No person shall, on the basis of race, religion, gender, age, disability, sexual orientation or national origin, be excluded from participation in, be denied the benefits of or be subjected to discrimination or harassment under any program or activity at Southern College of Optometry. The college is an Equal Opportunity Employer.

The edition of the Southern College of Optometry catalog is effective for the academic year 2017-2018 and contains information current as of July 2017. Inasmuch as changes may be necessary from time to time, this catalog should not be construed as constituting a contract between the college and any person.

For information:
Southern College of Optometry • 1245 Madison Avenue • Memphis, TN 38104
(901) 722.3200 • (800) 238.0180 • www.sco.edu
The Southern College of Optometry is accredited by the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Commission on Colleges (SACSCOC) to award the Doctor of Optometry degree. Contact SACSCOC at 1866 Southern Lane, Decatur, Georgia 30033-4097, or call 404-679-4500 for questions about the accreditation of Southern College of Optometry. Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Commission on Colleges is to be contacted only if there is evidence that appears to support the institution’s significant non-compliance with a requirement or standard.

Southern College of Optometry has been accredited since 1940 by the Accreditation Council on Optometric Education of the American Optometric Association, 245 N. Lindbergh Blvd., St. Louis, MO 63141, telephone number: (314) 991-4100, to award the Doctor of Optometry degree.

The college is a member of Tennessee Independent Colleges and Universities and a charter member of the Association of Schools and Colleges of Optometry. Courses leading to the Doctor of Optometry degree are approved by the collegiate faculty and meet the educational standards of the Association. The college promotes the best general welfare of its students, the profession of optometry, and the public health and welfare. The college will not discriminate in the admission of students or in the provision of educational services based on race, color, sex, national origin, age, disability, or sexual orientation.

Facilities

Southern College of Optometry was founded in Memphis in 1932 and has been located at its present site since 1954. The college operates and maintains excellent facilities that meet the educational needs of students, faculty, and staff.

The Southern College of Optometry campus consists of five buildings, landscaped green space and plenty of free and secure parking.

The “tower” that houses the classrooms, laboratories, the library, administrative and faculty offices is an eleven-story building built in 1970. To meet the needs of contemporary optometry students, a state-of-the-art academic addition to this facility was completed in 2013 which added more than 23,000 square feet of flexible classroom space to the campus. The first floor houses several student service areas like the Bookstore, the mailroom, lounge area and various study rooms. The library occupies the fifth floor and contains visual and related materials. The Learning Resource Center (LRC) provides computers and other technological resources to support student education. The student dining area is located on the fourth floor. The tenth floor houses our Financial Aid Office and the Hayes Center for Practice Excellence, which provides educational resources for the best solutions and ideas on how to own and manage a private practice.

The Eye Center, a 50,000 square foot facility, is the centerpiece of clinical education for SCO students. Students hone their clinical skills by assisting experienced staff optometrists and physicians in providing care for patients in the areas of primary care optometry, pediatrics and vision therapy, contact lenses, eye disease, geriatrics and low vision, and dispensing. SCO also operates external clinics to serve the Memphis community and to provide additional clinical opportunities for its students. Externship sites are available throughout the country for the advanced clinical education of fourth-year students.

SCO’s external clinics provide additional care to approximately 25,000 individuals and give SCO students, interns and residents unique exposure to the provision of eye health and vision care in the private practice setting.

Accreditation

At University Eye Care of SCO (UEC), interns experience a smaller, slower-paced independent private practice setting. Optometric physicians provide clinical instruction in a wide-range of primary care services with an emphasis on contact lenses and the needs of the faculty, staff, and students of the University of Memphis.

FocalPoint at Crosstown Concourse (FP), SCO’s newest external clinical setting, is the college’s first inter-professional facility. Here interns work with optometric physicians, medical physicians and mid-level health care providers from many disciplines to provide the latest in patient engagement and clinical care.

After class, students may participate in a variety of team sports and athletic endeavors at the Activity Center. Also available for spouses and guests, the Center houses an indoor basketball/volleyball court, two racquetball courts, exercise equipment, lockers and showers, and student organization offices.

Housing

According to the American Chamber of Commerce Researchers Association, Memphis is one of the most affordable cities with populations of more than 500,000 in the nation. Although, SCO does not offer on-campus housing, the Admissions Office assists students in several ways to find affordable housing.

SCO’s external clinics provide additional care to approximately 25,000 individuals and give SCO students, interns and residents unique exposure to the provision of eye health and vision care in the private practice setting.
Doctor of Optometry

Doctors of optometry are independent primary health care providers who specialize in the diagnosis, treatment, and management of diseases and disorders of the visual system, the eye, and associated structures, as well as the diagnosis of related systemic conditions. Among the types of treatment optometrists use are prescription lenses, contact lenses, vision therapy, low vision aids, and pharmacological agents for the treatment of ocular disease.

During an examination, the doctor of optometry also assesses general health conditions. Diabetes, high blood pressure, and arteriosclerosis are often detected during a vision examination. The diagnosis of systemic manifestations of ocular disease is necessary to preserve and enhance the patient’s quality of life. When appropriate, the optometrist refers patients to other health care professionals and frequently works with them in managing the patient’s condition.

Admissions

New classes enter in August of each year, and new students are enrolled only at that time. Applications for admission may be submitted one year prior to the expected year of entry but must be received no later than March 1. Because applications are processed as they are received and accepted, offers are made on a rolling admissions basis, it is advantageous to submit applications as early as July 1 of the year preceding desired enrollment.

Admission decisions are based on:
- a) A competitive undergraduate academic performance;
- b) Competitive scores on the Optometry Admission Test;
- c) Letters of recommendation from the pre-optometry advisor and non-related optometrist;
- d) Admissions interviews;
- e) Amount of direct exposure/inexperience in diverse optometry settings;
- f) Factors such as motivation and goals, professionalism, communication skills, consistency in achievement, critical thinking skills, extra-curricular performance;

The college receives applications for admission through the centralized service OptomCAS. A supplemental application is also required and must be submitted via the college website at sco.edu. Applicants should submit their application and supporting documents (transcripts, letters of recommendations, essay) to OptomCAS. For further information, please visit optomcas.org or our Admissions Office at sco.edu or (860) 238-0180.

Regional and Non-regional Admissions

Southern College of Optometry welcomes applications from all states and countries. Because we are a private institution, we do not offer in-state and out-of-state tuition, but rather, our tuition is regional or non-regional. The Southern Regional Education Board (SREB) contracts with Southern College of Optometry for a limited number of positions for competitive applicants from the following states: AR, GA, KY, LA, MS, NC, SC. These reserved positions entitle students to be eligible for regional tuition for 2017-2018. Regional tuition is $26,120 and non-regional is $35,819.

To be eligible for one of the reserved positions, the applicant must be a bona fide resident of that state before enrolling and be certified by the appropriate state authority. Residency certification information is available from the college upon request. It should be noted that residency certification does not guarantee a reserved position. Should a state reduce or cancel the contract under which places are reserved for its applicants, those states will reflect the reduction or will revert to non-regional status.

Kansas, Tennessee, and West Virginia contract directly with the college for a limited number of reserved positions in each entering class, lowering each student’s tuition by a designated amount, usually ranging between $5,000-12,000 annually. North Carolina and Virginia also offer forgivable loans that are administered directly by the state, and no contract is signed by the college; recipients determine which school they would like to attend.

Additional courses in perception and learning will be helpful in the study of psychology.

Chemistry: One year of inorganic (general) chemistry with appropriate laboratory.

Physics: One course in organic chemistry with laboratory. One course in biochemistry (no lab required).

Psychology: The requirement will be satisfied by completion of one year of college-level psychology courses with appropriate laboratory. Advanced courses in optics and/or light will be helpful in the study of optometry.

Social Science: One year of college-level work in the social sciences is required. This requirement may be satisfied by completing courses in any of the social science disciplines, including history, geography, sociology, psychology (beyond the introductory level), political science, economics, philosophy, religion, ethics, and anthropology.

Effective: An applicant who has excelled in the required courses and performed well on the OAT may complete electives in the social sciences or humanities, if desired. An applicant with weaknesses in certain basic sciences, as indicated by the GPA and OAT scores, should take more coursework in these
The college accepts credits for prerequisites that are completed online as long as the courses are offered by a regionally accredited college or university. However, it is recommended that all science prerequisites be completed in a classroom setting. If an applicant must take an online science course, it is strongly recommended that the laboratory component be in a physical lab and not a virtual lab. Please contact the Admissions Office with questions as to whether an online course is an advisable option.

Advanced Placement
Advanced Placement (AP) and/or CLEP credit is acceptable if documentation is provided on the undergraduate transcript or through official score reports. However, the admissions committee may recommend additional science coursework covering the AP or CLEP credit based upon overall academic performance and/or GAT scores. Please contact the Admissions Office if you have any questions regarding AP or CLEP credits.

Minimum Technical Standards
A student who is selected for admission will be offered tentative acceptance. The letter of tentative acceptance will specify all conditions which must be satisfied for the acceptance to become final. Appropriate behavior and communication is expected in professional school. An applicant display unprofessional behavior and/or communication (including within social media), the college reserves the right to revoke that student's offer.

Application Process
Applications are reviewed as they are completed and the most promising candidates are invited to campus for an admissions interview, which is closed file, one-on-one, and typically conducted by an SCO faculty member. After completion of the admissions interview, the Admissions Committee (the Director of Admissions and Enrollment Services, the Director of Student Recruitment, the Vice-President for Student Services, and an appointed faculty member) reviews each candidate and renders a decision. The SCO faculty member’s interview summary is considered in the overall decision.

Letters of Recommendation
Two letters of recommendation are required and must be mailed directly to OptomCAS by the issuing institution. Once selected for admission, the applicant must forward subsequent transcripts to the college after his/her final term of current enrollment and to demonstrate completion of any degree.

Optometry Admission Test
QAT scores are required in support of an application for admission, and the test must be taken no later than March 1 to be eligible for admission the following August. The QAT includes sections covering biology, general chemistry, organic chemistry, quantitative reasoning, reading comprehension, and physics. It is recommended that applicants have had at least one year of college-level courses in these subjects before taking the QAT. Scores two years old or older will not be accepted.

The OAT is now offered via computer at designated testing centers in the United States and Canada. Second, third and fourth year international students pay tuition, required fees, and equipment at regularly scheduled registrations. It is recommended that non-immigrant applicants contact the Admissions Office for full details before submitting an application.

Outdated Courses
The completion of any professional degree program is a demanding task. An applicant who has not been enrolled full-time in an academic program for one year prior to the expected date of entry may be required to complete one full term of undergraduate work prior to his/her enrollment. Decisions will be made on a case-by-case basis. An applicant may also be required to return to undergraduate school to validate outdated science credits. Course credits in the science areas generally cannot be completed out of date five or more years will have elapsed since the completion of the courses and the expected date of entry to the college. Outdated credits may be validated either by repeating one term of the course in question or by completing a next higher course. Decisions will be made on a case-by-case basis.

Tentative Acceptance
An applicant who is selected for admission will be offered tentative acceptance. The letter of tentative acceptance will specify all conditions which must be satisfied for the acceptance to become final. Appropriate behavior and communication is expected in professional school. An applicant display unprofessional behavior and/or communication (including within social media), the college reserves the right to revoke that student's offer.

