

REGULATIONS FOR THE DEGREE OF MASTER OF DENTAL SURGERY (MDS)

(See also General Regulations)

Any publication based on work approved for a higher degree should contain a reference to the effect that the work was submitted to the University of Hong Kong for the award of the degree.

The degree of Master of Dental Surgery (MDS) is a postgraduate degree awarded following the satisfactory completion of a prescribed course of study and research related to dental practice.

Admission requirements

D19 To be eligible for admission to the curriculum for the degree of Master of Dental Surgery, a candidate shall

- (a) comply with the General Regulations;
- (b) hold the degree of Bachelor of Dental Surgery of this University, or a degree or other qualification of equivalent standard from another university or comparable institution accepted for this purpose; and
- (c) satisfy the examiners in a qualifying examination if required.

Qualifying examination

- D20** (a) A qualifying examination may be set to test a candidate's formal academic ability or his ability to complete the prescribed courses of study and practice. It shall consist of one or more written papers or the equivalent and may include a project report, a practical examination and oral examinations.
- (b) A candidate who is required to satisfy the examiners in a qualifying examination shall not be permitted to register until he has satisfied the examiners in the examination.

Award of degree

- D21** To be eligible for the award of the degree of Master of Dental Surgery, a candidate shall
- (a) comply with the General Regulations; and
 - (b) complete the curriculum and satisfy the examiners in accordance with the regulations set out below.

Curriculum

D22 The curriculum shall comprise an approved programme of study, practice and research in a field related to the practice of dentistry as prescribed in the syllabuses. It shall extend over not less than twenty-four months of full-time study, or the equivalent by part-time study, and shall include all examinations and the submission of a dissertation, project report or research paper publishable in an international refereed journal.

- D23** To complete the curriculum a candidate shall
- (a) follow instruction in the courses prescribed and complete satisfactorily all coursework requirements;
 - (b) satisfy the examiners in all examinations as may be required; and
 - (c) complete and submit a dissertation, project report or research paper publishable in an international refereed journal which satisfies the examiners.

Dissertation/Project report/Published paper

D24 The title of the dissertation, project report or research paper publishable in an international refereed journal shall be submitted for approval not later than April 30 in the final academic year of study, and the dissertation, project report or research paper publishable in an international refereed journal shall be submitted not later than September 1 in the same year; the candidate shall submit a statement that the dissertation, project report or research paper publishable in an international refereed journal represents his own work undertaken after registration as a candidate for the degree. The examiners may prescribe an oral examination on the subject of the dissertation, project report or research paper publishable in an international refereed journal.

Examinations

D25 Examinations may be held in each year of study and may take the form of written papers, oral, practical and clinical examinations, assessments of coursework, or a combination of these methods.

D26 A candidate who has failed to satisfy the examiners in any part of the examinations may be permitted to present himself again for examination at a time to be determined by the Board of Examiners; or he may be recommended for discontinuation of studies under the provisions of General Regulation G12.

D27 A candidate who has presented a dissertation, project report or research paper publishable in an international refereed journal which has failed to satisfy the examiners may be permitted to revise and re-present the dissertation, project report or research paper publishable in an international refereed journal within a period to be determined by the Board of Examiners; or he may be recommended for discontinuation of studies under the provisions of General Regulation G12.

Examination results

D28 At the conclusion of the examinations, and after presentation of the dissertations, project reports or research paper publishable in an international refereed journal, the names of the successful candidates shall be published in alphabetical order. A candidate who has shown exceptional merit may be awarded a mark of distinction, and this mark shall be recorded in the candidate's degree diploma.

**SYLLABUSES FOR THE DEGREE OF
MASTER OF DENTAL SURGERY**

A. PREAMBLE

1. The objectives of the MDS curriculum are to enable candidates to achieve an advanced level of knowledge and competence in a branch of dental surgery by means of
 - (a) a prescribed course of study (i.e., lectures, seminars, related written and practical and/or clinical work); and
 - (b) additionally, a supervised research project and the submission of a written project report, dissertation or research paper publishable in an international refereed journal.

