VOCATIONAL BACHELOR’S DEGREE

OPTICS PROFESSIONS
The University of Nîmes’ Optics Professions Licence Professionnelle is a course designed in partnership with the ARAMAV Rehabilitation Centre for Visually Impaired and the ophthalmology department of the Nîmes University Hospital. The course was created in response to high demand in the medical eye care and eyewear industry, at both a regional and a national level, for highly skilled specialists in the fields of refraction, contact lenses, and low vision equipment.

**OBJECTIVES**

The eye care business has, for some years, been experiencing massive growth due to the progress made in the correction equipment available on the market and the appearance of new materials and practices (low vision, etc.). Additionally, the development of three vision professions - opticians, orthoptists and ophthalmologists - and their interaction requires new skills and/or knowledge.

The Optics Professions Licence is designed to provide specialist training so that graduates acquire:

- complementary skills in the fields of refraction and contact lenses,
- knowledge of ocular anatomy and physiopathology,
- knowledge of eye defects and disabilities.

**ENTRY REQUIREMENTS**

Year 2, bachelor’s degree or equivalent (advanced technician certificates such as the BTS) with priority given to students with an optometry BTS.
SKILLS AND EXPERTISES

- Enables opticians with a BTS to acquire complementary skills related to eyewear for patients with complex intraocular eye conditions (e.g. diseases in translucent areas, post-cataract surgery patients, etc.). This requires lessons in anatomy, physiology and pathologies, but not paramedical treatment skills.
- Knowledge and expertise concerning ocular surfaces (cornea, conjunctiva) and hygiene protocols in order to provide patients with information on handling and placing contact lenses and maintenance products after an ophthalmologist has prescribed and adapted a contact lens.
- Low vision expertise required for choosing and setting up optometry visual aids such as:
  - lighting;
  - filters;
  - optical (magnifying glass, telescope) and electronic (screen magnifiers) magnifying visual systems.
- Key skills related to professional practice, ethics.

POSSIBLE CAREER PATHS

Eyewear and spectacle professionals:
- Production of equipment and lenses.
- Ophthalmologist assistants.
- Opticians specializing in low vision.

KEY FIGURES

80% of students graduated in 2017.

100% of graduates were employed 30 months after completing the Licence Professionnelle.

Source: OVIE (Unîmes Student Life and Employment Observatory) surveys of graduates from 2012, 2013 and 2014
ECTS credits: 180
Duration: 1 year
Level of studies: BAC +3

ENTRY REQUIREMENTS
• Apprenticeship/further education
• Validation of prior experience (VAE)

INTERNSHIP
• 4 at 6 months

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