

MY POSITIVE EXPERIENCE WITH NAIT OPTICAL SCIENCES

By Annika Engels

I am an apprenticing student optician going into my third year with [NAIT](#) and this is my first online school experience, which has been very positive! I get my learning online, and while at work I get my hands-on experience that is also required. I am so lucky to have an amazing mentor that guides me into becoming knowledgeable and successful.



The main reason I was interested in online learning was that there is no travel. Not only am I able to do all my studies from the comfort of my home, I am able to keep my job. For some, it can be difficult to juggle the demands of school and work simultaneously, but if you're organized and self-disciplined, it's often possible to do both! It's great that I don't have to attend class at a specific time, I can study during my free time, and I can still fulfill the functions of my job.

The great thing about online classes is that they are not a fixed schedule, so I have a lot of flexibility, which is perfect! I am able to create my own schedule and base it around work and my personal life. I can watch the videos, read lectures, respond to emails or comments out in public; whether it's on the bus, at the park or in a grocery store line up. I also like that I am able to watch or read part of a lecture, pause it, and then come back to it at a convenient time. Being in a traditional class I would have to work around the college schedule and attend in-person for the full lecture. Failing to do so could result in missing valuable information or learning experiences. I can do all the work at my own pace, as long as I meet my deadlines and participate appropriately online. This means much less pressure and intensity. I find online classes have improved my self-discipline. I have to be more self-motivated to do the work because I don't have a teacher or classmate telling me when an assignment is due, and I actually have to participate to get the credit.

I personally find it challenging to focus in a classroom. I'm very easily distracted, so, with online classes, it's much easier to focus on what I'm doing, as long as I put myself in the proper environment.

I am an auditory learner and NAIT has provided me with the tools I need at home to help me with my studies in order to be successful.

The online Moodle program, that is used, is very user friendly. It is easy to learn, navigate the course lectures, download materials, interact with others online and communicate well digitally. The faculty at NAIT is made available to me at my convenience and they are always able to answer any questions I have making my experience that much easier.



Overall my experience with NAIT has been amazing! These benefits allow people who might not normally be able to get a degree to attend college. Whether you want to study from the comfort of your bedroom or increase your computer skills, online classes are a fantastic option. I would highly recommend NAIT!

The next intake of the NAIT Optical Sciences Programs (Eyeglasses, Contact Lenses and Refracting) starts on August 24, 2020. Applications are now being accepted.

For further information, go to <http://bit.ly/OpticalSciences>

