BIO-OPTOMETRY
AT EASTERN ILLINOIS UNIVERSITY

NAME	
E NUMBER	
CATALOG	

2025-2026

CLEAR FORM

GENERAL REQUIREMENTS: 40 HRS

LANGUAGE#: 9 HRS
Grade of "C" or better is required.

COURSE	HOURS	GRADE	SEMESTER
ENG 1001G Composition & Language	3		
ENG 1002G Composition & Language II	3		
CMN 1310G Intro. to Speech Comm.	3		

HUMANITIES/FINE ARTS: 9 HRS

COURSE	HOURS	GRADE	SEMESTER
Humanities _____	3		
Fine Arts _____	3		
Humanities or Fine Arts _____	3		

SENIOR SEMINAR: 3 HRS
Senior topic must be outside the major area. See Undergraduate Catalog for Senior Seminars outside of Biological Sciences.

COURSE	HOURS	GRADE	SEMESTER
EIU _____	3		

SOCIAL/BEHAVIORAL SCIENCE: 9 HRS
Must be from two different disciplines. One course must meet Cultural & Diversity requirement

COURSE	HOURS	GRADE	SEMESTER
PSY 1879G# Intro to Psychology	3		
ECN 2800G OR 2801G OR 2802G^ Economics of Social Issues/Macro/Micro	3		
SOC 1838G^ Intro to Sociology	3		

FOREIGN LANGUAGE: 0-8 HRS
❑ Exempt if 2 yrs in high school with "C" average.

COURSE	HOURS	GRADE	SEMESTER
WL _____**G**	4		
WL _____**G**	4		

SCIENCE AWARENESS: 7 HRS
Complete in major.

MATHEMATICS: 3 HRS
Complete in major.

*SCIENCE CORE: 56 HRS

BIOLOGY COURSES	HOURS	GRADE	SEMESTER
BIO 1150 Biology Forum	1		
BIO 1500 General Biology I	4		
&**BIO 1550G** General Biology II	4		
BIO 3120 Molecular & Cell Biology	4		
BIO 3200 Genetics	4		
BIO 2220+ Anatomy & Physiology II	4		
&**BIO 3180** Ecology & Evolution	4		
BIO 3300 General Microbiology	4		
PHYSICS COURSES	**HOURS**	**GRADE**	**SEMESTER**
PHY 1151G Principles Physics I	3		
PHY 1152G Principles Physics I Lab	1		
PHY 1161 Principles Physics II	3		
PHY 1162 Principles Physics II Lab	1		
MATH COURSES	**HOURS**	**GRADE**	**SEMESTER**
MAT 2110G Brief Calculus	3		
BIO 4750 Statistic Anly of Sci Data **OR MAT 2250G** Elementary Statistics	4		
CHEMISTRY COURSES	**HOURS**	**GRADE**	**SEMESTER**
CHM 1310G General Chemistry I	3		
CHM 1315G General Chemistry I Lab	1		
CHM 1410 General Chemistry II	3		
CHM 1415 General Chemistry II Lab	1		
CHM 2440 Organic Chemistry I	3		
CHM 2445 Organic Chemistry I Lab	1		

*Additional prerequisite classes may be required. See Undergraduate Catalog
+BIO 2210 (Anatomy and Physiology I) prerequisite. BIO 2210 counts as BIO elective credit.
#Required by some optometry schools
^Recommended by some optometry schools
&Biological Sciences Major Requirement - Not necessarily required by optometry schools
Departmental Exit Interview is also required prior to leaving EIU.

MAJOR ELECTIVES: 21HRS

21 semester hours of elective course work in Biological Sciences (with the exception of **BIO 3400**, **BIO 4275**, workshops, and courses designed for General Education with the exception of **BIO 3888G**) or Mathematics or Physical Sciences courses above 2000 (with the exception of general education and **CHM 2310**). A minimum of 14 semester hours must be taken in the Biological Sciences.

COURSE	HOURS	GRADE	SEMESTER
BIO 2210 Anatomy & Physiology	4		
CHM 2840# Organic Chemistry II	3		
CHM 3450# Biochemistry	3		

BIO 2210 (4) Anatomy and Physiology I
BIO 3035 (3) Economic Botany
BIO 3210 (4) Immunology
BIO 3312 (3) Horticulture
BIO 3322 (3) Dendrology
BIO 3330 (4) Introduction to Botany
BIO 3340 (4) Zoology
BIO 3450 (1-3) Independent Study
BIO 3451 (1-3) Undergraduate Research
BIO 3460 (4) Clinical Rotation
BIO 3610 (3) Survey of Algae & Fungi
BIO 3612 (3) Plant Evolution & Diversity
BIO 3620 (4) Funct. Comp. Anatomy
BIO 3622 (4) Embryology
BIO 3624 (3) Histology
BIO 3628 (4) Evolutionary Medicine
BIO 3710 (3) Plant-Animal Interactions
BIO 3720 (4) Entomology
BIO 3740 (3) Clinical Mycology
BIO 3810 (3) Freshwater Ecology
BIO 3850 (3) Environmental Biology
BIO 3888G (3) Tropical/Marine Ecology
BIO 3950 (3) Vertebrate Natural History
BIO 3952 (3) Invertebrate Natural History
BIO 3960 (1-4) Special Topics
BIO 4400 (1) Teaching in the Lab
BIO 4751 (3) Adv. Molec. & Cell Biol.
BIO 4800 (2) Research Techniques
BIO 4810 (4) Plant Ecology
BIO 4812 (3) Fisheries Ecology & Mgmt
BIO 4814 (3) Conservation Biology
BIO 4816 (3) Biotic Communities
BIO 4818 (4) Environmental Microbiology
BIO 4820 (4) Spatial Analysis for Environmental Sciences
BIO 4830 (3) Comp. Vertebrate Physiology
BIO 4832 (4) Animal Behavior
BIO 4833 (4) Neurobiology of Diseases
BIO 4834 (4) Neurobiology
BIO 4835 (4) Advanced Neurobiology
BIO 4836 (4) Pathogenic Microbiology
BIO 4892 (4) Intro. Paleobotany
BIO 4914 (3) Plant Anatomy
BIO 4920 (3) Medicinal Plants
BIO 4940 (3) Phycology
BIO 4942 (3) Mycology
BIO 4944 (3) Lichens
BIO 4946 (3) Bryology
BIO 4948 (3) Plant Taxonomy
BIO 4950 (3) Ichthyology
BIO 4952 (3) Herpetology
BIO 4954 (3) Ornithology
BIO 4956 (3) Mammalogy
BIO 4958 (4) Parasitology
BIO 4960 (3) Wetland & Aqua. Vasc. Plants
BIO 4984 (3) Evolutionary Biology

