1. NATURE AND EXTENT OF THE PROGRAM

India, the second most populous country in the world, is home to 23.5% of the world's blind population. Increasing rate of blindness in India can be effectively addressed with the help of eye care team including Optometrist, Ophthalmologist and other key stakeholders. According to world council of Optometry – the supreme governing body - Optometry is a healthcare profession that is autonomous, educated, and regulated and optometrists are the primary healthcare practitioners of the eye and visual system who provide comprehensive eye and vision care, which includes refraction and dispensing, detection/diagnosis of disease in the eye, and the rehabilitation of conditions of the visual system.

Our Masters in Optometry program focusses toward student centred learning methods in providing basic to advanced level of knowledge in all disciplines of optometry, facilitate practical and clinical exposures for skill training and develop key attitude for professional eye care practice. The current program enables students to apply recent research to clinical practice, thus improving their competency as primary eye care professionals and making them a lifelong learner by imbibing evidence based practice in Optometry.

The course aims to prepare the student to be competent in applying advanced integrated optometric knowledge to evaluate clinical information independently, establish diagnoses and design appropriate management plan within the scope of the optometric profession.

ENTRY REQUIREMENTS
Indian category

- Qualifications: Bachelor in Optometry with a minimum of 3 years of course work and 1 year of internship done as full-time program from a recognized university

- Eligibility Requirements: Passing in Departmental entrance test and personal interview
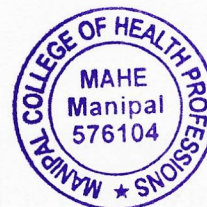
Foreign category

- Qualifications: Bachelor in Optometry with a minimum of 3 years of course work and 1 year of internship done as full-time program from a recognized university

- Eligibility Requirements: Minimum 80% or a cumulative grade point average of 8.0 and above in Bachelors of Optometry

2. PROGRAM EDUCATION OBJECTIVES (PEOs)

The overall objective of the learning outcome-based curriculum framework (LOCF) for Masters in Optometry are as follows:

PEO No.	Education Objective
PEO 1	Students will be able to use their fundamental knowledge and clinical competence in various scientific aspects of optometry / eye care.
PEO 2	Students will demonstrate strong and well defined clinical / practical skills in optometry
PEO 3	Students will be able to practice the profession with highly professional and ethical attitude, strong communication skills, and to work in an inter-disciplinary team so as to provide good quality eye care
PEO 4	Students will be able to use interpersonal and collaborative skills to identify, assess and formulate problems and execute the solution to assess vision related problems
PEO 5	Students will be able to imbibe the culture of research, innovation, entrepreneurship and incubation through evidence-based optometry practise
PEO 6	Students will be able to participate in lifelong learning process for a highly productive career and will be able to relate the concepts of trends and issues in the discipline of optometry / eye care

3. GRADUATE ATTRIBUTES

S No.	Attribute	Description
1	**Domain Knowledge**	Demonstrate comprehensive knowledge, competency and understanding of one or more disciplines that form a part of a professional domain
2	**Clinical / Hands-on skills**	Demonstrate clinical / hands-on skills in order to deliver and manage quality health care services
3	**Communication Skills**	Demonstrate the ability to listen carefully, read and write analytically, and present complex information in a clear and concise manner to different groups using appropriate media.
4	**Team work**	Demonstrate the ability to effectively and efficiently work and collaborate with diverse teams in the best interest of health care needs of the community
5.	**Professional ethics**	Demonstrate the ability to embrace moral/ethical values in conducting one's life, formulate a position/argument about an ethical issue from multiple perspectives, and use ethical practices in professional life.
6.	**Research / Innovation-related Skills**	A sense of inquiry and investigation for raising relevant and contemporary questions, synthesizing and articulating.
7.	**Critical thinking and problem solving**	Demonstrate capacity to think critically and extrapolate from what one has learned by applying their competencies and knowledge to solve different kinds of non-familiar problems in real life situations.

S No.	Attribute	Description
8	**Information/Digital Literacy**	Demonstrate capability to use ICT in a variety of learning situations, demonstrate ability to access, evaluate, and use a variety of relevant information sources and to use appropriate software for analysis of data.
9	**Multicultural Competence**	Demonstrate knowledge of the values and beliefs of multiple cultures and a global perspective, effectively engage in a multicultural society, interact respectfully with diverse groups.
11.	**Leadership qualities**	Demonstrate leadership capability to formulate an inspiring vision, build a team, motivate and inspire team members to attain organizational vision
12.	**Lifelong Learning**	Demonstrate the ability to acquire knowledge and skills, that are necessary for participating in learning activities throughout life, through self-paced and self-directed learning aimed at personal development, meeting economic, social and cultural objectives, and adapting to demands of work place through knowledge/skill development/reskilling.

4. QUALIFICATION DESCRIPTORS:

a) Demonstrate (i) a systematic, extensive and coherent knowledge and understanding of an academic field of study as a whole and its applications, and links to related disciplinary areas/subjects of study, including a critical understanding of the established theories, principles and concepts, and of a number of advanced and emerging issues/theories in the field of Optometry; (ii) procedural knowledge that creates different types of professionals related to the disciplinary/subject area of study, including research and development, teaching and government and public service; (iii) skills in areas related to one's specialization and current developments in the academic field of Optometry, including a critical understanding of the latest developments in the area of specialization, and an ability to use established techniques of analysis and enquiry within the area of specialization Optometry.

b) Demonstrate comprehensive knowledge about materials and methods, including professional literature relating to essential and advanced learning areas pertaining to the chosen disciplinary area(s) and field of study, and techniques and skills required for identifying/solving problems and issues relating to the disciplinary area and field of study.

c) Demonstrate skills in identifying information needs, collection of relevant quantitative and/or qualitative data drawing on a wide range of sources, analysis and interpretation of data using methodologies as appropriate to the subject(s) for formulating evidence-based solutions and arguments.

d) Use knowledge, understanding and skills for critical assessment of a wide range of ideas and complex problems and issues relating to the field

e) Communicate appropriately with all stakeholders, and provide relevant information to the members of the healthcare team

f) Address one's own learning needs relating to current and emerging areas of study, making use of research, development and professional materials as appropriate, including those related to new frontiers of knowledge

g) Apply one's domain knowledge and transferable skills that are relevant to some of the job trades, employment opportunities and seek solutions to real-life problems.

5. PROGRAM OUTCOMES (POs):

After successful completion of Masters / MSc Optometry program students will be able to:

PO No.	Attribute	Competency
PO 1	Domain knowledge	Apply the **knowledge** of basic and applied sciences in the diagnosis and management of ocular/visual conditions.
PO 2	Clinical/ Hands-on skills	Provide quality **eye and vision care** through comprehensive and appropriate examination, diagnosis and management of eye and vision conditions.
PO 3	Teamwork	Demonstrate **teamwork skills** by engaging in community activities to reduce the burden of avoidable blindness, occupation related ocular disorders and promote interdisciplinary care.
PO 4	Ethical value & professionalism	Possess and demonstrate **ethical values and professionalism** within the legal framework of the society.
PO 5	Communication	**Communicate clearly and effectively** with patients and other health professionals for optimal health outcomes.
PO 6	Evidence based practice	Demonstrate high quality **evidence-based practice** that leads to excellence in professional practice.
PO 7	Life-long learning	Able to perform and disseminate research relevant to optometry and vision science and thereby engaging in **continual professional development.**
PO 8	Entrepreneurship, leadership and mentorship	Develop an **entrepreneurial spirit** in the process of setting up optometry practice and promoting cost-effective ways of identification and management of ocular/visual conditions.