



Thorough teaching and impressive facilities

Lara Freijah **Bachelor of Orthoptic and** **Ophthalmic Sciences**

Lara is undertaking the Bachelor of Orthoptic and Ophthalmic Sciences and is the student representative for the Clinical Vision Sciences Council.

Why did you choose to study your course at La Trobe?

When visiting the University on Open Day I was impressed by the facilities in the Orthoptics department, especially the specialty instruments. Being able to speak to the students already doing the course on the day enabled me to ask them questions and learn of their experiences with orthoptics.

Have you found the La Trobe environment a supportive one in terms of helpful lecturers, good library resources, etc?

The Clinical Vision Sciences practical classrooms are fantastic in that all important instruments are at our disposal and available for student use outside class time which is very convenient.

Tell us about your favourite area of study. What made it distinctive?

My favourite area of study would have to be Pathologies of the Anterior Segment of the Eye and the study of ophthalmic practice. I find the study

of symptoms, diagnosis and treatment of ocular pathologies to be a fascinating area of study and one that I am particularly passionate about.

This area is so distinctive that during my clinical placements I was exposed to many cases that involved anterior segment pathologies. I was therefore able to witness first hand the way pathology affects the eye both from the visible signs and from the patients reported symptoms.

Do you think this course has prepared you for your chosen career path?

Yes, very much so. The thorough teaching, access to ophthalmic equipment and regular clinical placements equips students with the expertise required to become an orthoptist. We are also encouraged by staff to attend orthoptic conferences to extend our knowledge and become aware of new studies in the area of ophthalmic health.