Prerequisites
The college requires a criminal background check for any accepted student. The college, along with other optometry schools, will utilize the service provided by OptomCAS for the criminal background checks. Should the report reveal any past criminal activity for a specific accepted student, the Admissions Committee will evaluate the report and determine if the acceptance decision is still warranted.
withdraws by April 30 and has submitted either deposit, the college will refund $250. For any withdrawals after April 30, the deposit is non-refundable.

**Immunization Policy**

All entering students must provide the Admissions Office with sufficient evidence that they are currently fully immunized against tetanus and diphtheria within the last 10 years; rubella (red measles); rubella (German measles); mumps; varicella (chicken pox); Hepatitis B; and have had a tuberculin skin test (PPD) within the last 12 calendar months.

Upon acceptance, the college provides the appropriate form for a physician to document these immunizations as well as other health conditions. Entering students who fail to turn in the completed form will not be allowed to register.

The college complies with guidelines developed by the Department of Labor, Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) regarding HIV, Hepatitis B, tuberculosis and other infectious diseases. It is strongly recommended that students receive the applicable screenings and immunizations before beginning the clinical segment of the curriculum.

Accordingly, all first-year students will be assessed a Preventive Health Fee that covers annual tuberculin skin tests, flu shots, and other preventive health measures. The Hepatitis B immunization series can also be completed at the College if the series was not completed prior to enrollment. Information sessions and copies of the college’s Exposure Control Plan will also be available upon request.

**Final Acceptance**

A letter of final acceptance is issued when the applicant has fulfilled all conditions specified in the letter of tentative acceptance and the college has received the applicant’s deposit, final academic transcripts, Immunization Record, notarized Applicant Information Form, Occupational Health Report, and any financial aid transcripts required in connection with a financial aid application. All documents must be received by August 1 or the offer of acceptance may be withdrawn.

Appropriate behavior and communication is expected in the professional school. Should an applicant display unprofessional behavior and/or communication (including within social media), the college reserves the right to revoke that student’s admissions offer.

An integral part of registration is the payment of an amount sufficient to cover the then-due charges for tuition, fees, books, instruments, and equipment. No student may complete registration without having paid all charges in full.

**Affiliation Agreements**

SCO has a number of agreements with undergraduate institutions where applicants from those colleges and universities who meet certain criteria can be guaranteed an admissions interview. Other schools have an agreement where candidates have an opportunity to enroll at SCO at the completion of their/her junior year but still earn a bachelor’s degree from the undergraduate institution after completion of the first year at SCO. Colleges and universities with an affiliation agreement are listed below. Students from those institutions should contact the pre-optometry advisor for specific details.

- LeMoyne-Owen College (TN)
- Milligan College (TN)
- South Carolina State University
- Tusculum College (TN)
- Union University (TN)
- University of Memphis
- University of Tennessee at Martin

**Master of Business Administration in Health Care Management at Christian Brothers University**

Located in Memphis, Christian Brothers University (CBU) offers a 35-hour course of study leading to the Master of Business Administration in Health Care Management (HCMBA). For students interested in working towards this degree while in optometry school, CBU has agreed to accept 9 hours of transfer credit in practice management coursework towards this degree. Students apply to the program after enrolling at SCO. Students in the HCMBA will attend classes one night per week for eight week periods. For more information about this program, go to cbu.edu/health-care-management-mba.

**Transfer Policy**

Transferring to Southern College of Optometry from another optometry school or from any health professions school is difficult. To be considered for transfer, the student must be currently enrolled and eligible to continue in the original school or if not currently enrolled, never dismissed or suspended from the original school and not on probation at the time of withdrawal.

If these conditions are met, the student will need to submit:

1. A letter from the dean or chief student affairs officer at the original school indicating the student departed or will depart in good standing and that the original school is aware of the student’s desire to transfer;
2. A letter from the student indicating the reasons and motivation for transfer; and
3. Official copies of all undergraduate and health professions school transcripts.

If the candidate is deemed eligible for transfer and competitive by SCO standards based upon documentation received, the candidate would be invited for an admissions interview. Once the interview process is completed with the college’s Admissions Committee, a decision would be rendered on the candidate’s application.

Most students accepted for transfer are required to repeat all or most coursework and usually begin their careers here. Other schools have an agreement where candidates have an opportunity to enroll at SCO at the completion of their/her junior year but still earn a bachelor’s degree from the undergraduate institution after completion of the first year at SCO. Colleges and universities with an affiliation agreement are listed below. Students from those institutions should contact the pre-optometry advisor for specific details.

Baptist College of Health Sciences (TN)
Christian Brothers University (TN)
Eastern Tennessee State University (TN)

An advantage of attending the Southern College of Optometry is living in Memphis. With a metropolitan population of over one million, Memphis is known for its rich history as a hub of commerce and culture. The city is home to such corporate giants as FedEx, Auto Zone, International Paper and one of the nation’s top medical treatment centers. The city has been nationally recognized for its beauty and cleanliness. According to the American Chamber of Commerce Research Association, Memphis has one of the lowest costs of living among U.S. urban areas with central cities of more than 500,000 people. Situated on the banks of the Mighty Mississippi, the Bluff City celebrates annual events including the International Barbecue Cooking Contest, Memphis in May International Festival, and the FedEx St. Jude PGA Golf Classic. Memphis is rich in musical heritage. Elvis, Justin Timberlake, W.C. Handy, Jerry Lee Lewis, Al Green, and many others all began their careers here.

Sightseeing, recreational, and cultural events are numerous. SCO students will find Overton Park and the Memphis Zoo—ranked “#4 Best Zoo in the U.S.” by USA Today, Beale Street—home of the Blues, and several professional theatres and art galleries nearby. Graceland, Liberty Bowl Memorial Stadium, the Metal Museum, the Children’s Museum of Memphis, and the National Civil Rights Museum are within a short drive of the campus. The city is also home to the NBA franchise, the Memphis Grizzlies, who play their games in the downtown arena, the FedEx Forum. Several municipal parks offering golf, swimming, tennis, walking trails, bridle paths, and picnic areas are open to the public, as are state parks and trails within a short drive. Memphis also has one of the largest Green Lines in the country providing a popular venue for running, biking and walking.

Most of your time at SCO, however, will be spent in optometric studies enhanced by various student activities. The following is a list of organizations, including honorary societies, available to interested students.
Low Vision Club: providing information for students interested in low vision patient care.

Optometric Private Practice Club: dedicated to prepare students for the business of optometry by providing resources and information from experienced optometrists, practices, and business entities.

National Optometric Student Association (NOSA): dedicated to increasing minority representation in optometry.

Neuro-Optometric Rehabilitation Association: focusing on bringing interprofessional approach with multiple health care providers in order to advance the art and science of rehabilitation for brain injury patients.

Sports Vision Society: provides vision care to athletes at the state and international levels.

State Club: a collection of students interested in participating in a particular state. Approximately 30 states are represented through these organizations that bring in outside speakers and provide mentoring possibilities and guidance regarding practice opportunities and regulations.

Student Chapter of the Academy of American Optometry (SCAAO): official student chapter of the Academy promoting research and scholarly activity in optometry.

Student Volunteers in Optometric Service to Humanity (SVOSH): founded at SCO in 1975 to provide free eye care and glasses to the underserved in Central America and throughout the world. SVOSH members work year-round to prepare for their annual 30-day missions. Activities include collecting, inspecting and sorting donated eyeglasses; and various projects to help finance travel expenses. Membership is open to all interested students. Since 1975, SVOSH members have seen about 200,000 patients in 12 different countries.

Sororities and Fraternities

Omega Delta, Iota Chapter: oldest and largest optometric fraternity; activities include the SCO Holiday Party, tutoring retroscopy for first-year students, camping and canoe trips, and other social events.

1st Professional Year

FALL SEMESTER

OPT 110: Optometric Theory & Methods I 4 4 —
OPT 111: Optics of the Eye I 5 5 2
OPT 112: Anatomy, Histology, & Physiology I 4.5 3 3
OPT 113: Neuroanatomy 2 2 2
OPT 114: Ocular Anatomy & Physiology 4 — —
OPT 116: Biochemistry of the Eye 1.5 1.5 —

Total 21 18.5 9

SPRING SEMESTER

OPT 120: Optometric Theory & Methods II 5 4 4
OPT 121: Ocular Anatomy & Physiology II 4.5 3.5 3.5
OPT 125: Ocular Motility 1.5 1.5 —
OPT 126: Visual Sensation & Perception 5.5 4.5 4.5
OPT 127: Ophthalmic Optics I 1.5 1.5 —
OPT 129: Optometric Practice I 1 — —

Total 24 19.5 9

2nd Professional Year

SUMMER MINI-SEMESTER

OPT 200: Optometric Theory & Methods Lab I 1 — 4
OPT 201: Basic Pathology 2 5 —
OPT 202: Ophthalmic Pharmacology I 2 — —
CLN 205: Foundations of Service Learning 0.5 1.0 —
CLN 204: Interprofessional Education Series 0.5 1.0 —
CLN 209: Evidence-Based Practice 2 2 —

Total 8 13.5 9

FALL SEMESTER

OPT 230: Optometric Theory & Methods III 4 4 —
OPT 231: Medical Pathology 3 — —
OPT 232: Ophthalmic Pharmacology II 3 3 3
OPT 235: Basic Ocular Concepts & Applications 2.5 2 2.5
CLN 236: Clinical Communication & Patient Care 1.5 1.5 —
OPT 237: Ophthalmic Optics II & Environmental Vision 2 2 2
OPT 238: Pediatric Optometry 3 3 3
OPT 239: Optometric Practice II 1 — 1

Total 21 15 15

SPRING SEMESTER

OPT 240: Optometric Theory & Methods IV 4 2.5 3
OPT 241: Anterior Segment Disease & Treatment I 5 4 4
OPT 242: Ocular Pharmacology 2 2 2
OPT 245: Contact Lenses 3 3 3
CLN 246: Clerkship/Internship Orientation 1.5 1.5 —
OPT 247: Vision Therapy 3 — 2

Total 22 15 15

3rd Professional Year

SUMMER SEMESTER

OPT 303: Physical Diagnosis 0.5 0.5 —
OPT 305: Vision Rehabilitation & Aging 2.5 2 2.5
OPT 306: Shatkin’s Anatomy 2.5 2 —
OPT 309: Contact Lenses II 4 5 2
CLN 336: Clinical Internship I 7 — 7
OPT 337: Integrated Clinical Analysis I 2 2 —
OPT 338: Gaucoma 2 — 2

Total 20.5 9 28

FALL SEMESTER

OPT 313: Patient Education 2 — 2
OPT 316: Optometric Practice Strategies and Operations I 2 — 2
OPT 317: Posterior Segment Disease & Treatment II 3 — 3
CLN 356: Clinical Internship II 7 — 7
OPT 318: Integrative Clinical Analysis II 2 — 2

Total 17 5 17

SPRING SEMESTER

OPT 320: Ophthalmic Ethics & Legal Issues 3 — 3
OPT 321: Ocular Disease & Ocular Disasters 1.5 1.5 —
OPT 312: Optometric Practice Strategies and Operations II 2 — 2
OPT 313: Public Health in Optometry 2 — 2
CLN 356: Clinical Internship III 7 — 7

