PROGRAMME SPECIFICATION – UNDERGRADUATE PROGRAMMES

KEY FACTS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Programme name</th>
<th>Advanced Ophthalmic Dispensing (top-up)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Award</td>
<td>BSc (Hons)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>School</td>
<td>School of Health Sciences</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Department or equivalent</td>
<td>Department of Optometry and Visual Science</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Programme code</td>
<td>USADOD</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Type of study</td>
<td>Full Time</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total UK credits</td>
<td>120</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total ECTS</td>
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PROGRAMME SUMMARY

The overall aims and objectives of this programme are consistent with the University’s strategic aims, in particular ‘to provide high quality education which meets the needs of our students and their employers’. CU and CIC already collaborate to deliver the Foundation Degree in Ophthalmic Dispensing, of which the current submission represents the Honours third year required by HEFCE.

The profession of ophthalmic dispensing is regulated by a statutory body, the General Optical Council (GOC), which is charged with promoting the standards of professional education and conduct among dispensing opticians.

The current requirement for the registration of dispensing opticians is that students should satisfy the examination requirements of the Association of British Dispensing Opticians (ABDO), and have completed a year in pre-registration practice. A new core curriculum for dispensing opticians has been introduced by the GOC, which amplifies and extends the ABDO syllabus in a number of areas. The GOC has also published, in draft form, a series of core competencies which dispensing opticians are expected to acquire by the time of registration, and to maintain throughout their careers.

Aims

The overall educational aim of the BSc is to provide undergraduate education which:
- Is underpinned by clinical practice in the workplace and research
- Integrates the development of scientific/theoretical knowledge and clinical skills and competencies acquired in the workplace
- Enables students to contribute to the development of their profession
- Uses a variety of teaching and clinically appropriate assessment methods, including assessment of performance in the workplace
- Is enjoyable and intellectually challenging
- Provides a supportive environment for students and uses appropriate learning resources
- Further develops students analytical, critical and problem-solving faculties and their ability to produce original work: and to foster their personal development
- Develops reflective practitioners
- Enables individuals to practice safely by affirming:
  - an appropriate level of competence (consistent with satisfying the GOC
core competencies)
  o a level of self-awareness that encourages recognition by a practitioner of his/her own limits
  o the knowledge to meet likely future developments in dispensing practice

WHAT WILL I BE EXPECTED TO ACHIEVE?

On successful completion of this programme, you will be expected to be able to:

Knowledge and understanding:
  • Have a systematic understanding and a coherent and detailed knowledge of concepts, principles, and procedures in ophthalmic dispensing

Skills:
  • Critically evaluate sources of information both generic and in dispensing optics
  • Evaluate knowledge and information to make informed judgements, identify a range of solutions to a problem, and solve clinical problems in ophthalmic dispensing
  • Possess interpersonal and group process skills relevant to ophthalmic dispensing.
  • Interpret results from various sources
  • Apply the knowledge and techniques you have learned to your professional dispensing practice
  • Apply analytical and problem-solving skills in a variety of theoretical and practical situations
  • Reflect on your professional and learning experience and undertake appropriate further development autonomously
  • Advance own IT knowledge and understanding and develop IT skills to a higher level
  • Communicate results effectively
  • Other transferable and key skills relevant to ophthalmic dispensing

Values and attitudes:
  • Apply professional ethical codes and values to clinical situations
  • Have a professional and courteous manner in dealing with the general public

This programme has been developed in accordance with the QAA Subject Benchmark for Optometry.

HOW WILL I LEARN?

The BSc Honours year is designed to satisfy the academic, clinical and professional development needs of dispensing opticians. Teaching and assessment methods are tailored to the learning objectives of each module component, and incorporate both the workplace dispensing practice and university/college environments. You will study at
City University London, with a small amount of teaching at City and Islington College (CIC), under a service teaching agreement, and in dispensing practice. The range of teaching methods is wide and includes work-based learning through reflective learning logs and case studies, lectures, tutorials, and clinical training in the university and college. Work-based learning develops clinical skills and competencies. Lectures are used to communicate core material and as a foundation for further reading. Practical classes provide opportunities to develop clinical skills and to give demonstrations of techniques covered in lectures. The lectures are delivered by staff from both CIC and CU. Module notes are provided, however, students are expected to take notes and undertake thorough background reading. Reading lists are provided for this purpose.

With reference to the BSc project/dissertation, activities which contribute to the teaching and learning process include: searching the library/internet for pertinent research, and sending interim project/dissertation drafts to project/dissertation supervisors for informal feedback.

The practice supervisor will oversee your clinical experience in the practice workplace. During the honours year, you must complete under supervision 20 advanced dispensings. Your attendance at the practice placement is validated by the practice supervisor, as are the tasks set out in the workplace practice logbook. Following each advanced dispensing you will reflect on what you have learned from the experience and note this in the reflective log section of the record. Three of these dispensings will additionally be written up as formal case studies. The Clinical Placement Tutor assesses all logbooks and this assessment contributes 25% towards the assessment in the Advanced Dispensing and Delegated Functions Module. The practice supervisor signs off each dispensing as it is completed.

