

Course Description

OPT 2830C | Contact Lenses Clinic I | 2 credits

The student will observe and assist an optometrist in the initial fitting and follow-up care of rigid and soft contact lenses for patients referred from the Vision Care Clinic. The student will become familiar with the instructions for lens handling, cleaning, care, and storage of contact lenses. The student will gather the necessary data required to fit a patient with contact lenses, and decide what type of lens, including parameters, which will provide the best vision and comfort for the patient.

Course Competencies

Competency 1:

The student will analyze the patient's spectacle prescription and decide what type of contact lens would be best for that patient by:

- a) Transposing to minus cylinder form.
- b) Measuring the corneal astigmatism with the keratometer.
- c) Calculating the residual astigmatism.

Learning Outcomes

- Use quantitative analytical skills to evaluate and process numerical data.
- Formulate strategies to locate, evaluate, and apply information.
- Demonstrate knowledge of diverse cultures, including global and historical perspectives.
- Create strategies that can be used to fulfill personal, civic, and social responsibilities.
- Use computers and emerging technologies effectively.

Competency 2:

The student will perform the necessary tests that provide the information required to select the parameters of a first fit by:

- a) Using the keratometer to measure the flattest and the steepest corneal meridians.
- b) Testing the eye for dry eye.
- c) Measuring the intraocular pressure with a non-contact tonometer.
- d) Measuring the horizontal visible corneal diameter.
- e) Measuring the size of the palpebral fissure.
- f) Measuring the size of the pupil in a normal, dark and bright environment.

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Competency 3:

The student will justify an opinion as to the type of contact lens and prescription the contact lens should be by:

- a) Explaining the reason for selecting a hard or soft spherical or toric contact lens.
- b) Explaining the reason for selecting the base curve of the lens.
- c) Explaining the rationale for the power selected for the lens.
- d) Explaining the reasoning for the diameter of the lens, the base curve, and the width of the peripheral curves.

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