

College of Engineering

OPTICAL SCIENCES AND ENGINEERING

Brilliant Technologies

Smartphones, computers, cameras, cars and medical devices – optical engineering is a versatile field with endless possibilities. Using lasers, lenses and other light-manipulating technology, optical engineers create systems for manufacturing, medicine, communications and space exploration, to name just a few.



TRADITION OF EXCELLENCE

The BS in optical sciences and engineering is housed in the College of Engineering and administered by the Wyant College of Optical Sciences. World-class faculty teach the foundations of physics while applying optics to electronics, materials and mechanics. Many students are in the W.A. Franke Honors College. About 40% of students in this major go on to graduate school, often through Arizona Online as a paid benefit of full-time employment.

CLEAR PATH TO A REWARDING FUTURE

Undergraduate students are actively recruited annually by industrial affiliates for summer internships and full-time employment. The median U.S. salary after five years of employment is \$92,000, according to the 2022 SPIE Salary Report.



»» optics.arizona.edu



THE UNIVERSITY OF ARIZONA

Wyant College
of Optical Sciences

HIGH-PROFILE PROJECTS

Optical engineers at the University of Arizona are world leaders. Students work alongside faculty and professionals on projects including:

- Augmented reality displays
- Smartphone microscopy
- Imaging systems, including equipment for the James Webb Space Telescope
- Specialized instruments for quantum computing, medical imaging and space systems



“ I was in the right place at the right time to earn my optical sciences degree at one of the few universities specializing in the field. I feel so fortunate, because it’s given me opportunities and a career I hadn’t even known existed. Now I recruit hires for my company at the University of Arizona. ”

Alum Matthias Whitney, *Elbit Systems*

LEARNING FROM EXPERIENCE

Outside the classroom, optical engineering students extend their studies with faculty and work with longstanding industry partners all dedicated to helping them succeed – in college and beyond.

- Paid internships
- Formal networking with faculty, alumni and partners
- Practical design projects
- Globally significant research and field experience
- Clubs and organizations, including the Student Optics Chapter and Women in Optics

A PLACE FOR EVERYONE

Various engineering clubs – American Indian Science & Engineering Society; National Society of Black Engineers; Out in Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics; Society of Hispanic Professional Engineers, and Society of Women Engineers, for example – help ensure all students feel welcome and connected.

“ While it is important to conduct state-of-the-art research at universities and publish in high-impact scientific journals, it is as important to have a consistent effort on translating innovative research out into the real world so that it not only creates jobs, but also improves lives. ”

Nasser Peyghambarian, *professor*



Recruiting and Admissions

520.621.6032 – enr-admissions@arizona.edu

Advising

520.626.6737 – undergrad-advising@optics.arizona.edu