

SUNY College of Optometry
Summer 2021 Elective Courses
Friday: 9:00AM - 10:50AM (June 4 – July 30, 2021)

Credits: 1

Grade Scale: Honors/Pass/Fail

All elective offerings are contingent on meeting minimum enrollment.

The Art and Science of Effective Communication

Course Code: ELC-508

Instructors: Dr. Guilherme Albieri,

Department: ClinEd

Maximum Enrollment: 10

Dr. Quy H. Nguyen and

Dr. Delaram Shirazian

Verbal communication skills are one of the most valued skills by practitioners and employers. It is no longer considered a soft skill. Rather, it is now considered a core professional skill that every practitioner must develop. Optometrists use verbal communication skills when interacting with patients, colleagues and the public on a daily basis. They also use it when delivering public speeches, presenting at industry meetings, communicating with their staff, and presenting research findings. This course provides participants with communication skills that will enable them to meet the challenges of today's optometrists. Competencies explored through this course are divided into two tracks - public speaking and doctor-patient communication.

Clinical Decision Making in Low Vision

Course Code: ELC-522

Instructor: Dr. Rebecca Marinoff

Department: ClinEd

Maximum Enrollment: 10

(May be used to fulfill the Low Vision/Ocular Disease micro-credentials - with permission of coordinator.)

This elective course will prepare interns to make clinical decisions in the evaluation and management of low vision patients. Each week cases will be reviewed in an interactive manner that highlights exam modifications needed to evaluate each patient, the low vision device selection process for each case, and device recommendations and rehabilitation strategies that were used in the management plan. The course will include hands-on trial (if possible, or else virtual demonstration) of the recommended devices.

Clinical Decision Making In Glaucoma

Course Code: ELC-523

Instructors: Dr. Matthew Bovenzi and

Department: ClinEd

Maximum Enrollment: 16

Dr. Richard Madonna

(May be used to fulfill Glaucoma and Low Vision/Ocular Disease micro-credentials – with permission of coordinator.)

The course will be taught through the use of multiple case examples in which management of the glaucoma patient is in question. The cases will require evidence-based clinical decisions be made but will also show that there are often several appropriate management pathways that can be taken in any case. These management nuances are very difficult to teach in a beginning glaucoma course so this course can truly be thought of building upon the foundation taught in the Ocular Disease I course. Additionally, where appropriate, new ideas in glaucoma management that have the potential to change the way we manage the disease will be discussed.

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Visual Field Techniques and Applications for Glaucoma

Course Code: ELC-525

Instructor: Dr. Suresh Viswanathan

Department: BVS

Maximum enrollment: 12

(May be used to fulfill Glaucoma and Low Vision/Ocular Disease micro-credentials – with permission of coordinator.)

This course is intended to expose students to current and emerging forms of visual field assessment techniques. The students will gain an in-depth understanding of the physiological and psychophysical basis of different visual field-testing strategies and how to interpret the clinical test results. The course will also discuss the correlation of visual field changes to optic nerve head and retinal ganglion cell structural changes and how the combined structure and function information is used for the diagnosis and monitoring progression of glaucoma. Students will get weekly reading assignments of original peer-reviewed articles which they will discuss during the class. The assessment will be based on class participation.

Vision and Learning Intensive

Course Code: ELC-542

Instructors: Dr. Audra Steiner and
Dr. Steven Ritter

Department: BVS

Maximum Enrollment: 20

(May be used to fulfill Vision Rehabilitation micro-credentials – with permission of coordinator.)

This course is designed to clarify the link between visual input skills and visual perceptual skills. Students will understand standard and advanced perceptual testing for adults and children and will become familiar with the types of academic accommodations that optometrists can recommend. Students will understand the process and components of a thorough psychoeducational evaluation and be able to interpret such tests as might be provided by parents. Students will learn how to address various visual perceptual deficiencies through vision therapy.

Spanish for Optometrists: Absolute Beginners and Beginners Only

Course Code: ELC-560

Instructors: Dr. Alexandra Benavente

Department: ClinEd

Maximum Enrollment: 10

NOTE: Do not sign up for this class if you are an intermediate and advanced Spanish student. The intermediate and advance elective class will take place in spring. This elective course is designed to help the student with no previous Spanish background and/or limited Spanish knowledge develop the basic skills required to conduct an optometric exam in Spanish. An elective for intermediate or advanced students will be offered in spring. We will work on general and specific eye vocabulary, basic grammar, and cultural contexts of Hispanic/Latino culture.

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Independent Study in Evidence Based Practice

Course Code: ELC-581

Instructors: Dr. Richard Madonna and
TBD

Department: ClinEd

(May be used to fulfill Vision Rehabilitation micro-credentials – with permission of coordinator.)

Evidence Based Practice incorporates current evidence from well-designed studies, the patient's values and preferences, and the clinician's expertise, to guide clinical decision making and patient care. This elective offers students the opportunity to work independently to research and assess a clinical condition of their choosing and the best existing evidence regarding the current treatment and management of that condition. The student will work with a selected advisor (with permission of the chair of Clinic Education) and present a summary of their findings through the development of a presentation (written paper, narrated slide presentation, video, or other approved medium).