciences
- College of Pharmacy

Fourth Floor
- College of Osteopathic Medicine
- College of Optometry

Fifth Floor
- HPD Administration

2 ASSEMBLY BUILDING
- Finkelstein Auditorium- 125 seat
- Jonas Auditorium- 125 seat
- Melnick Auditorium- 125 seat
- Resnick Auditorium- 125 seat
- Terry Auditorium- 125 seat
- Auditoria A, B, and C- 125 seats each
- Robert A. Steele Auditorium- 500 seat
- Hull Auditorium- 250 seat
- Seminar Rooms

3 LIBRARY/LABORATORY BUILDING
First Floor
- Drug Information Center
- Harvey Cardiac Simulation Room
- HPD Library
- Student Computer Laboratory
- Patient Simulation Center

Second Floor
- Occupational Therapy Laboratories
- Optometry Laboratories
- Physical Therapy Laboratory
- Student Lounge

FO.M.A. Osteopathic Manipulative Medicine Laboratory

Third Floor
- Basic Science Laboratories
- Gross Anatomy Laboratories
- Microscopy Laboratory
- Research Laboratories
- Moran Pharmacy Practice Laboratory
- Pharmacokinetics Laboratory
- Pharmacaceutics Laboratory

4 CAMPUS PHARMACY AND PHARMACEUTICAL CARE CENTER

5 SANFORD L. ZIFF HEALTH CARE CENTER
First Floor
- Family Medicine
- Occupational Therapy
- Pediatrics

Second Floor
- Optometry Clinics
- Optometry Dispensary

Third Floor
- Business Offices
- Specialty Clinics (Cardiology, Internal Medicine, Osteopathic Manipulative Medicine, Pulmonary Medicine)
- Emergency Medicine Training Center
6 DENTAL MEDICINE BUILDING
First Floor
Oral Medicine and Radiology Clinic
Oral Surgery Clinic
Student Dental Clinic

Second Floor
Faculty Practice
Advanced Education in General Dentistry Clinic
Postgraduate Endodontic Clinic
Postgraduate Orthodontic Clinic
Postgraduate Pediatric Dentistry Clinic
Postgraduate Periodontic Clinic
Postgraduate Prosthodontic Clinic

Third Floor
Auditorium
Central Sterilization Area
Faculty Offices
Student Dental Supply Depot

7 PARKING GARAGE

8 HPD ASSEMBLY BUILDING
Auditorium
Computer Science Laboratory
Seminar Rooms

Directions From Fort Lauderdale/Hollywood International Airport
Take I-595 west to University Drive. Exit, go south to S.W. 30th Street.
Turn left and make an immediate right into the Health Professions Division Complex.

From I-95, North or South, or Florida's Turnpike, North or South
Take I-95, exit westbound. Proceed on I-595 to University Drive. Exit, go south to S.W. 30th Street.
Turn left and make an immediate right into the Health Professions Division Complex.