WHAT TYPES OF ASSESSMENT AND FEEDBACK CAN I EXPECT?

Assessment and Assessment Criteria

Methods of assessment include:-

- End of year written examinations.
- A clinical station examination assessing core advanced dispensing and delegated functions skills
- Laboratory/clinic based coursework
- A management business plan
- Assessment of performance in the workplace through reflective learning logs, and case studies. The student’s project/dissertation supervisor and a second marker assess the BSc project.

Assessment Criteria are descriptions, based on the intended learning outcomes, of the skills, knowledge or attitudes that you need to demonstrate in order to complete an assessment successfully, providing a mechanism by which the quality of an assessment can be measured. Grade-Related Criteria are descriptions of the level of skills, knowledge or attributes that you need to demonstrate in order achieve a certain grade or mark in an assessment, providing a mechanism by which the quality of an assessment can be measured and placed within the overall set of marks. Assessment Criteria and Grade-Related Criteria will be made available to you to support you in completing
assessments. These may be provided in programme handbooks, module specifications, on the virtual learning environment or attached to a specific assessment task.

Feedback on assessment

Feedback will be provided in line with our Assessment and Feedback Policy. In particular, you will normally be provided with feedback within three weeks of the submission deadline or assessment date. This would normally include a provisional grade or mark. For end of module examinations or an equivalent significant task (e.g. an end of module project), feedback will normally be provided within four weeks. The timescale for feedback on final year projects or dissertations may be longer. The full policy can be found at:

Assessment Regulations

In order to pass your Programme, you should complete successfully or be exempted from the relevant modules and assessments and will therefore acquire the required number of credits. You also need to pass each Part of your Programme in order to progress to the following Part.

The BSc programme contains one part.

The Pass mark for each module is 40%.

If you fail an assessment component or a module, you will normally be offered one resit attempt. However, if you did not participate in the first assessment and have no extenuating circumstances, you may not be offered a resit.

If you are successful in the resit, you shall be awarded the credit for that module. The mark used for the purpose of calculation towards your Award shall be calculated from the original marks for the component(s) that you passed at first attempt and the minimum pass mark for the component(s) for which you took a resit.

If you do not satisfy your resit by the date specified you will not progress to the next Part and the Assessment Board shall require that you withdraw from the Programme.

If you fail to meet the requirements for a particular Part, then a lower qualification may be awarded as per the table below. If you fail to meet the requirements for a particular Part and are not eligible for the award of a lower level qualification, the Assessment Board shall require that you withdraw from the Programme.

If you would like to know more about the way in which assessment works at City, please see the full version of the Assessment Regulations at:
http://www.city.ac.uk/__data/assets/word_doc/0003/69249/s19.doc
WHAT AWARD CAN I GET?

Bachelor's Degree with Honours:

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Part</th>
<th>HE Level</th>
<th>Credits</th>
<th>Weighting (%)</th>
<th>Class</th>
<th>% required</th>
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<td>I</td>
<td>70</td>
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<td>II lower division</td>
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WHAT WILL I STUDY?

Part 1

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<tr>
<th>Module Title</th>
<th>SITS Code</th>
<th>Module Credits</th>
<th>Core/ Elective</th>
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<th>Level</th>
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<td>30</td>
<td>C</td>
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<td>30</td>
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<td>Visual Impairment (Low Vision)</td>
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<td>C</td>
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TO WHAT KIND OF CAREER MIGHT I GO ON?

This course leads to a rewarding career as a dispensing optician, a specialist trained to dispense and fit ophthalmic lenses and spectacle frames and to recognise basic ocular disorders.

If you would like more information on the Careers support available at City, please go to: [http://www.city.ac.uk/careers/for-students-and-recent-graduates](http://www.city.ac.uk/careers/for-students-and-recent-graduates).

WHAT PLACEMENT OPPORTUNITIES ARE AVAILABLE?

You will undertake placement learning as part of the programme

WILL I GET ANY PROFESSIONAL RECOGNITION?

The course is accredited by the General Optical Council (GOC). On completion, graduates may gain exemption from the theory exams of the Association of British Dispensing Opticians and continue their pre-registration training to become a registered dispensing optician or continue their studies to obtain an honours degree in Advanced Ophthalmic Dispensing (one year) or Optometry (minimum two years).
### HOW DO I ENTER THE PROGRAMME?

Candidates will be considered for admission to the BSc (Hons) if they possess:

1. A Foundation Degree in Ophthalmic Dispensing (FDOD) from this or another Institution
2. An equivalent qualification from a recognised awarding body
3. A professional qualification judged to be appropriate by the Advanced Ophthalmic Dispensing Academic Board against APL criteria which will follow the University guidelines

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