Optometry is a primary health care profession dedicated to the improvement and preservation of eyesight. The coursework postgraduate programs offer a comprehensive range of courses intended to appeal to new and established practitioners. The School particularly aims to provide further education for optometrists in country areas and states that are physically remote from an optometry school with some courses being offered in a multimodal format. The School offers a research programme in Optometry and also in Vision Science, encompassing a diverse range of topics including basic, applied and clinical research. The School’s multidisciplinary approach to research is one of its key strengths. Students with a background in optometry can study for an MSc or PhD alongside graduates from a variety of disciplines including ophthalmology, microbiology, psychology, education, bio-engineering, and pharmacology.

Graduate Certificate in Ocular Therapeutics

- Program Code: 7436
- Commencement: Semester 2
- Units of credit: 24
- Length of study: 1 year part-time
- Entry requirement: Australian registered Optometrists with at least a three-year full-time AQF level 7 Bachelor degree in Optometry. Only open to domestic candidates.

Master of Optometry

- Program Code: 8073
- Commencement: Semester 1 or Semester 2
- Units of credit: 48
- Length of study: 1 year full-time or equivalent part-time
- Entry requirement: A recognised 3 year Bachelor degree in optometry.

Offers graduates with at least a three-year Optometry degree, specialised training in ocular therapeutics, such that suitably qualified and registered optometrists in Australia will be able to prescribe certain ocular therapeutic agents for the benefit of their patients. The program has been developed to address the required Competency Standards for Ocular Therapeutics as developed by the Board of Optometrical Registration of NSW in conjunction with the University of New South Wales and recognised by the Optometry Council of Australia and New Zealand.

Advanced training in the clinical and theoretical aspects of optometry, with opportunities for specialisation in areas such as advanced contact lens fitting, behavioural optometry, business skills, evidence-based practice, public and community health, ocular therapy and advanced ocular disease. Applicants with the equivalent of an AQF level B Bachelor Honours degree in Optometry may be awarded advanced standing for a maximum of 24 UOC and may complete the degree within one year of full time study (48 UOC). These students will still be required to complete the core course requirements for the program but will take fewer elective courses.
### Research Degrees

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Program Type</th>
<th>Program Code(s)</th>
<th>Length of Study</th>
<th>Details</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Doctor of Philosophy</strong></td>
<td>1860 (Optometry), 1487 (Vision Science)</td>
<td>3 to 4 years of advanced study leading to the submission of a thesis. Minimum duration for completion is 3 years.</td>
<td>A PhD requires the completion of a piece of research that demonstrates a significant and original contribution to knowledge in the field of study. Candidates acquire advanced specialist research training under academic supervision. The candidates’ thesis summarises the research and provides evidence for independent thought and critical analysis, effective communication and expert knowledge of the discipline in the international context.</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Master of Science (by Research)</strong></td>
<td>2900 (Optometry) 2487 (Vision Science)</td>
<td>1.5 to 2 years of advanced study leading to the submission of a thesis. Minimum duration for completion is 1.5 years.</td>
<td>This program requires the completion of an original piece of research, more limited in scope and nature than that of a PhD. Candidates develop mastery of appropriate methodology and learn the fundamentals of research. Findings are presented in a thesis that places the work in the wider context of their discipline.</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Master of Philosophy</strong></td>
<td>2475 (Vision Science)</td>
<td>1.5 to 2 years of advanced study leading to the submission of a thesis. Minimum duration for completion is 1.5 years.</td>
<td>Students complete a component of coursework including research methodology and a thesis comprising an original piece of research work, of a limited scope but at least 66% of the degree.</td>
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Disclaimer: The information in this publication is current as at April 2015. The University reserves the right to change any program, admission requirement or other information herein without prior notice. The information contained in this publication applies to Australian citizens, Australian permanent residents and New Zealand citizens only.

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