Optometry with Independent Prescribing

University of the Highlands and Islands (UHI)

Venues

UHI House
Virtual Learning Environment (VLE)

Content

There is a growing demand across our region and beyond for optometrists - highly skilled healthcare professionals, trained to examine the eyes to detect defects in vision, signs of injury, ocular diseases, and abnormalities - who are qualified to independently prescribe. Join this innovative, interactive, integrated MOptom Optometry and Independent Prescribing programme, and develop the knowledge and skills you need to confidently pursue a career in this vital field and register as an optometrist with the General Optical Council.

This progressive course follows a patient- and team-based approach to your learning and teaching, grounding you in foundational skills and building on them throughout each level. Through this method, you will gain in-depth theoretical knowledge and practical experience, and develop key skills including critical thinking, problem solving, patient management, and independent prescribing, as you learn how to make clinical management decisions to provide exactly the right care and treatment plan for your patients.

Practical teaching within clinical workshops is delivered in modern, purpose-built facilities in Inverness. Along with training in the clinical skills suite, in years 1-4 you will also undertake a total of 19 weeks of placements in community practice and hospital eye clinics, giving you unique and immediate access to the situations and emergencies dealt with by optometrists daily, experience that goes above and beyond anything that can be replicated in a university setting.

In year 5, you will spend your entire year in the field, with two paid 6-month placements in different types of practices. During this period, you will cover the practical elements required for independent prescribing and, on successful completion of all modules and assessments, you will be eligible for the GOC register as an optometrist, with the specialist qualification of Independent Prescribing.

Start Date

September

Qualification

Degree

Study Method

Full time

Award Title

MOptom

UCAS Code

B511

Course Length

5 years

Department

Health and Wellbeing

Entry Requirements

4 Highers at ABBB including two from Maths, Biology (or Human Biology), Chemistry and Physics and preferably English or another English based subject plus English and Maths or Applications of Maths at National 5 at B (if not held at Higher).

You will require a satisfactory criminal record check from Disclosure Scotland to show that you are suitable for this type of course. Contact Disclosure Scotland for details on the type you would need.

SCQF Level

11

Progression Routes

«ProgressionRoutes»

Combination Courses

«htmlCombinationCourse» «htmlCombinationUCASCode»

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