

For KU Lawrence students seeking admission to KUMC:

## PRE-OPTOMETRY PLANNING GUIDE

Optometry is a track made up of courses required for entry into a Doctor of Optometry graduate school. Students complete these requirements alongside the bachelor's degree of their choice. The University of Kansas does not have an optometry program; but we can help you prepare for a program of your choice. The courses below are commonly required for admission, but each program is different -- it's important to check admission requirements for the schools to which you are applying.

## REQUIREMENTS

\*Courses marked with an asterisk have pre-requisites not already listed below.

- Molecular & Cellular Biology
  - Options at KU: BIOL 150\*
  - Fulfills KU Core Goal 3N
- Organismal Biology
  - Options at KU: BIOL 152
- Biology Lab for STEM
  - Options at KU: BIOL 154
- Microbiology w/ lab
  - Options at KU: BIOL 400 & BIOL 402
- Biochemistry
  - Options at KU: BIOL 600
- General Chemistry I
  - Options at KU: CHEM 130\*
- General Chemistry II
  - Options at KU: CHEM 135
- Organic Chemistry I w/ lab
  - Options at KU: CHEM 330 & CHEM 331
- Calculus I
  - Options at KU: MATH 115\* or MATH 125\*
  - Fulfills KU Core Goal 1.2
- College Physics I
  - Options at KU: PHSX 114\*
  - Fulfills KU Core Goal 1.1
- College Physics II
  - Options at KU: PHSX 115
- Psychology
  - Options at KU: PSYC 104
  - Fulfills KU Core Goal 3S
- Statistics
  - Options at KU: PSYC 210, MATH 365\* or BIOL 570
- Written Communication I
  - Options at KU: ENGL 101
  - Fulfills KU Core Goal 2.1.1
- Written Communication II
  - Options at KU: ENGL 102
  - Fulfills KU Core Goal 2.1.2

## RECOMMENDATIONS

\*Courses marked with an asterisk have pre-requisites not already listed below.

- Human Anatomy w/ lab
  - Options at KU: BIOL 240 & BIOL 241
- Human or Mammalian Physiology w/ lab
  - Options at KU: BIOL 246 & BIOL 247 or BIOL 546 & BIOL 547
  - KU School of Nursing does not require the lab, but most other programs do (BIOL 247).
- Child Development
  - Options at KU: ABSC 160 or PSYC 333

## IMPORTANT NOTES

- The closest optometry school is at the University of Missouri in St. Louis, though students apply to schools all
- across the country.
- If you plan to attend optometry school directly after senior year, make a plan!
  - Register for the Optometry Admission Test (OAT) - it's typically taken in late May, immediately after junior year.
  - Application due dates differ by program; it's recommended that you submit your Optometry Central
  - Application Service (OptomCAS) application in the summer between junior and senior years.
- Schedule an appointment with the University Career Center to prepare applications, resumes, and for interviews.
- Experience with optometrists and patients is important - consider job shadowing, volunteer work, or employment!
- Sample schedule:
  - 1st Fall: Chemistry I, Biology I
  - 1st Spring: Chemistry II, Biology II
  - 2nd Fall: Organic Chemistry I and lab, Microbiology and lab
  - 2nd Spring: Biochemistry, Psychology
  - 3rd Fall: Physics I, Statistics
  - 3rd Spring: Physics II

**QUESTIONS?** PLEASE CONTACT A JAA PRE-HEALTH ADVISOR BY EMAILING [PREHEALTH@KU.EDU](mailto:PREHEALTH@KU.EDU).