

# OPT-1911: OPHTHALMIC ASSISTING DIRECTED PRACTICE

---

## Cuyahoga Community College

**Viewing: OPT-1911 : Ophthalmic Assisting Directed Practice**

**Board of Trustees:**

March 2021

**Academic Term:**

Fall 2021

**Subject Code**

OPT - Optical Technology

**Course Number:**

1911

**Title:**

Ophthalmic Assisting Directed Practice

**Catalog Description:**

Application of ophthalmic assisting techniques in a clinical setting. Emphasis on records keeping, preliminary examination of the eye, cleaning and disinfection of equipment, ophthalmic pharmacology, refracting, and professionalism.

**Credit Hour(s):**

4

**Other Hour(s):**

480

**Other Hour Details:**

Directed Practice: 30 hours per week for the duration of 16 weeks

## Requisites

**Prerequisite and Corequisite**

Concurrent enrollment in OPT-1721 Advanced Patient Care

## Outcomes

**Course Outcome(s):**

Perform all required duties of an ophthalmic assistant including preliminary exams, assisting MD with minor surgery, and maintaining patient records.

**Objective(s):**

1. Describe the organization of an ophthalmologic practice including the chain of command.
2. Perform preliminary examinations of the eye.
3. Operate ophthalmoscope.
4. Operate phoropter.
5. Operate tonometer.
6. Describe practical ophthalmic pharmacology.
7. Calibrate and maintain all ophthalmic testing equipment.
8. Instill eye drops and ointments.
9. Assist MD with minor surgery.
10. Explain the office procedures of an Ophthalmologic practice.
11. Describe the emergency procedures in effect for fire code, disaster, and patient emergency.
12. Document a patient's medical history in their medical chart.
13. Consult medical charts to ascertain patient history.
14. Protect patient confidentiality.
15. Properly disinfect equipment for microbial control according to department policy.

16. Apply knowledge of systemic anatomy and physiology; in particular the anatomy and physiology of the eye.
17. Operate lensometer.

---

**Course Outcome(s):**

Exhibit professional behaviors including, but not limited to appropriate communication skills, promptness, personal hygiene, integrity, ethical behavior, dependability, responding appropriately to feedback and working as a team.

**Objective(s):**

1. Utilize any unscheduled time by engaging in constructive activities such as reading medical literature, observing others within the department, or departmental maintenance procedures.
2. Ask pertinent questions about procedures using suitable medical terminology.
3. Display appropriate and courteous behavior to both patients and all facility personnel.
4. Display a concerned attitude for all patients, including their safety and comfort.

---

**Methods of Evaluation:**

1. Directed Practice Evaluations
2. Self Evaluations

**Course Content Outline:**

1. History Taking
  - a. Chief complaint
  - b. Past ocular history
  - c. Family history
  - d. Systemic illness
    - i. Past
    - ii. Present
  - e. Medications
  - f. Allergies and drug reactions
  - g. Partially sighted patient
2. Basic Skills and Lensometry
  - a. Measuring and recording visual acuity
  - b. Color vision testing
  - c. Amsler grid
  - d. Schirmer test
  - e. Evaluation of pupils
  - f. Estimation of anterior chamber depth
  - g. Lensometry
3. Patient Services
  - a. Ocular dressings and shields
  - b. Drug delivery
  - c. Spectacle principles
  - d. Assisting the patient
  - e. Minor surgery
4. Basic Tonometry
  - a. Applanation
  - b. Factors altering intraocular pressure
5. Instrument maintenance
  - a. Acuity projectors
  - b. Ophthalmoscope
  - c. Retinoscope
  - d. Lensometer
  - e. Perimeter
  - f. Tangent screen
  - g. Phoropter
  - h. Slit lamp
  - i. Ultrasound
  - j. Keratometer

- k. Lenses
- l. Tonometer
- m. Muscle light
- n. Special instruments
- o. Surgical instruments
- 6. General medical knowledge
  - a. Applied anatomy and physiology
  - b. Recognition of systemic diseases
  - c. Recognition of ocular diseases
  - d. Handling ocular emergencies
  - e. Fundamentals of microbial control

## Resources

Ledford, Janice. *Principles and Practice in Ophthalmic Assisting*. Thorofare, NJ: Slack Incorporated, 2018.

---

Newmark, Emanuel and Mary O'Hara. *Ophthalmic Medical Assisting*. 10th ed. San Francisco: American Academy of Ophthalmology, 2017.

---

Stein, Harold A., Raymond M. Stein and Melvin I. Freeman. *The Ophthalmic Assistant: A Text for Allied and Associated Ophthalmic Personnel*. 10th ed. St. Louis: Elsevier, 2017.

---

Top of page

Key: 3341