Total 15 5.5 21

4th Professional Year

SUMMER SEMESTER

CLN 400: Clinical Primary Care 3 — 3
CLN 435: Clinical Cornea & Contact Lenses 3 — 3
CLN 442: Clinical Pediatric Primary Care I 3 — 3
CLN 443: Clinical Advanced Care Ocular Disease 3 — 3
CLN 445: Clinical Vision Therapy & Low Vision Rehabilitation 7 — 7

Total 14 — 42

FALL SEMESTER

CLN 404: Clinical Internship I 14 — 14

Total 14 — 42

SPRING SEMESTER

CLN 405: Clinical Primary Care I 3 — 3
CLN 435: Clinical Cornea & Contact Lenses I 3 — 3
CLN 442: Clinical Pediatric Primary Care I 3 — 3
CLN 443: Clinical Advanced Care Ocular Disease I 3 — 3
CLN 445: Clinical Vision Therapy & Low Vision Rehabilitation I 7 — 7

Total 14 — 42

FALL SEMESTER

CLN 404: Clinical Internship II 14 — 14

Total 14 — 42

SPRING SEMESTER

CLN 405: Clinical Primary Care II 3 — 3
CLN 435: Clinical Cornea & Contact Lenses II 3 — 3
CLN 442: Clinical Pediatric Primary Care II 3 — 3
CLN 443: Clinical Advanced Care Ocular Disease II 3 — 3
CLN 445: Clinical Vision Therapy & Low Vision Rehabilitation II 7 — 7

Total 14 — 42

FALL SEMESTER

CLN 404: Clinical Internship III 14 — 14

Total 14 — 42

SPRING SEMESTER

CLN 405: Clinical Primary Care III 3 — 3
CLN 435: Clinical Cornea & Contact Lenses III 3 — 3
CLN 442: Clinical Pediatric Primary Care III 3 — 3
CLN 443: Clinical Advanced Care Ocular Disease III 3 — 3
CLN 445: Clinical Vision Therapy & Low Vision Rehabilitation III 7 — 7

Total 14 — 42

FALL SEMESTER

CLN 404: Clinical Internship IV 14 — 14

Total 14 — 42

SPRING SEMESTER

CLN 405: Clinical Primary Care IV 3 — 3
CLN 435: Clinical Cornea & Contact Lenses IV 3 — 3
CLN 442: Clinical Pediatric Primary Care IV 3 — 3
CLN 443: Clinical Advanced Care Ocular Disease IV 3 — 3
CLN 445: Clinical Vision Therapy & Low Vision Rehabilitation IV 7 — 7

Total 14 — 42

FALL SEMESTER

CLN 404: Clinical Internship V 14 — 14

Total 14 — 42

SPRING SEMESTER

CLN 405: Clinical Primary Care V 3 — 3
CLN 435: Clinical Cornea & Contact Lenses V 3 — 3
CLN 442: Clinical Pediatric Primary Care V 3 — 3
CLN 443: Clinical Advanced Care Ocular Disease V 3 — 3
CLN 445: Clinical Vision Therapy & Low Vision Rehabilitation V 7 — 7

Total 14 — 42

FALL SEMESTER

CLN 404: Clinical Internship VI 14 — 14

Total 14 — 42

SPRING SEMESTER

CLN 405: Clinical Primary Care VI 3 — 3
CLN 435: Clinical Cornea & Contact Lenses VI 3 — 3
CLN 442: Clinical Pediatric Primary Care VI 3 — 3
CLN 443: Clinical Advanced Care Ocular Disease VI 3 — 3
CLN 445: Clinical Vision Therapy & Low Vision Rehabilitation VI 7 — 7

Total 14 — 42

FALL SEMESTER

CLN 404: Clinical Internship VII 14 — 14

Total 14 — 42
Course Descriptions

Courses numbered in the 100 series are for first professional year students; 200 for second professional year students; 300 for third professional year students; and 400 for fourth professional year students. The four-year program provides more than 5,000 clock hours of instruction in the sciences and clinical optics and carries a minimum of 215 semester hours of credit. The curriculum listed below is categorized by professional year. Course prerequisites are noted and can only be waived by the instructor of record and the Vice President for Academic Affairs.

1st Year

OPT 110 Optometric Theory & Methods I (4 semester hrs)
Four hours of lecture and four hours of laboratory per week. Introduction to optometric theory and examination. Strategy of the examination and sequencing of the various tests and procedures. Medical record notation. Primary emphasis on chart skills to include visual acuity, stereopsis, color vision, Amirand grid, extracocular muscles, cover test, accommodation, convergence, confrontation fields, and pupilary reflexes. Instruction in objective refraction techniques, subjective manifest refraction techniques, photometry and keratometry. Lectures emphasizing the theory of these procedures and interpretation of their results to arrive at a preliminary diagnosis, and laboratories emphasizing clinical techniques.

OPT 111 Ocular Anatomy I (5 semester hrs)
Four hours of lecture and two hours of laboratory per week. Emphasis on geometrical and visual optics. Verge of light, refracting and reflecting surfaces, thin and thick lenses, prisms, and mirrors, colored film and Prentice’s rule. Spherical and astigmatic refractive error and its correction. Schematic eye models. Overview of clinical instruments including the keratometer, corneal topographer, and radiocauter.

OPT 112 Anatomy, Histology and Physiology I (5 semester hrs)
Three hours of lecture and three hours of laboratory per week. Introduction to physiology with an emphasis on cellular physiology. Microscopic structure of human tissues and organs with functions of cellular organelles, membrane transport, synaptic transmission, and properties of muscle and nerve cells. Histochemistry of selected tissues. Gross structure of the human body with emphasis on the head, neck, thorax, abdomen and viscera. Organ systems. Includes gross anatomy of the brain, cranial nerves and adnexa and visual pathways. Laboratory includes gross anatomy and physiology of head, neck, body with emphasis on the head, neck, thorax, abdomen and visceral organs. Three hours of lecture and three hours of laboratory per week. Introduction to physiology. Anatomical, histological, and microscopic study of the micro- and macrostructure of the human body. Three hours of lecture and three hours of laboratory per week. Introduction to physiology with an emphasis on cellular physiology. Microscopic structure of human tissues and organs with functions of cellular organelles, membrane transport, synaptic transmission, and properties of muscle and nerve cells. Histochemistry of selected tissues. Gross structure of the human body with emphasis on the head, neck, thorax, abdomen and viscera. Organ systems. Includes gross anatomy of the brain, cranial nerves and adnexa and visual pathways. Gross anatomy of the brain, cranial nerves and adnexa and visual pathways; gross anatomy of the brain, cranial nerves and adnexa and visual pathways; gross anatomy of the brain, cranial nerves and adnexa and visual pathways; gross anatomy of the brain, cranial nerves and adnexa and visual pathways.

OPT 113 Neuroanatomy (2 semester hrs)
Two hours of lecture per week. Functional and structural organization of the central nervous system. Practical applications of neuroanatomical knowledge that are essential in clinical practice. Detection of neurological disorders presenting in the clinical setting with emphasis on generation of differential diagnosis and problem solving.

OPT 114 Ocular Anatomy and Physiology (4 semester hrs)
Four hours of lecture per week. Gross and microscopic structure of orbit, ocular adnexa, cornea, sclera, uvea, lens, anterior and posterior chambers, vitreous, retina, and optic nerve. Physiology of ocular homeostasis and function of the eye to include function of the orbit and eyelids, tear production and drainage, and corneal physiology. Transparency and wound healing. Physiology of the crystalline lens, vitreous, choroid, retina and uvea. Aquous humor formation, circulation and drainage.

OPT 116 Biochemistry of the Eye (2.5 semester hrs)
One and one-half hours of lecture per week. Principles of biophysical and biochemical interactions of human tissues. Spheres and biological functions of these macromolecules. Biochemical mechanisms of molecular biology including gene expression and regulation and the clinical application of genomics. Basic principles of human nutrition. Appropriate clinical correlations to ocular disease throughout the course.

OPT 120 Optometric Theory & Methods II (5 semester hrs)
Three hours of lecture and four hours of laboratory per week. Continuation of OPT 110 with emphasis on case history and the etiology, diagnosis, and management of refractive errors and convergence anomalies. Theoretical basis of the various tests used to diagnose refractive errors. Presentation of problem-oriented medical record keeping as well as formulation of diagnosis and treatment plans. Evaluation of accommodative and convergence relationships and their influence on refractive status and binocular subjective refractive results, as well as alternate examination techniques and the formation of a diagnosis and treatment plan are emphasized in this laboratory.

OPT 121 Optics of the Eye II (5 semester hrs)
Four hours of lecture and two hours of laboratory per week. Emphasis on visual and physical optics. Optics of objective and subjective refraction. Refractive error. Magnification and refraction, lenses, and pinhole. Optics of accommodation and presbyopia. Effects of aberrations on aberrations on optical systems. Optics of low vision devices. Topics in physical optics to include interference, diffraction, polarization, lenses, and photometry. Entropic phenomena. Role of the pupil as it affects depth of field, aberrations, and accommodation. Incidence, distribution, and amplitude, and development of retinal scatter.

OPT 122 Anatomy, Histology and Physiology II (4.5 semester hrs)
Four and one-half hours of lecture per week. Integrated physiology of the major organ systems to include the circulatory, respiratory, immune, cardiovascular, nervous, endocrine, and reproductive systems. Embryological development of these structures.

OPT 125 Ocular Motility (5 semester hrs)
One and one-half hours of lecture per week. Innervation, kinematics and actions of the extraocular muscles. Types of eye movements and their neurological control mechanisms. Relationship of eye movements to visual perception and the reading task. Clinical and research measurement techniques. Introduction to disorders of ocular motility and clinical diagnostic procedures.

OPT 126 Visual Sensation & Perception (5 semester hrs)
Four and one-half hours of lecture and two hours of laboratory per week. Neuropsychology of the visual system. Psychophysical methodology and its applications in research and the clinical setting. Clinical electrophysiology of the visual system. Perception of light including light and dark adaptation. Color vision and clinical assessment of color vision deficiencies. Spatial characteristics of the visual system, including contrast sensitivity, spatial resolution, and hyperacuity. Temporal aspects of vision, including processing time, temporal interferences, flicker sensitivity, and motion perception. Cognitive aspects of vision, including object recognition, visual illusions and visual attention. Effects of development, aging, and disease on visual function. Application of vision science to clinical optometry. Basic research methodology.

OPT 127 Ophthalmic Optics I (2.5 semester hrs)
One hour of lecture and one hour of laboratory per week. Optical and physical properties of single vision, multifocal and prismatic ophthalmic lenses. Ophthalmic frames, standard alignment, the box system and frame selection for patients. Management of single vision and multifocal lenses, and lenses with prism. Determination of vertical imbalance in the reading position and methods of resolving that imbalance. Frame and lens considerations for high-powered spectacle lenses. Introduction to the regulatory agencies that govern spectacle lenses and frames, and safety glasses.

OPT 129 Optometric Practice I (1.5 semester hrs)

Prerequisites: OPT 110, 111, 112, 114 & 120

OPT 200 Optometric Theory & Methods Lab (1 semester hr)
Four hours of lab weekly, divided into two, two-hour sessions, delivered over 6 weeks. One weekly two-hour session will be devoted to learning the basics of slit lamp operation, learning how to view gross structures of the external eye, learning 70D and 90D lens viewing of the posterior pole, optic nerve, macula, and scanning the retinal arcades. One weekly two-hour session will be devoted to practicing case history, refractive procedures and techniques, simulation of prebyopic patient presentations, and making diagnostic decisions concerning the patient presentation. Patient presentations will be simulated by means of optical devices and alternative patient scenarios.

