



ACADEMIC MAP - OPTOMETRY

2025-2026



NORTHWESTERN STATE
UNIVERSITY OF LOUISIANA

Consult with "Demons Become..." Career coach
about extracurricular requirements



START HERE

YEAR 1	SEMESTER 1	Milestones	Grade	Credits	Minimum Grade	Electives	Credits
	ENGL 1010 – Composition & Rhetoric I			3	C	Concentration	
	MATH 1020 – College Algebra			3	C	Biology	
	BIOL 1010 – Biological Principles I			3	C	Academic	
	BIOL 1011 – Biological Principles I Lab			1	C		
	UNIV 1000 – The University Experience			1	C		
	COMM 1010 or 2500 or BUAD 2200 or PHIL 1010			3	C		

Semester Credits _____

SEMESTER 2	Milestones	Grade	Credits	Minimum Grade	Electives	Credits
MATH 1090 – Trigonometry			3	C	Concentration	
ENGL 1020 – Composition & Rhetoric II			3	C	Biology	
BIOL 1020 – Biological Principles II			3	C	Academic	
BIOL 1021 – Biological Principles II Lab			1	C		
PSYC 2050 – Developmental Psychology			3	C		
FA 1040 – Exploring The Arts			3	C		

Semester Credits _____

Total Credits _____

YEAR 2	SEMESTER 1	Milestones	Grade	Credits	Minimum Grade	Electives	Credits
	MATH 2010 – Survey of Calculus			3	C	Concentration	
	ENGL 2110 – Intro to Literature			3	C	Biology	
	CHEM 1030 – General Chemistry I			3	C	Academic	
	CHEM 1031 – General Chemistry I Lab			1	C		
	BIOL 2060 – Microbiology I			3	C		
	BIOL 2061 – Microbiology I Lab			1	C		

Semester Credits _____

Total Credits _____

SEMESTER 2	Milestones	Grade	Credits	Minimum Grade	Electives	Credits
CHEM 1040 – General Chemistry II			3	C	Concentration	
CHEM 1041 – General Chemistry II Lab			1	C	Biology	
BIOL 3270 – Genetics			3	C	Academic	
SOC 1010 or EPSY 2020 or PSYC 1010 or 2050			3	C		
HIST 1010 or 1020 or 2010 or 2020			3	C		
ANTH 1510 or 2020 or GEOG 1010 or 1020 or ECON 2000 or PSCI 2010			3	C		

Semester Credits _____

Total Credits _____

YEAR 3	SEMESTER 1	Milestones	Grade	Credits	Minimum Grade	Electives	Credits
	PHYS 2030 – General Physics I or PHYS 2510 – Gen. Analytical Physics I			3	C	Concentration	
	PHYS 2031 – General Physics I Lab or PHYS 2511 – Gen. Analytical Physics Lab			1	C	Biology	
	BIOL 3310 – Human Anatomy & Physiology I			3	C	Academic	
	BIOL 3311 – Human Anatomy & Physiology I Lab			1	C		
	BIOL 3250 – Cell Biology			3	C		
	Electives (major or concentration or academic) - talk to your advisor for suggested courses			3	C		



Semester Credits _____

Total Credits _____

SEMESTER 2	Milestones	Grade	Credits	Minimum Grade	Electives	Credits
PHYS 2040 – General Physics II or PHYS 2520 – Gen. Analytical Physics II			3	C	Concentration	
PHYS 2041 – General Physics II Lab or PHYS 2521 – Gen. Analytical Physics Lab			1	C	Biology	
BIOL 3320 – Human Anatomy & Physiology II			3	C	Academic	
BIOL 3321 – Human Anatomy & Physiology II Lab			1	C		
CHEM 3010 – Organic Chemistry I			3	C		
CHEM 3011 – Organic Chemistry I Lab			1	C		
Electives (major or concentration or academic) - talk to your advisor for suggested courses			4	C		

Apply to optometry school(s)

Semester Credits _____

Total Credits _____

YEAR 4	SEMESTER 1	Milestones	Grade	Credits	Minimum Grade	Electives	Credits
	BIOL 3060 – Biostatistics			3	C	Concentration	
	CHEM 4040 – General Biochemistry I			3	C	Biology	
	BIOL 4970 or 4990 – Capstone			3	C	Academic	
	Electives (major or concentration or academic) - talk to your advisor for suggested courses			6	C/D		

Semester Credits _____

Total Credits _____

SEMESTER 2	Milestones	Grade	Credits	Minimum Grade	Electives	Credits
BIOL 4130 – Neuroscience			3	C	Concentration	32
BIOL 4300 – Molecular Biology			3	C	Biology	10
BIOL 4995 – Scientific Communication			3	C	Academic	22
Electives (major or concentration or academic) - talk to your advisor for suggested courses			6	C		

Semester Credits _____

Total Credits 120

A minimum of 40 hours of shadowing experience with an optometrist.

*Requirements are based on University of Houston Optometry College.
Verify requirements for schools of your choice.

	Optometry School Required		Optometry School Recommended
	Milestone		
	Should be taken in order to stay on track for graduation and professional school readiness.		
	Concentration Electives		
	Academic Electives		

This is for biomedical concentration, for other concentrations or majors, consult with your advisor for any suggested changes.



GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS

Semester Credits = 120 | Biomedical Concentration Electives = 32 | Biology electives = 10 | Academic electives = 22

Courses taken outside of a student's degree program are not eligible for Title IV federal financial aid (grants and loans). However, elective courses are eligible for Title IV aid if they are required and included in the student's program of study. Once a student has completed all required elective credits, any additional elective courses taken beyond the program's requirements will not be eligible for Title IV funding.