

Contact Lens Course

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| Subject Area | Ophthalmics |
| Course Type | Adult |
| Study Level | Level 6 |
| Delivery Mode | Part-time |
| Location | Advanced Technology Centre |
| Duration | 1 Academic Year |
| Start Date | September 2025 |
| Course Code | |

Course Summary

This course is currently under syllabus review and is subject to change. This course is aimed at General Optical Council registered Dispensing Opticians who are full members of the Association of British Dispensing Opticians (ABDO). The course will fully prepare you to take the ABDO Contact Lens Anatomy, Contact Lens Visual Optics and Contact Lens Practice theoretical examinations, as well as the ABDO Contact Lens Practical Examinations. The course is approved by the GOC and ABDO.

What You Will Learn

Ocular Anatomy, Physiology and Related pathology

This module will focus on a number of ocular structures – including eyelids, tears film, lacrimal system, cornea, sclera, conjunctiva, retina and Uveal tract.

Contact Lens Visual Optics

This module is designed to develop your knowledge of optics in relation to vision. While often

mathematical in nature, it covers a range of topics including Instrumentation such as the Keratometry, Refractive Techniques, Optics of the Eye, Optics of Contact Lenses, and Methods of Manufacture.

Contact Lens Practice

This module develops your knowledge of contact lens practice and links the practical work that you will be doing with the theoretical perspectives. This module covers topics such as Instrumentation (e.g., The Slit lamp), Clinical Procedures (e.g., Aftercare), Contact Lens Induced Complications, The Design/Materials/Manufacture of Contact Lenses, The Clinical Application of Contact Lenses, Contact Lens Solutions and Drugs as well as Clinical Governance.

Contact Lens Practical Workshop

This module prepares you for your work in practice as you prepare for personal contact lens clinical experience. The module covers all aspects required to complete your Contact Lens Practical examinations, including Initial Examination, Soft Lens Fitting, Rigid Lens Fitting, Aftercare, Contact Lens Verification, and the Application of other lenses such as Toric, multifocal, and therapeutic lenses.

The course has been commended by the GOC for its use of technology in recording and assessing practical demonstrations.

Modules

- Contact Lens Practice
- Ocular Anatomy, Physiology and Related pathology
- Contact Lens Visual Optics
- Contact Lens Practical Workshop

You will study the course by attending College on one day per week.

Entry Requirements

You must hold the appropriate level 6 qualification in Ophthalmic Dispensing. You must be an ABDO member and GOC registrant for the duration of your training. The Contact Lens Certificate requires students to be employed with a GOC registered Optical Practice and be working at least 1 day per week (or equivalent) in a Trainee Contact Lens Optician capacity while under a suitable

qualified and experienced supervisor (Contact Lens Optician or Optometrist).

Assessment

This course prepares you to take the ABDO Contact Lens examinations. You will be required to take both the theory and the practical examinations set by ABDO in Birmingham.

Progression

Many career opportunities become available as a Contact Lens Optician including:

- Specialising in complex cases within a hospital setting
- Professional services manager roles
- Progression with Education

On successful completion of the course, you will be able to progress to:

- The role of a contact lens optician in a private practice, in the NHS or in a large organisation
- A management position in an organisation
- Employment with a Contact Lens Manufacturer
- Further training in the MECS (Minor Eye Care Services) allowed Qualified GOC registered CLOs to engage in Enhanced services (subject to those services being commissioned in your local area)
- Further specialised training exists in the management of dry eye and myopia control