Prerequisites: OPT 110 & 120

OPT 201 Basic Pathology (2 semester hrs)
Five hours of lecture per week delivered over six weeks. Basic pathology covers the disease process at the cellular level. Topics include: infection, immunology, tissue injury and repair, genetics, hematology, hemostasis, cancer and nutrition.

Prerequisites: OPT 112, 113, 114 & 120

OPT 202 Systemic Pharmacology I (2 semester hrs)
Five hours of lecture per week delivered over six weeks. The lectures will include basic principles of pharmacology, which includes pharmacokinetics, pharmacodynamics, routes of administration, absorption, distribution, metabolism, and excretion. Also included are discussions of the autonomic nervous system, its actions, secretion, release, and metabolism of its neurotransmitters. The pharmaceutical agents that affect the autonomic nervous system, and their interactions with those respective receptors will be discussed in terms of the mechanism of action, indications, contraindications, adverse and side effects. Chemothapeutic agents including antibiotics, antiviral, antituberculosis, and antinecancer medications will be covered with emphasis on those commonly prescribed or those with ocular side effects. A brief introduction to common dietary supplements and herbal medications will also be included.

Prerequisites: OPT 112 & 120

CLM 203 Foundations of Service Learning (5 semester hrs)
One hour of workshop per week delivered over six weeks. Introduction to service-learning concepts and activities, review of the history and
methodology of visual screenings, discussion of SCO community outreach activities and the communities served, and clinical and research methods through mock screenings.

**OPT 204**
Interprofessional Education Series
(3.5 semester hrs)
One hour of lecture per week, delivered over six weeks. A series of presentations designed to enhance students’ understanding of how optometry fits into the overall health care system and interacts with other health care professionals to provide an effective team approach to health care.

**OPT 209**
Evidence Based Medicine
(3 semester hrs)
Four hours of lecture per week delivered over six weeks. Introduction to the principles of evidence based medicine, including the scientific method, medical research, and patient education. The emphasis is on the critical reading of the medical literature within the context of serving a diverse client population. Topics include research design, concepts such as statistical versus clinical significance, medical database searches such as PubMed and Cochrane, ethical research principles, and issues affecting patient education and compliance such as individual and cultural differences, human cognition, learning, and motivation.

**OPT 210**
Optometric Theory & Methods III
(3 semester hrs)
Two hours of lecture and four hours of laboratory per week. Continuation of OPT 110, OPT 120, and OPT 209 with an emphasis on the examination and evaluation of the ocular tissues, adnexa, and visual pathways. Emphasis will be placed on normalocular anatomy and variations of such, introduction and overview of the major categories of ocular disease, including vascular, infectious, degenerative, allergic, and neurologic. Underlying pathophysiologic processes and the effect on ocular tissues and their functions will be covered when contrasted against normal function. Basic tenets of ocular diagnostic pharmacology. Nomenclature, anatomy, goniometry, funduscopy, and visual field testing will be discussed in detail. Clinical procedures learned in OPT 110, OPT 120, and OPT 209 will be practiced in the laboratory along with those covered in the current semester.

**OPT 211**
Medical Pathology
(3 semester hrs)
Three hours of lecture per week. A continuation of OPT 203. Diseases of the organ systems to include mechanisms, clinical manifestations, and diagnosis. Topics include heart disease and stroke, pulmonary disease, renal disease, HIV, diabetes, rheumatic disease, neurologic and mental disorders, endocrine disorders, and reproductive disorders.

**OPT 212**
Systemic Pharmacology II
(3 semester hrs)
Three hours of lecture per week. Agents that affect the cardiovascular, pulmonary, gastrointestinal, renal and central nervous system will be discussed in terms of their mechanism of action, pharmacokinetics, indications, contraindications, adverse side effects and potential for drug interactions. Antimicrobial, antitumor, and antihypertensive agents will be discussed in terms of spectrum of activity, mechanism of action, indications, contraindications, adverse side effects and drug interactions.

**OPT 215**
Binocular Vision: Basic Concepts & Applications
(3 semester hrs)
Two hours of lecture and one hour of laboratory per week. Psychophysical and physiological bases of binocular vision and stereopsis to include correspondence, stereo disparity, the phoropter, physiological diplopia, and fusion. Sensory adaptation to abnormal binocular conditions, including suppression, reentry, binocular confusion and anomalous correspondence.

Development of binocular vision to include amblyopias and the treatment of amblyopia. Introduction to clinical tests of binocular summation, fusion, suppression, and the presence of amblyopic factors.

**CLN 216**
Clinical Communications & Patient Care
(2 semester hrs)
Two-hour session per week, introduction to clinic internship. Observing and assisting doctors and student interns in patient care. Participation in off-campus vision screenings or in The Eye Center. Refinement of selected clinical techniques with emphasis on proper communication. Students perform procedures and have discussions with simulated patients while being videotaped. Instructor criteria are provided. Other assignments may include written communications and/or patient records.

**OPT 217**
Optthalmic Optics II & Environmental Vision
(3 semester hrs)

**OPT 218**
Pediatric Optometry
(3 semester hrs)
Two hours of lecture and two hours of laboratory per week. Diagnosis, management, and treatment of refractive conditions, binocular disorders, and eye diseases common in infants and children. Schema of normal growth and development with an emphasis on expected vision development from birth through childhood. Strategies and procedures for treatment intended to maximize visual potential.

**OPT 219**
Optometric Practice II
(3 semester hrs)
One hour of lecture per week. Historical evolution of health care law and its implications for the practicing optometrist. Legislative status and legal obligations of the optometrist. Legal aspects of record-keeping, insurance plan participation, informed consent, professional relationships, and patient rights. Health care ethics and the role of the optometrist. Economic implications of the practice of optometry.

**OPT 220**
Optometric Theory & Methods IV
(2 semester hrs)
Two and one-half hours of lecture and three hours of laboratory per week. A compilation of material presented in OPT 110, 120 and 230 with an emphasis on binocular affective procedures, photometry, and near point testing. Lectures emphasizing analysis of symptoms, signs and examination results to arrive at a diagnosis and treatment plan for common ocular and visual anomalies. Analysis of patient records using the SOAP format will be emphasized in lectures. Laboratory time will emphasize the culmination of all clinical skills learned in OPT 110, 120 and 230 into an optometric examination sequence in preparation for examining patients in The Eye Center.

**OPT 221**
Anterior Segment Disease & Treatment
(3 semester hrs)
Four hours of lecture and two hours of laboratory per week. Diagnosis, management, and treatment of disorders and injuries of the corneal and anterior segment of the eye. Pharmacological agents used to treat these conditions. Ocular microbiology. Laboratories to emphasize clinical procedures including cultures, punctal occlusion, punctal dilation and irrigation, foreign body removal, patching, and ocular injections.

**OPT 223**
Posterior Segment Disease & Treatment I
(2 semester hrs)
Two and one-half hours of lecture and two hours of laboratory per week. Pathology, clinical signs and symptoms, prognosis, and management of diseases, disorders, and injuries involving the macula, choroid, retina, and optic nerve. Labs emphasizing retina and optic nerve imaging, electrophysiography, fluorescein angiography, digital anterior segment and posterior photography, ultrasonography and advanced visual field testing. Intravenous, subcutaneous and intramuscular injections.

**OPT 224**
Ocular Pharmacology
(1 semester hr)

**OPT 225**
Contact Lenses I
(1 semester hr)

**CLN 226**
Clinical Internship Introduction
(1 semester hr)
One hour session per week. A continuation of CLN 216.

**OPT 227**
Vitrectomy Therapy
(1 semester hr)
Two hours of lecture and two hours of laboratory per week. Diagnosis, management, and treatment of the various glaucomas including primary open angle, angle closure, infantile, and secondary glaucoma. Pharmacological agents used to treat the glaucomas. Review of clinical trials in glaucoma and hypotensive agents.

**OPT 228**
Strabismus & Amblyopia
(2 semester hrs)
Two hours of lecture and one hour of laboratory per week. Principles and treatment of strabismus and amblyopia. Prognosis for the resolution of these conditions will be emphasized. Diagnosis and treatment strategies discussed in OPT 227 may be reviewed in nature for this course.

**OPT 229**
Contact Lenses II
(4 semester hrs)
Three hours of lecture and two hours of laboratory per week. A continuation of OPT 225. Design and fitting of rigid and hydrogel contact lenses. Rigid lens modification. Multifocal contact lenses. Advanced applications of contact lenses, including pediatrics, keratoconus, post-surgical fitting, and contact lens corneal re-shaping.

**OPT 230**
Integrative Clinical Analysis I
(2 semester hrs)
Two hours of seminar per week in a small group setting. Case presentation, problem-based learning format. Matching patient’s presenting signs and symptoms with a diagnosis and treatment plan. Proper test selection to aid in diagnosis and determine the best course of patient management, follow-up and prognosis.

**OPT 231**
Glaucoma
(3 semester hrs)
One hour of lecture per week. Diagnosis, management, and treatment of the various glaucomas including primary open angle, angle closure, infantile, and secondary glaucoma. Pharmacological agents used to treat the glaucomas. Review of clinical trials in glaucoma and hypotensive agents.

**OPT 232**
Optometric Practice Strategies and Operations I
(2.5 semester hrs)
Two hours of lecture per week. Professional and economic aspects of the practice of optometry. Selection of a practice location, purchase of an existing practice, partnerships, and professional corporations. Practice as an employee or independent contractor, and other practice modalities. Equipping an office, personnel and office management, record and recall systems, taxes, insurance, third party reimbursement, and issues related to managed care. Professionalism: Basic finance and estate management. Professional referrals and relationships with other health care providers.

**OPT 233**
Posterior Segment Disease & Treatment II
(3 semester hrs)
Three hours of lecture per week. A continuation of OPT 223.

**OPT 234**
Neuro Eye Disease
(2 semester hrs)
Two hours of lecture per week. Diagnosis, management, and treatment of neurologic disorders that affect the adnexa, eye, and visual system. Basic aspects of ophthalmic neurology. Major psychiatric and neurologic disorders. Development and imaging of the cranial nerves, emphasis on CT, MRI, MRA, MIV, CTG and angiography. Visual field defects in neuro-ophthalmic disorders.