Courses numbered 5000-5499 inclusive, may be taken by a senior whose graduation requirements average 2.75 or higher, with the permission of the instructor and the Dean of the Graduate School.

GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS:

❑	120 Hours
❑	40 SH of upper division courses (3000+)
❑	30 SH in residence at EIU
❑	30 SH junior-senior residency
❑	12 SH senior residency
❑	2.00 Cumulative GPA

❑	2.00 Major GPA
❑	Cultural Diversity
❑	Application for Graduation (First semester junior year)
❑	Electronic Writing Portfolio 1❑ 2❑ *See www.eiu.edu/~assess/ for requirements*

BIO-OPTOMETRY

Some people will tell you that doctors of optometry diagnose and treat disorders of the eye. What optometrists really do – each and every day – is make a real difference in real lives. Optometrists reveal new vistas, return lost joys, empower greater achievement, and preserve unlived lives. That's what optometrists do.

Doctors of Optometry complete a four-year doctoral program to earn the Doctor of Optometry (O.D.) degree.

Admission is very competitive and each optometry program has slightly different criteria. It is important to review the pre-requisites for each school and identify which program you wish to apply and plan accordingly. On average students should maintain a grade point average near 3.40/4.00 or higher, demonstrate leadership skills, expose yourself to the world of optometry, and perform well on the Optometry Admission Test (OAT).

WHAT MAKES YOU UNIQUE FROM OTHER APPLICANTS?

OPTOMETRIC EXPERIENCE

Volunteer or work experience with a specialist is beneficial.

LEADERSHIP EXPERIENCE

Optometrists are leaders in their communities and demonstrated leadership skills are a must. Campus and community organizations provide excellent leadership opportunities.

RESOURCES:

Assoc. of Schools and Colleges of Optometry
www.opted.org

OAT
www.ada.org/oat/index.html

Southern College of Optometry (Memphis)
www.sco.edu/admissions/Pages/prerequisitecourses.aspx

Illinois College of Optometry
www.ico.edu/admissions/apply/preopt_requirements.html

St. Louis College of Optometry
www.umsl.edu/~optometry/students/prospstudpag.html

Ohio State College of Optometry
optometry.osu.edu/futureStudents/requirements.cfm

Indiana College of Optometry
www.opt.indiana.edu/programs/od/prereqs.htm

Chicago College of Optometry (Midwestern)
www.midwestern.edu/academics/our-colleges/chicago-college-of-optometry.xml

SUGGESTED 4-YEAR SEQUENCE

YEAR 1 MUST EARN 30+ SH FOR SOPHOMORE STATUS			
FALL		**SPRING**	
ENG 1001G	3	ENG 1002G	3
BIO 1500	4	BIO 1550G	4
CHM 1310G/1315G	4	CHM 1410/1415	4
BIO 1150	1	[1]Gen Ed Elective	3
[1]Gen Ed Elective	3	[2]MAT Prereq	3
Total	15	Total	17

YEAR 2 MUST EARN 60+ SH FOR JUNIOR STATUS			
FALL		**SPRING**	
BIO 3120	4	BIO 3200	4
CHM 2440/2445	4	CHM 2840/2845	4
MAT 2110G	3	BIO 2210	4
[1]Gen Ed Elective	3	[1]Gen Ed Elective	3
Total	14	Total	15

YEAR 3 MUST EARN 90+ SH FOR SENIOR STATUS			
FALL		**SPRING**	
PHY 1151G/1152G (FA ONLY)	4	PHY 1161/1162 (SP ONLY)	4
BIO 2220	4	CMN 1310G	3
BIO 4750 OR MAT 2250G	4	BIO 3300	4
CHM 3450 (FA ONLY)	3	BIO Elective >3000	3
OAT Prep		*OAT Exam/Apply to Optometry School*	
Total	15	Total	14

YEAR 4 MUST EARN 120 SH TO GRADUATE			
FALL		**SPRING**	
EIU 4XXXG	3	BIO 3180	4
BIO Elective >3000	3	BIO Elective >3000	3
[1]Gen Ed Elective	3	[1]Gen Ed Elective	3
[3]Free Elective	3	[3]Free Elective	3
Optometry School Admission Interviews		Exit Interview	
Total	12	Total	13

[1] General Education Elective
[2] See Math Placement
[3] Take course that was not previously taken

The suggested schedule sequence assumes that the foreign language requirement has been completed.

Many courses have prerequisites. See Undergraduate Catalog.

NOTES, QUESTIONS, MINOR REQUIREMENTS:

The above information is designed for advising purposes only and is not intended to serve as the final or official determination of program requirements. Please consult the EIU undergraduate catalog for additional program information and/or requirements.