

Refraction for Opticians Courses

Module 1 – Vision for the 21st Century

Presented by Maggie Sayers

Refraction is both an art and a science. It has greatly impacted the profession of Opticianry over the centuries. While the equipment we use today may look very different, the sequence and performance of a subjective refraction has remained unchanged. In the 21st century more than ever before, opticians need to understand, know and perform refractions to serve today's educated, demanding patients.

Module 2 – Optical Bootcamp

Presented by Maggie Sayers

The optical boot camp will prepare you for your refraction studies. To master the art of refraction, it is necessary to understand how the human eye experiences sight. You will revisit the laws that govern the way light travels. Analyzing prescription eyeglasses will illustrate how this knowledge allows you to better serve your patients. Let's pump the optical muscles!

Module 3 – Introduction to Retinoscopy

Presented by Bernie Stewart

Introduction to Retinoscopy covers the proper use and mechanics of the streak retinoscope and the instructor explains how a retinoscope is used to measure a refractive error on the human eye. The course also covers how to check your work for accuracy and consistency after the retinoscopic procedure has been performed.

Module 4 – Retinoscopy Workshop

Presented by Bernie Stewart

A "Hands On" and "How to" course in the retinoscopy of the human eye. Enrollees will retinoscope each other using the Axis Labeling Method and analyze their results by screening the vision of the person they just retinoscoped. Retinoscopy is an objective method of measuring a refractive error of the human eye and is used to establish a starting point for a subjective refraction-refinement in many cases.

Module 5 – Introduction to Refraction

Presented by Warren McDonald

The phoropter is the primary instrument used to perform a subjective refraction. After you examine the parts of the phoropter you will get hands-on experience in performing a refraction. Understanding this key area of refraction will enable you to begin your journey towards mastering the skill of refraction.

Module 6 – Refraction Workshop I

Presented by Warren McDonald

At this point, you have a basic understanding of the elements of a refraction. Practicing this newly acquired skill will give you the confidence you need to become a masterful refractionist.

Module 7 – Refraction Workshop II - Refraction Refinement; Competency Testing

Presented by Warren McDonald

Practice, Practice, Practice! At this point, you have a working knowledge of the flow of a refraction. You will be able to use the phoropter effectively. Understanding the refinement techniques and determining the ADD power will complete your refraction instructions. A competency test will give you a chance to demonstrate your knowledge and earn your certificate.

Module 8 – Modern Refraction Technology

Presented by Maggie Sayers and Caroline Miller

The search for new ways to perform refractions has been going on for a long time. We want faster, more accurate, guaranteed perfect measurements. You will understand how the different systems work. Most excitingly, you will have a chance to evaluate the smartphone based Eyenetra system, lovingly called “Optometry in a box” by the MIT software engineers who developed it.

Module 9 – 21st Century Optical Business Model

Presented by Maggie Sayers and Caroline Miller

Just like the way we perform refractions has changed over the years, so has the optical business model. This is not your Grandpa’s optical shop. You have started your journey to become a master refractionist. We will give you some business development tools that will help you implement your new skill to support your success to your patients’ delight and your happiness.