**OPT 235**
Optometric Practice Strategies and Operations II
(2 semester hrs)
Two hours of lecture per week. Professional and economic aspects of the practice of optometry. Selection of a practice location, purchase of an existing practice, partnerships, and professional corporations. Practice as an employee or independent contractor, and other practice modalities. Equipping an office, personnel and office management, record and recall systems, taxes, insurance, third party reimbursement, and issues related to managed care. Professionalism: Basic finance and estate management. Professional referrals and relationships with other health care providers.
OPT 317
Integrative Clinical Analysis II
Two hours of seminar per week. Review of concepts from the basic and clinical sciences, case studies, and the presentation of cases. Emphasis on the use of lasers and the management of post-surgical complications.
Prerequisites: OPT 316
(2 semester hrs)

OPT 320
Clinical Advanced Care Ocular Disease
Nine hours of clinic per week. The clinic assignment will be in the Advanced Care Optometric Service. Activities will include participation with doctors of optometry or other physicians as non-physician extenders in comprehensive direct patient care utilizing a full range of management modalities. Emphasis will be on the management of ocular disease. Emphasis on the use of lasers and the management of post-surgical complications.
Prerequisites: CLN 326
(3 semester hrs)

OPT 321
Systemic Disease & Ocular Manifestations
One and one-half hours of seminar per week. Overview of systemic conditions prevalent in children; treatment and management of acute onset ocular disease. Emphasis is placed on the diagnosis and treatment of eye and visual conditions with appropriate application of various designs and types of contact lenses.
Prerequisites: CLN 320
(2 semester hrs)

OPT 322
Optometric Practice Strategies and Operations
Two hours of lecture per week. Continuation of OPT 312.
Prerequisites: OPT 312
(2 semester hrs)

OPT 323
Public Health in Optometry
Two hours of lecture per week. Concepts of epidemiology and public health, especially as they relate to eye care. Topics discussed include study design, screening and testing measures, health care delivery and administration, vulnerable populations and public policy.
Prerequisites: OPT 315, 211, 212, 213, 301 & 313
(2 semester hrs)

CLN 306, 316, 326
Clinical Internship I., II., III.
21 hours of clinic per week. Weekly assignments will include participation with doctors of optometry or other physicians as non-physician extenders in comprehensive direct patient care utilizing a full range of management modalities. Assignments will include participation with doctors of optometry or other physicians as non-physician extenders in comprehensive direct patient care utilizing a full range of management modalities. Other activities will include participation with doctors of optometry or other physicians as non-physician extenders in comprehensive direct patient care utilizing a full range of management modalities.
Prerequisites: OPT 200, 212, 213 & 313
(1.5 semester hrs)

CLN 400, 410, 420
Clinical Primary Care
Nine hours of clinic per week. Two hours of seminar on alternate weeks. One assignment per week will be in the Clinical Primary Care Optometric Service and will include participation with doctors of optometry or other physicians as non-physician extenders in comprehensive direct patient care utilizing a full range of management modalities. Other assignments may include grand rounds, advanced procedure laboratories, and case conferences. Students will participate in the SABRE Optometry Simulation as part of the seminar portion of the course.
Prerequisites: CLN 306
(2 semester hrs)

CLN 404, 414, 424
Externship
Full semester externship taken in lieu of the regular schedule for the semester. Fourth-year students are required to successfully complete three semesters of clinical instruction to graduate. Two semesters are to be completed in the SCO externship program. The externship program is designed to broaden and supplement student experience in evaluating, diagnosing, and treating conditions of the eye and visual system. This program provides a wide range of geographical locations in institutional and private practice settings. In all cases the extern serves under the direct supervision of optometrists who hold adjunct faculty appointments with the college. Only one semester may be spent at any one site.
Prerequisites: CLN 306
(1.5 semester hrs)

CLN 405, 415, 425
Clinical Vision Therapy & Low Vision Rehabilitation
Six hours of clinic per week. Clinic assignments will be in the Vision Therapy and Rehabilitation Service. Activities will include participation with non-physician extenders with doctors of optometry in the enhancement of visual function and management of low vision for treatment of partially-sighted patients and the use of optical and non-optical vision rehabilitation treatments.
Prerequisites: CLN 306
(2 semester hrs)

4th Year

Academic Policies

Doctor of Optometry Degree Requirements

Requirements for the Doctor of Optometry degree are outlined below. Students must successfully complete all requirements to be eligible for the degree. Requirements include:

1. Fulfill all academic and clinical requirements, including having at least a 2.00 cumulative average for all courses attempted at the college, and having no unresolved or failing grades.
2. Receive passing scores on both the Applied Basic Science (Part I) and Patient Assessment and Management (Part II) examinations administered by the National Board of Examiners in Optometry.
3. Satisfy any probationary condition, whether for academic or other reasons, and be subject to any pending academic or disciplinary action.
4. Discharge all financial obligations to the college.
5. Receive the recommendations of the Faculty, the Vice President for Student Services and the Associate Dean for Academic Affairs and the approval of the President with respect to satisfactory completion of the above requirements.

Specific license requirements vary from state to state. Prospective students should become familiar with the requirements of the states in which they desire to practice prior to entering the college and should remain abreast of changes during their enrollment. The college undertakes no obligation concerning any changes which might be made by any board of optometry or comparable agency in its requirements for licensure.
Grades

Grades report is issued to students by the Student Services Office at the end of each term. The college utilizes plus/minus grades. The following chart provides the specific details for quality points for each grade:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Percentage</th>
<th>Grade</th>
<th>Quality Points</th>
<th>Suggested Interpretation</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>90.00-100.00</td>
<td>A</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>Excellent performance</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>86.00-89.99</td>
<td>A-</td>
<td>3.7</td>
<td>Good performance</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>82.00-85.99</td>
<td>B</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>Acceptable performance</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>80.00-81.99</td>
<td>B+</td>
<td>2.7</td>
<td>Below average</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>77.00-79.99</td>
<td>B-</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>Minimum passing performance</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>70.00-72.99</td>
<td>C+</td>
<td>1.7</td>
<td>Below average</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>60.00-69.99</td>
<td>C-</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>Fail, possible dismissal</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Below 60%</td>
<td>F</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>Fail, possible dismissal</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Note: Only the first letter of a grade is used on the student’s permanent academic record.

Academic Standards

Students are expected to maintain a grade-point average of at least 2.00 (C) while completing all courses in the curriculum. A regular student is one pursuing a degree at the college and is full-time if the course load is at least 12 hours per semester. Otherwise the student is part-time. The one exception to this enrollment standard regards the summer mini-term at the beginning of the second year. While a student is not enrolled in 22 hours during the mini-term, due to the term’s condensed nature, enrolled students are still considered full-time. All academic standards and probationary policies apply to the summer mini-term.

A student is considered to be in good standing if not subject to dismissal for academic or disciplinary reasons. A student is not pursuing a degree and may be either full-time or part-time. A student whose actual or projected credit load provides for completion of degree requirements within 11 terms of enrollment is maintaining satisfactory progress. Failure to maintain satisfactory progress may lead to dismissal. The status of disciplinary probation is applied when the student’s conduct, unless changed, could lead to dismissal. In such an instance the conditions for continued enrollment will be specified in writing to the student. A student is placed on academic probation when the level of academic performance, if continued, would lead to dismissal.

A. A student is placed on academic probation when:
   1. The cumulative grade point average falls below 2.0; or,
   2. The semester grade point average falls below 2.0, regardless of the cumulative grade point average; or,
   3. The student earns two or more grades of D in courses given during the same semester; or,
   4. The student earns a failing grade in a course, regardless of either the cumulative or term grade point average.

   Please see Section C regarding when a student is placed on academic probation but will need to appear before the Faculty Student Affairs Committee to determine enrollment status.

B. Automatic academic dismissal occurs when:
   1. The student earns a second grade of F in the same course; or,
   2. The student earns a failing grade in more than one course in the same semester; or,
   3. The student was on academic probation when the failure or multiple grades of D occurred; or,
   4. A student on academic probation fails to achieve a GPA of 2.0 or higher and maintain or achieve a cumulative GPA of 2.0 or higher.

C. Additionally, there are several conditions in which a student may be subject to imminent academic dismissal and must appear before the Faculty Student Affairs Committee. These conditions are:
   1. A student fails a course in a term and is not on academic probation at the time of the course failure; or,
   2. A student has been placed on academic probation for a second non-consecutive academic term; or,
   3. A student has earned three or more course grades of D in the same term and is not on academic probation at the time; or,
   4. A student is placed on academic probation at the end of the third year. A student who in this probationary situation continues to enroll in the program, the student would be initially ineligible for fourth year externship assignment. This student must first successfully complete the required on-campus fourth year internship (and possibly other stipulations) to regain good standing and then become eligible for externship assignment.

Academic Advising and Counseling

The college encourages students to develop and maintain professional relationships with faculty members. Faculty advisors are assigned to first-year students at the beginning of the fall semester. Students should note their advisor’s office hours and arrange a meeting early in the semester. In addition, probationary students meet with the Director of Academic Support Services for academic counseling before registering for the next semester.

Clinical Pass-Fail Grades

All third- and fourth-year clinic grades are on the Honors Pass/Pass/Fail system. In this system, individual patient encounters are evaluated and constructive feedback offered. An indication of Honor Pass is indicative of superior performance over the course of the entire term. Expected clinical performance will be recognized as a grade of Pass. Substandard clinical performance throughout the term will result in a clinic grade of Fail. Clinical grades of “F” would be reviewed, in accordance with the college’s regular policy for defaulted courses.

Credit Hours

Credit hours are determined by the number of hours assigned to each of three types of instruction: lecture, laboratory, and clinical. Lecture credit is awarded on a one-to-one ratio of scheduled lecture time per week to semester credit hour; e.g., two hours of lecture time equals two credit hours. For condensed course time frames, the number of hours of lecture per week are increased to achieve the exposure that would be equivalent to a full semester of 15 weeks.

Lecture credit is awarded based on a 0.5 to one ratio of scheduled laboratory time per week to semester credit hour, e.g., four hours of laboratory time equals two credit hours.

Clinical credit is awarded based on a one-to-one ratio of supervised clinical supervision time per week to semester credit hour; e.g., nine hours in clinic equals three credit hours. These courses will have the “CLN” designation with the course number.

Academic Honor Roll

These honors are based on cumulative grade-point averages at the completion of the curriculum. The academic honor of Summa Cum Laude signifies an overall grade-point average of 3.80 or higher; Magna Cum Laude, 3.60 to 3.79; Cum Laude, 3.40 to 3.59. The Dean’s List appointment is awarded by the college to the graduating student having the highest overall grade-point average in the class. The Salutatorian appointment is awarded to the next-rank student in the graduating class. These appointments are based on completion of the entire curriculum in no more than 11 semesters of enrollment.
Post-Graduate Opportunities

Residencies

Post-graduate residencies are offered in Cornea and Contact Lens, Family Practice Optometry, Low Vision Rehabilitation, Pediatric Optometry, Ocular Disease, Ocular and Refractive Surgery/Ocular Disease, Vision Therapy/Rehabilitative Optometry, Primary Eye Care or a combination of these. Most residencies are twelve months long.

The Family Practice Optometry residency program provides opportunities for the acquisition of enhanced clinical skills in virtually all areas of optometric practice. A unique feature of this program is the resident’s exposure to advanced practice management concepts. This program is based at Blind-Wisdom Eye Care in Denham Springs, LA. An additional two-year residency program is offered in conjunction with SGD and the Haynes Center for Practice Excellence. This residency offers extensive experience in clinically centered training, practice management skills, and a Master of Business Administration in Health Care Management (HOMBA) through Christian Brothers University in Memphis, TN.

The Low Vision/Visual Rehabilitation residency provides opportunities to gain advanced experience in managing patients with limited sight and traumatic brain injuries while utilizing the latest optical and non-optical treatment methods. Residencies in the specialty are offered at the Hampton VAMC, Hampton, Virginia and at the SCO in house residency program.

