

PRE-OPTOMETRY (SALUS UNIVERSITY)

 LA ROCHE UNIVERSITY

A MAJOR IN OPTOMETRY is meant to prepare students for careers as optometrists. As health care practitioners, optometrists engage in an examination process of the eye and diagnose, treat and manage diseases of the visual system affecting the eye. Optometrists also prescribe spectacle and contact lenses in order to correct refractive errors.

The La Roche University/Salus University Doctor of Optometry program is a seven-year program, culminating in a Doctor of Optometry degree from Salus. The Doctor of Optometry program at Salus is fully accredited by the Accreditation Council on Optometric Education of the American Optometric Association.



LA ROCHE UNIVERSITY | 9000 Babcock Blvd. | Pittsburgh, PA 15237 | laroche.edu

Freshman Admissions
844-838-4578 | 412-536-1272
admissions@laroche.edu

Transfer Admissions
412-536-1260
transferadmissions@laroche.edu

REQUIREMENTS FOR PRE-OPTOMETRY PHASE I

- Complete the pre-optometry curriculum at La Roche, which must consist of a minimum of 90 semester hours of undergraduate education, including the prerequisites.
- Maintain a GPA of 3.0 or above on a 4.0 scale.
- Submit a completed application to the Optometry Centralized Application Service (OptomCAS), including satisfactory score results of the Optometry Admissions Test (OAT) and required letters of evaluation.
- Shadow a practicing optometrist(s) in order to be familiar with the role of the optometrist as a member of the health care team.

REQUIREMENTS FOR PROFESSIONAL PHASE II AT SALUS UNIVERSITY

- For consideration for admission into the Doctor of Optometry program at Salus, a student must successfully complete Phase I as described above.
- Students must then apply to the Doctor of Optometry program by following the application procedures described on the Salus website no later than Dec. 1 of the intended entering year. These admissions procedures include completion of a successful on-campus interview.
- Salus will reserve four seats in each class of the program for La Roche students who have successfully completed Phase I of the program and the Phase II application process. If there are more than four such qualified La Roche students, the remaining La Roche students will be considered for admission along with all other applicants.
- Students accepted into the Professional Phase complete four years of full-time study at Salus. Upon successful completion of the fourth year, students will be awarded either a Bachelor of Arts in health science or a Bachelor of Science in biology from La Roche, depending on their declared major. Thirty credits from Salus will complete the La Roche bachelor's degree.



CURRICULUM

REQUIREMENTS

The following coursework is required:

- 56 credits of Phase 1 courses
- Must have completed a minimum of 90 credits prescribed by their La Roche program prior to articulation

PHASE I COMPONENT

56 credits

General Biology I & Lab
General Biology II & Lab
Microbiology for Health Science with Lab
or Microbiology with Lab
Analytic Geometry & Calculus I
Analytic Geometry & Calculus II
General Chemistry I with Lab
General Chemistry II with Lab
Organic Chemistry I with Lab
Organic Chemistry II with Lab
General Physics I with Lab
General Physics II with Lab
Probability & Statistics
Intro to Psychology
Reading and Writing
Academic Writing and Research

ENCOURAGED ADDITIONAL COURSEWORK

Human Anatomy & Physiology I with Lab
Human Anatomy & Physiology II with Lab
Biochemistry I with Lab
Biochemistry II
Cell Biology
Genetics & Lab
Biological Psychology
Research Methods in Psychology