The residency program in Pediatric and Visual Therapy offers clinical experience in the diagnosis and therapy for vision dysfunctions presented in children. SCO’s Pediatric Optometry and Visual Therapy Program is based at The Eye Center, the college’s state-of-the-art eye care facility, and at Child and Family Optometry in Wichita, KS. The residency at Children’s Hospital Colorado in Denver, CO is strictly focused on pediatric eye care and not visual therapy.

Ocular Disease residencies provide extensive experience in managing patients in a busy multi-disciplinary eye care practice with an emphasis on patients presenting with diseases of the eye. This residency program, SouthEast Eye Specialists, is located in Chattanooga, TN.

The Ocular and Refractive Surgery/Ocular Disease residency provides extensive experience in managing patients presenting with diseases of the eye with an additional emphasis on the pre- and post-operative management of patients presenting for ocular surgery. These residency programs are located at Vocelkon Eye Institute and George Eye Partners in Atlanta, GA, and Toyoys Clinic in Memphis, TN.

Primary Eye Care residencies provide extensive primary care optometry training in a hospital or clinical setting. These programs are located at Veterans Affairs Medical Centers in Memphis, TN, Charleston, SC, Columbia, SC, Salisbury, NC, Mountain Home, TN, and Salem, VA. An additional hospital based program is Ortlieb Medical Center in New Orleans, LA.

The residency in Vision Therapy/Rehabilitative Optometry provides experience in vision therapy and rehabilitation in a busy private practice setting. These programs are located at Appalachian Eye Associates in Bethelwood, MD, Eye Care Professionals in Hamilton Square, NJ, Family EyeCare Associates in Fair Lawn, NJ; Vision Care Specialists in Southborough, MA; WDV Vision in Saint Joseph, MO; Brower Vision Center in Shreveport, LA; New Visions Associates of North Texas in Plano, TX; Dr. Sanborn Vision Center in Charlotte, SC; Memmink Vision Center in Memmink, NH and Family Eye Care in Old Bridge, NJ.

The residency program applicant must have received an OD degree from an accredited institution prior to the beginning date of the residency and passed Parts I and II, and TYMD of NBE. Applications must be received by January 30, and must be supported by official transcripts from professional schools attended, National Board scores, three letters of recommendation, the SCO online application, and OAT match application.

Continuing Education

The college offers continuing education which may be used to meet licensure renewal requirements for practicing optometrists in certain states. Inquiries should be addressed to ce@sco.edu.

Institutional Scholarships

Institutional scholarships are established and funded by the college’s investments and are awarded to entering students based on various criteria. The college’s Scholarship Committee periodically reviews applicant files of accepted students to determine awards. Eligibility requirements vary, but most require exemplary achievements in undergraduate coursework and on the OAT. Leadership, service, interpersonal skills, and place of residence are also considered. Should a student be awarded a military scholarship, he/she would not be eligible to receive future endowed scholarship allocations. The following is a listing of SCO’s Institutional Scholarships which are administered by the Department of Student Services.

Donor-Established Scholarships

Donor-established scholarships are funded from contributions from alumni and supporters of the college. The college’s Scholarship Committee periodically reviews applicant files of accepted students to determine awards. Eligibility requirements vary, but most require exemplary achievements in undergraduate coursework and on the OAT. Leadership, service, interpersonal skills, and place of residence are also considered. Should a student be awarded a military scholarship, he/she would not be eligible to receive future endowed scholarship allocations. The following is a listing of SCO’s Donor-established scholarships which are administered by the Institutional Advancement Office and Student Services Office. The values listed for each scholarship is the total over all four years of enrollment.

Board of Trustees Endowed Scholarships (20) $25,000

Established to honor individuals who have served the college and the profession as Chair of the SCO Board of Trustees. Selection is based upon competitive GPA, OAT, and admissions interview. Recipient must maintain a minimum of 3.0 GPA.

M. E. Brumle Memorial Endowed Scholarship $8,000

Honors the college’s third President, M.E. Brumle, PhD, ODS, who served from 1962 to 1965. Selection is based upon OAT scores, GPA, and the admissions interview. The student should exhibit leadership and communication skills and must maintain a 3.0 GPA.

Dr. William E. Cochran Endowed Scholarship (4) $25,000

Honors the college’s fifth President, William E. Cochran OD ’18, who served the college from 1984 to 2007. Selection is based upon competitive GPA, OAT, and admissions interview. Recipient must maintain a 3.0 GPA.

W. R. Cramer Memorial Endowed Scholarship $8,000

Honors the college’s second president, W. R. Cramer, OD, DDS, who served the college from 1937 to 1942. Selection is based upon OAT scores, GPA, and the admissions interview. The student should exhibit leadership and communication skills and must maintain a 3.0 GPA.

Dean’s Endowed Scholarship (60) $40,000

Selections are based upon competitive GPA, OAT, and demonstrated leadership and service. Recipients must maintain a 3.0 GPA.

Dr. J. J. Horton Memorial Endowed Scholarship $8,000

Named in honor of SCO’s founder, J. J. Horton, MD. Dr. Horton established the college in May 1932 and served as President until 1937. Student must have an entering GPA of at least 3.5 and maintain a GPA of at least 3.0.

Dr. Earl Luck Memorial Endowed Scholarships (2) $12,000

Established in memory of Earl W. Luck, OD ’59. Selections are based upon OAT scores, GPA, and the admissions interview. The recipients must maintain a 3.0 GPA.

Presidential Endowed Scholarships (24) $60,000

Selections are based upon competitive GPA, OAT, and demonstrated leadership and service. Recipients must maintain a 3.0 GPA.

SCO Alumni Endowed Scholarships (2) $20,000

Established by SCO alumni through their unrestricted gifts supporting SCO’s Annual Campaign. Recipients shall have at least a 3.0 cumulative entering GPA or minimum 3.20 academic average on the OAT, and have demonstrated service contributions to his/her community, college, or country. Must maintain a 2.75 cumulative GPA.

Kenneth K. Springer Memorial Endowed Scholarship $8,000

Established to memorialize former Tennessee Senator Kenneth N. Springer. Recipient must have an entering GPA of at least 3.5 and maintain a GPA of at least 3.0.

Dr. Spencer B. Eure Memorial Endowed Scholarships (4) $20,000

Honors the college’s fourth President, Spencer E. OD ’54, who served the college from 1965 to 1984. Selection is based upon competitive GPA, OAT, and demonstrated leadership skills. Recipients must maintain a 3.0 GPA.

Dr. James A. Boucher Endowed Scholarship $4,000

Established by the Atlanta law firm that served as an advocate of professional optometry in Tennessee in the 1980s. The recipient must have a pre-optometry GPA of at least 3.5 and maintain a GPA of at least 3.0.

Elizabeth R. Bane Memorial Endowed Scholarship $4,000

Established by Eugene M. Bane, OD ’65 in memory of her mother. Selection is based upon competitive entering GPA, OAT scores and admissions interview. Student must maintain a 3.0 GPA.

Dr. James A. Boucher Endowed Scholarship $8,000

Established by James A. Boucher, OD ’61. The recipient must have an entering GPA of at least 3.0 and must maintain a GPA of at least 3.0. Student must be from Wyoming.

Dr. L. Wayne Brown Memorial Endowed Scholarship $4,000

Established in memory of L. Wayne Brown, OD ’63 for his service to Optometry in the State of Georgia and the SCO Board of Trustees. Selection is based on competitive GPA, OAT scores, and admissions interview. The student should also have demonstrated leadership. A 3.0 GPA must be maintained.
Dr. Charlie and Fred Burnett Endowed Scholarship
$4,000
Established by Charlie Burnett, OD '61 and Fred Burnett, OD '63. Recipient must be a resident of Tennessee, have an entering GPA of at least 3.0, and have a significant history of leadership and service to their community.

Dr. T. Joel Byars Endowed Scholarship
$4,000
Established by Joel Byars, OD '63. Recipient must have a competitive GPA and exhibit commitment to leadership and service. Preference given to residents of Georgia.

Dr. Camile Chiasson Endowed Scholarship
$2,000
Established in the name of Camile Chiasson, OD '87. Recipient must be from Louisiana, interested in practicing in Louisiana, and have at least a 3.0 entering GPA. Recipient must maintain at least a 2.75 cumulative GPA.

Dr. Ramona Porter Clifton Endowed Scholarships (3)
$4,000 each
Established by Ramona Porter Clifton, OD '69 and Rev. Farris Clifton. Selection is based upon competitive GPA, OAT scores and admissions interview. Preference given to Kentucky residents and/or female students.

Dr. Nash Cochran Memorial Endowed Scholarship
$4,000
Established by Nash Cochran, OD '44 in his desire to support optometric education and furthering of the College. The recipient will have an undergraduate GPA of at least 3.0, be a resident of Mississippi or Florida, and maintain overall GPA of at least 3.0.

M. Aldridge/Andreas Endowed Scholarship
$4,000
Established by Scott Andreas, long-term Dean of Students at the College, and his wife, Sara. Selection is based upon competitive GPA, OAT scores, and admissions interview.

Cone Family Endowed Scholarship
$8,000
Honors the optometric family of the late Dr. James Hines Edgar, pioneer Mississippi optometrist. The recipient must be a resident of Mississippi or Arkansas with a pre-optometry GPA of at least 3.0. Must maintain a cumulative 2.75 GPA.

Dr. Robert F. Federhan Memorial Endowed Scholarships (2)
$25,000 each
Established to honor Robert F. Federhan, OD '49. Selections are based upon competitive GPA, OAT scores and admissions interview. Preference given to applicants from Arizona or New Mexico. Recipient must maintain a GPA of at least 3.0.

Dr. Thomas Gallaher and Mrs. Elizabeth Gallaher Endowed Scholarship
$4,000
Established by Thomas J. Gallaher, OD '81, and his wife, Elizabeth. Selection is based upon competitive GPA, OAT scores, and admissions interview. Preference is given to a Tennessee resident.

L. C. Gammon, Sr., Memorial Endowed Scholarship
$4,000
Named in honor of L. C. Gammon, Sr., founder of Gammon Optical. Student must have an entering GPA of at least 3.5 and maintain a GPA of at least 3.0.

Dr. Richard A. Goodson Memorial Endowed Scholarship
$8,000
Established by the family and friends of Richard A. Goodson, OD '67 to memorialize his service and commitment to the profession of optometry and SCO. Selection is based upon competitive entering GPA, OAT scores, and admissions interview. Recipient must have demonstrated leadership skills and will maintain a 3.0 GPA.

Dr. Helen and Christopher King Endowed Scholarship
$9,000
Established by Drs. Helen and Christopher King in their desire to further optometric education and excellence at SCO. Recipient will be an entering first-year student with significant financial need.

Dr. John T. Ladd, Colonel Army (Ret.) Endowed Scholarship
$4,000
Established by Drs. John T. Ladd, OD '56. Selection is based upon competitive GPA, need and competitive entering GPA, OAT scores, and admissions interview.

Mediation/Optimist Endowed Scholarships (2)
$8,000 each
Established by Medivation Corporation, formerly a nationwide network of optometric co-management centers. Students must have an entering GPA of at least 3.5 and maintain a GPA of at least 3.0.

Minority Endowed Scholarship
$9,000
Established by Dr. Edward Christie, OD '51 to help under-represented minorities in optometry. Recipient must be an under-represented minority student.

Dr. Willy H. Mock Memorial Endowed Scholarship
$4,000
Established by Drs. Myr. and Howard Davidson in memory of Dr. Davidson's father, Wiley H. Mock, OD '40. Recipient must be a resident of Missouri displaying financial need with a competitive GPA, OAT scores, and admissions interview.

Dr. Martha Rosemore Morrow Endowed Scholarship
$12,000
Established by Martha Rosemore Morrow, MD '74. Recipient must have a minimum 3.0 GPA and significant service leadership. Must maintain at least a 3.0 GPA.

New Orleans Contact Lens Society Endowed Scholarship
$8,000
Selection is based upon competitive entering GPA, OAT scores, and admissions interview. Recipient must be a resident of Louisiana.

Oller Family Endowed Scholarship
$4,000
Established by William E. Oller, OD '83 in honor of his family. Recipient must be a resident of South Carolina with an entering GPA of at least 3.0 and maintain a GPA of at least 2.75.

Dr. Vaughn Perfitt Endowed Scholarship
$4,000
Established by Mayor Robert E. Perfitt in honor of his son, Vaughn D. Perfitt, OD '94. The recipient must be an entering student with demonstrated financial need. A pre-optometry GPA of at least 3.0 is required.

Dr. George A. Pena Memorial Endowed Scholarship
$4,000
Established in memory of Dr. George A. Pena, OD '13. Student must have an entering GPA of at least 3.5 and maintain a GPA of at least 3.0.

Phillips Family Endowed Scholarship
$10,000
Established by SCO's sixth President, Richard W. Phillips, OD '78 and his family to recognize an entering student with demonstrated leadership ability. Recipient will be selected based upon admissions application and must maintain a GPA of at least 3.0.

Precision Optical Laboratories Endowed Scholarships (2)
$16,000 each
Established by Precision Optical Lab, Inc. as part of its commitment to optometric education. Recipient will be an entering student who maintains an overall GPA of at least 3.0.

Dr. W. Jack Ranninger Family Endowed Scholarship
$4,000
Established by W. Jack Ranninger, OD '47 in honor of his family. Selection is based upon competitive academic performance and demonstrated leadership. Recipient must maintain a 2.5 GPA. Preference will be given to Georgia residents.

SCO Faculty/Staff Endowed Scholarship
$20,000
Established through gifts by the staff and faculty of SCO. Selection is based upon entering GPA, OAT scores and the admissions interview. The student should exhibit leadership skills and must maintain a 3.0 GPA.

Southern Council of Optometrists Endowed Scholarships (2)
$12,000 each
Established by the Southern Council of Optometrists, Inc., the largest regional optometric association in the United States. Recipients must reside in a Southern Council member state. Selections are based upon competitive GPA, OAT scores and extracurricular activities. Students must maintain a GPA of at least 3.0.

Stem-Maronek Family Endowed Scholarship
$8,000
Established by Sidney Stem, '57 and Mrs. Florence Maronek Stem in memory of their parents. The recipient will have an undergraduate GPA of at least 3.00 and exhibit a high level of community service, leadership, and personal integrity. He or she must also have significant financial need. Preference is given to Florida residents.

SunFill Family Endowed Scholarship
$8,000
Established by William D. Sulins, OD '59 and W. David Sulins, JD '65. Recipient must have competitive GPA, OAT scores and demonstrated leadership. Preference given to residents of Tennessee.

Dr. J. Leonard Supman Memorial Endowed Scholarships (2)
$4,000 each
Established by Ronald Blum, OD '72, to memorialize his friend and mentor, J. Leonard Supman, OD '60. Selection is based on significant financial need.

Dr. Robert H. Thurmond Endowed Scholarship
$4,000
Established by Robert H. Thurmond, OD '50. Selection is based upon scholastic record, leadership qualities, and financial need. Student must maintain a GPA of at least 2.5. Must be resident of Georgia.

Alumni Council Endowed Scholarship
$1,000
Established by the founding members of SCO's Alumni Council. The recipient must demonstrate leadership qualities and maintain an active membership in SCO. Selections are based upon competitive entering GPA, OAT scores and extracurricular activities. Preference will be given to a third-year student with significant financial need, and must maintain a GPA of at least 3.5. Preference given to residents of North Carolina and the Southeast.

Albrecht Family Endowed Scholarship
$1,000
Established by Charles A. Albrecht, OD '16 and Carrie Albrecht to recognize a third year student who has demonstrated a commitment to minimizing post graduation debt. Preference given to a North Carolina student.

Bays Family Endowed Scholarship
$1,000
Established by Linda Rosemary Wadle, OD '84 in honor of members of the Bays family. The award is given to a fourth-year student who has demonstrated exceptional service to the Memphis community.

Bays Family Endowed Scholarship
$1,000
Established by Sharon Berger Mosley, OD '80 and Billy S. Mosley, OD '78. The recipient will be a student in good standing with significant financial need.

Bausch & Lomb Endowed Scholarship
$1,000
Established by Bausch & Lomb Corporation as part of its commitment to optometric education. The recipient must be an incoming fourth-year SCO student in good academic standing who has excelled in the application of contact lenses in patient care.

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Burnett Endowed Award for Student Achievement in Research (up to 3) $1,000
Established by Charlene Burnett, OD '16 and Fred R. Burnett, OD '80 and former member of the SCO Board of Trustees, to recognize outstanding achievement in research by SCO students.

Charles A. Callaway Endowed Scholarship $1,000
Established by Charles A. Callaway, OD '60. Recipient must be from Georgia and in his or her third year.

Dr. Freddy Wilfred Chang Endowed Scholarship $1,000
Established by friends of Freddy Chang, OD, PhD in appreciation of his commitment and dedication to teaching others. The recipient will be a third-year student with outstanding academic and clinical excellence in the areas of pharmacology and ocular disease management.

Dr. John A. Gazaway Endowed Scholarship $1,000
Established by John A. Gazaway, OD ‘67, and former chair of the SCO Board of Trustees. Given to a resident of Iowa with an expressed interest in pursuing a career in optometry.

Edelstein Endowed Scholarship $1,000
Established by the late Sidney Edelstein, OD ’55 and the late Samuel Bernard Edelstein, OD ’48, in appreciation of SCO and to help facilitate optometrists obtain their goals. The recipient will be a fourth-year student with the highest overall GPA greater than or equal to 3.0, with first preference given to students planning to practice in Kentucky and/or Southeastern states.

Edwards Vision Care Endowed Award $1,000
Established by Edwards Vision Care, Inc. to support the vision care programs in the optometric curriculum.

Edwards Vision Care Endowed Award $500
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Edwards Vision Care Endowed Award $500
Established by Edwards Vision Care, Inc. to support the vision care programs in the optometric curriculum.

Dr. Fred Farias Endowed Scholarship $1,000
Established by Dr. Fred Farias. Recipient will be a first-year student who has demonstrated significant financial need.

Dr. Fred H. Mothershed Endowed Scholarship $1,000
Established by Dr. Fred H. Mothershed, OD ‘70 to honor a student’s accomplishments and commitment to pursuing private practice. The recipient will be the student with the highest overall GPA.

Dr. James D. Sandefur Endowed Scholarship $1,000
Established by James D. Sandefur, OD ’65 to promote optometric education, service, leadership and excellence at SCO. The recipient will be a fourth-year student who is a Louisiana resident with an expressed interest in private practice.

Dr. Mohammad Rafieetary Academic and Clinical Excellence Award $1,000
Established by Dr. Mohammad Rafieetary, OD. Selection is based upon competitive applicant file and financial need. Recipients must be current SCO students.

Dr. Robert and Evelyn Henry Fund Awards

Dr. Robert and Evelyn Henry Leadership Award $500
Established by Dr. Robert Henry, who served on faculty at SCO from 1968 to 1974. The recipient will be a third and/or fourth-year student who has demonstrated leadership skills.

Dr. Stanley M. Dickerson Endowed Leadership Award $1,000
Established by Dr. Stanley M. Dickerson, OD ’76 to recognize a student with demonstrated leadership qualities. The recipient will be a fourth-year student from a Southeastern state.

Dr. Stanley M. Dickerson Endowed Leadership Award $1,000
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Goldman Family Endowed Scholarship $1,000
Established by Dr. Joel Goldman, OD ’84 and S. Ryan Haber, OD ’07 to honor a graduate’s accomplishments and passion for the profession of optometry. The recipient will be selected from students who are SCO graduates.

Dr. John A. Gazaway Endowed Scholarship $1,000
Established by John A. Gazaway, OD ‘67, and former chair of the SCO Board of Trustees. Given to a resident of Iowa with an expressed interest in pursuing a career in optometry.

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Dr. Stanley M. Dickerson Endowed Leadership Award $1,000
Established by Dr. Stanley M. Dickerson, OD ’76 to recognize a student with demonstrated leadership qualities. The recipient will be a fourth-year student from a Southeastern state.

Dr. Tom and Louise Hyde Scholarship $1,000
Established by Arthur Thomas Hyde, OD ’70 to assist a deserving student.

Dr. William M. Dickerson Endowed Leadership Award $1,000
Established by Dr. William M. Dickerson, OD ’79 to recognize an outstanding student from Mississippi with demonstrated financial need.

Dr. John A. Gazaway Endowed Scholarship $1,000
Established by John A. Gazaway, OD ‘67, and former chair of the SCO Board of Trustees. Given to a resident of Iowa with an expressed interest in pursuing a career in optometry.

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Student Awards Programs

Each year, through the support and contributions of alumni, friends, and the ophthalmic community, students are recognized for their outstanding academic and clinical achievements. During the 2016-17 academic year, these companies and individuals provided support in the form of financial awards and/or ophthalmic equipment.

Alcon Case Study Scholarship Award
$1,000
Arkansas Optometric Association – Dr. William H. Townsend Memorial Scholarship
$1,500
Beaver-Visitec International, Inc. (BVI) Partners in Optometry Award
Dry Eye Management Kit
Drs. Fred and Charlene Burnett Student Research Award (3)
$1,000
College of Optometrists in Vision Development Excellence in Vision Therapy Award
Plaque
Designs for Visions, Inc. William Feinbloom Low Vision Award
Product Certificate and Plaque
Eschenbach Optik Low Vision Student Award
Video Magnifier
Essilor LABS of America Award
$400
Europa Eyewear
30 Starter Frames
Georgia Optometric Association Scholarship
$1,500
Good-Lite Award
Pediatric Vision Testing and Evaluation Products
GP Lens Institute Contact Lens Clinical Excellence Award
GP Diagnostic Set
Heine USA Award
Hand-Held Ophthalmoscope
Dr. Robert Henry Award for Clinical Excellence
$500 - $1,000
IL Foundation for Eyecare Award
$1,000
J. Pat Cummings Scholarship
$1,000
James and Edna Duncan Award
$500
Johnson & Johnson Award of Excellence in Contact Lens Patient Care
Kohima / Eagle Vision (3)
Super Eagle Practice Builder’s Kit
Artha Mel innovation Kit Expressor
Diamond Series 20D, 78D, 90D Lenses with Individual Cases and Carry Cases
Kesler Instruments, Inc. Award
Streak Retinoscope and Mini Charger
Kentucky Optometric Association Awards (2)
$2,000
LS & S Group Low Vision Award
COIL Pocket Magnifiers Diagnostic Set
Marchon Eyewear Practice Management Award
$1,200 and Plaque
Dr. Darwin Mormon NBEO Part I Award
$1,200 and Plaque
Dr. Darwin Mormon NBEO Part II Award
$1,200 and Plaque
NoIR Medical Technologies Low Vision Award
Low Vision Filter Evaluation Kit
Ocular Instruments, Inc. Award (4)
Product Gift Certificate
Optitec Excellence in Low Vision Award. Low Vision Starter Kit to Go
Optometric Extension Program Clinical Curriculum Award
5-day OEP Registration and Course
Review of Optometry – The Rick Bay Foundation for Excellence in Eyecare Education Award
$500
Vincent Salerno Scholarship
$2,000
Southwest Florida Optometric Association’s Don E. Williamson Memorial Endowed Scholarship
$3,000
Stereo Optical Co., Inc.
Bosh Vektorgraphic Near Point Card
Tennessee Association of Optometric Physicians Award
$1,200
Vision Service Plan Scholarships (2)
$4,000
VISTAKON-Johnson & Johnson Vision Care/ American Optometric Foundation “Johnson & Johnson Award of Excellence in Contact Lens Patient Care”
$1,000 and Plaque
Welch Allyn Co.
Panoptic Ophthalmoscope and Lithium Icon Handle
X-Cel Contacts Outstanding GP Fitting Award
Atlantis Scieral Diagnostic Kit

Financial Planning

Education as an Investment

The financing of an optometric education is an investment in the future, and the choices available to the prospective student should be considered within the context of the individual’s personal and career goals. The Financial Aid Office strives to see that every entering student obtains the funds necessary to complete the program with the least possible debt. The use of personal savings and income from the student’s or spouse’s employment are ways chosen by many students to decrease their educational borrowing.

Debt Management

The key to successful financial planning is controlling what one borrows. The Financial Aid Office conducts an ongoing program designed to help each student manage budgeting and cash flow while eliminating unnecessary expenditures. Through group debt-management presentations and individual counseling, each student will learn to make sound decisions about student finances.
Federal Loans and Work Study

Most students enrolled at Southern College of Optometry are receiving assistance from one or more of the federal student loan programs. Many students are also employed in the college’s Federal Work-Study Program. Applicants who are accepted for admission will automatically be sent a complete financial aid packet including all necessary applications via email.

The college directly administers the Health Professions Student Loan Program, and the Federal Work-Study Program. Eligibility is determined in accordance with federal regulations. Repayments from former students fund most of the loans made to current students in the college-administered federal programs. Off-campus federal sources are also available to students through the college’s participation in the Federal Direct Loan Program. These include subsidized and unsubsidized Federal Stafford Loans, as well as Direct GradPLUS Loans.

Other Federal Programs

The college also participates in various other federal assistance programs, including veterans’ benefits, military assistance programs, and the Indian Health Scholarship Program.

The college has been approved to enroll students eligible for various funding in the Veterans Benefits Program. Students receiving this assistance should contact the Financial Aid Office upon matriculation in order for the proper forms to be completed and submitted to the Veterans Administration as soon as possible.

Military assistance programs are available through the U.S. Army, Navy, and Air Force. In exchange for a commitment to serve as a military optometry officer for up to four years, the student may receive a full scholarship or other financial support from one of the military services. Students are selected for these programs by the Army, Navy, and Air Force on a competitive basis. Information about these programs is available from the college’s Financial Aid Office.

SCO Assistance Programs

The Randolph Gilbert Emergency Loan Fund provides short-term signature loans to students experiencing temporary cash emergencies.

State and Association Assistance Programs

Many states and agencies offer scholarships or assistance to students from optometric associations and various other programs. Arkansas, North Carolina and Virginia offer forgivable loans for students who agree to return to the state to practice. Information about these programs is available from the college’s Financial Aid Office.

Student Health Insurance

Health insurance has become an important factor in financial planning. In recognition of the fact that the cost of health care can be financially devastating, the college makes comprehensive health insurance available to all students at attractive group rates. Dependent coverage is also available by paying the dependent premium. Health insurance coverage becomes effective September 1 and continues without interruption until the student graduates or otherwise ceases to be enrolled. Contact the Accounting Office for more information.

Tuition and Fees

Tuition and Fees 1st Year 2nd Year 3rd Year 4th Year
Non-Regional Tuition $35,919 $35,919 $35,919 $35,919
SREB(1) Regional Tuition $18,120 $18,120 $18,120 $18,120
Incidental Fees $405 $270 $205 $305

Books, Equipment and Other

Required Books $338 $693 $253 $0
Required Equipment $3,131 $3,067 $195 $0
Required NBOE Fees $725 $1,450
Subtotal Books, Equipment, and Other $3,569 $3,780 $1,173 $1,450

Living Expenses (shared accommodations)

Housing/Food $8,400 $10,500 $12,600 $12,600
Transportation(2) $1,400 $1,750 $2,100 $2,100
Personal Expenses $2,000 $2,500 $3,000 $3,000
Subtotal Living Expenses $11,800 $14,750 $17,700 $17,700

Total Costs, Non-regional $51,643 $54,197 $54,997 $55,374
Total Costs, SREB Regional $33,844 $36,920 $37,198 $37,575

(1) KS, TN and WV rates may differ.
(2) A privately owned vehicle is deemed necessary for SCO students, but a car note is not allowed in the budget.

SCO Assistance Programs

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State and Association Assistance Programs

Many states and agencies offer scholarships or assistance to students from optometric associations and various other programs. Arkansas, North Carolina and Virginia offer forgivable loans for students who agree to return to the state to practice. Information about these programs is available from the college’s Financial Aid Office.

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Tuition

The 2017-18 tuition for students is $18,120 regional and $35,919 non-regional. Students from regional states (see Regional and Non-Regional Admissions) who have been awarded Southern Regional Education Board (SREB) reserved positions or other state programs receiving positions will pay regional tuition. The following charts indicate the tuition schedule for regional and non-regional first-year students.

Tuition

The 2017-18 tuition for students is $18,120 regional and $35,919 non-regional. Students from regional states (see Regional and Non-Regional Admissions) who have been awarded Southern Regional Education Board (SREB) reserved positions or other state programs receiving positions will pay regional tuition. The following charts indicate the tuition schedule for regional and non-regional first-year students.

Books and Equipment

The quality and uniformity of optometric instruction is dependent upon the possession of professional books and equipment by all students. Each student is required to purchase all equipment and instruments required for use during a term from the college bookstore. However, you may purchase your books anywhere as long as you purchase the exact ISBN number and edition on the published book list that is sent out each term.

Tuition Refunds

A student who ceases to attend the college during the first nine weeks (60%) of a semester is entitled to a pro rata refund of tuition and most fees paid for that term, if all exit requirements are fully satisfied. The complete tuition refund policy is published in the SCO Student Handbook and available upon request.
Adjunct Faculty

During the fourth year of the curriculum, students gain patient care experience at different externship sites where they work directly under the supervision of a licensed health care professional. The names below are some of those serving as externship preceptors of the College in 2017-2018. This list is not all-inclusive, as numerous other preceptors and locations are available. There are additional local externship sites in the Memphis area not listed below. For a complete list of sites or for any questions about the externship program, please contact the Externship Office at (901) 722-3366.
Directory

President’s Council

President
Lewis N. Reich, OD, PhD
901-722-3320

Vice President for Academic Affairs
J. Bert Campbell, OD
901-722-3372

Vice President for Clinical Programs
James E. Venable, OD
901-722-3260

Vice President for Finance and Administration
David West, CPA
901-722-3210

Vice President for Human Resources
Ann Fields
901-722-3210

Vice President for Institutional Advancement
Kristen K. Anderson, OD
901-722-3216

Vice President for Student Services
Joseph H. Hauser, MBA
800-238-0180
901-722-3224

Executive Director of Information Services
Dean Swick, MBA
901-722-3200

Academic Programs
Lindsay M. Elkins, OD
Director
901-722-3376

Accounting
Carolyn Alaman
Assistant Controller
800-238-0180
901-722-3210

Admissions and Enrollment Services
Michael N. Robertson, MEd
Director
800-238-0180
901-722-3224

Alumni Affairs/Special Events
Beth Fisher
901-722-3296

Bookstore
Denise Henson
901-722-3291

Communications
Jan Heldfield
901-722-3343

Continuing Education
Joanne Shuler
Program Manager
901-722-3216

Department of Assessment
Pam Moss, MS
Director
901-722-3318

Development
Christine Winnreich, JD
Director
901-722-3211

Externship Program
Cheryl L. Erin, OD
Director
901-722-3366

Financial Aid
Cindy Garner
Director
901-722-3223
800-238-0180

Hayes Center for Practice Excellence
Lisa Wade, OD
Director
901-722-3332

Library
Leslie Holland
Manager
901-722-3217

Physical Plant
Danny Anderson
Director
901-722-3235

Research Programs
Mike Christensen, OD, PhD
Director
901-722-3206

Residency Programs
Cheryl L. Erin, OD
Director
901-722-3366

Student Recruitment
Sunnie Ewing
800-238-0180
901-722-3241

Eye Center Administration
901-722-3210

Gary R. Rudloff, MBA
Executive Director of Clinical Operations
Christopher W. Laier, OD
Chief of Internal Optics
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Calendar</th>
<th>Dates or events</th>
<th>Notes</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2017-2018</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Summer</td>
<td>May 15, Monday</td>
<td>Registration, Instruction Begins</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Semester 2017</td>
<td>May 22, Monday</td>
<td>Late Registration</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>May 29, Monday</td>
<td>Memorial Day Holiday (College Closed)</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>June 9-10</td>
<td>Residents Weekend</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>June 12-15</td>
<td>Mid-term Examinations (3rd Years)</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>June 22-23</td>
<td>AOA Conference (No Instruction)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>July 4, Tuesday</td>
<td>Independence Day Holiday (College Closed)</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>July 10, Monday</td>
<td>Registration, Second Year Mini-Term,</td>
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<tr>
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<td>Instruction Begins</td>
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<td>July 18-21</td>
<td>Mid-term Examinations (3rd Years)</td>
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<td>August 16-18</td>
<td>Final Examinations (3rd Years)</td>
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<td>August 18, Friday</td>
<td>Second Year Mini-Term Concludes</td>
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<tr>
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<td>August 18, Friday</td>
<td>Last Day of Clinic (4th Years)</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>August 19-27</td>
<td>Semester Break</td>
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<td>Fall</td>
<td>August 24-25</td>
<td>New Student Orientation</td>
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<td>Fall CE/Homecoming/Convocation</td>
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<td>November 19-26</td>
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<td>NBEO Part II – PAM</td>
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<td>December 25-January 7</td>
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<td>Spring</td>
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<td>February 24-March 4</td>
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<td>February 28-March 4</td>
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<td>March 1-4</td>
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<td>April 27-29</td>
<td>Final Examinations (1st, 2nd Years)</td>
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<td></td>
<td>May 2-3</td>
<td>Graduation Week Activities (4th Years)</td>
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<td>2018-2019</td>
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<td>White Coat Ceremony/Honor Code Signing</td>
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<td>May 9, Thursday</td>
<td>Commencement</td>
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</table>

SCC’s calendar may be updated as needed after publication of the catalog. When calendar information becomes updated, the online version supersedes the outdated version printed in the catalog, so readers should refer to the online version for the most current information.