The prescribed course of study will include certain core subjects to be taken by all candidates, but otherwise it will be designed, in accordance with the syllabuses specified by the Dental Programme Areas, to take account of the needs of individual candidates. The supervised research projects will also be related to each candidate's prescribed course of study.

2. Candidates must attend the practice of the Prince Philip Dental Hospital (or another approved hospital) for at least four sessions a week in such programme area or areas as are prescribed.
3. The methods and pattern of assessment and examination of each candidate will be determined by the Postgraduate Programme Directors concerned, having regard in each case to the nature and particular emphases of the candidate's programme of work.

B. SYLLABUSES

MDS in Paediatric Dentistry (MDS Paediatr Dent)

The curriculum extends over not less than twenty-four months of full-time study, or the equivalent by part-time study. The prescribed course of study has a minimum of 600 hours of coursework.

DENT6001 Paediatric dentistry

A course of advanced study, supervised clinical practice and research related to prevention and correction of oral and dental disorders in children consisting of lectures, tutorials, assignments, clinical and laboratory demonstrations, practical work and training in research methodology.

The course will be based on the concept of providing dental care as part of the promotion of general health for the child and will cover growth and development, patient management, the prevention of dental disease, overall treatment planning, restorative treatment, care of patients with special needs, and the interceptive treatment of dento-facial abnormalities. Course members will gain an understanding of paediatric dentistry in its public health aspects, appreciating also its relation to other branches of dentistry and medicine.

MDS in Conservative Dentistry (MDS Cons Dent)

The curriculum extends over not less than twenty-four months of full-time study, or the equivalent by part-time study. The prescribed course of study has a minimum of 600 hours of coursework.

DENT6002 Conservative dentistry

A course of advanced study in conservative dentistry consisting of lectures, tutorials, clinical and para-clinical assignments, written work and training in research methods. This course is designed to provide students with a detailed knowledge of the principles and practice of conservative dentistry (cariology, operative dentistry including indirect restorations for individual teeth, and endodontics) and will include study of the materials and technology commonly employed. Students will be encouraged to extend their knowledge in allied and relevant basic science and clinical subjects. It may also include courses of study in other related disciplines.

MDS in Public Health Dentistry (MDS Pub Health Dent)

The curriculum extends over not less than twenty-four months of full-time study, or the equivalent by part-time study. The prescribed course of study has a minimum of 600 hours of coursework.

DENT6003 Public health dentistry

A course of advanced study and research into the theory and practice of oral epidemiology, preventive dentistry, related behavioural sciences and systems for the provision of dental health care. The course will include lectures, tutorials, clinical and laboratory work, together with project assignments and training in research method.

MDS in Periodontology (MDS Perio)

The curriculum extends over not less than twenty-four months of full-time study, or the equivalent by part-time study. The prescribed course of study has a minimum of 600 hours of coursework.

DENT6004 Periodontology

A course of advanced study and research into the histopathogenesis of periodontal diseases, their aetiology, prevention and treatment, including the role of advanced forms of periodontal therapy in comprehensive oral health care. Implant placement and supportive care for dental implants in the periodontally susceptible is also covered. The course includes lectures, tutorials, case conferences, clinical and laboratory work together with project assignments, training in research method and the conduct of a research project along with the preparation of a dissertation on this project.

MDS in Prosthodontics (MDS Prostho)

The curriculum extends over not less than twenty-four months of full-time study, or the equivalent by part-time study. The prescribed course of study has a minimum of 600 hours of coursework.

DENT6005 Prosthodontics

A course of advanced study in prosthodontics consisting of lectures, tutorials, clinical and para-clinical assignments, written work and training in research method. This course is designed to provide the student with a detailed knowledge of principles and practice of prosthodontics (fixed and removable prosthodontics, maxillofacial prosthodontics and implantology), including study of the materials and technology commonly employed. It also includes courses of study in related disciplines.

MDS in Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery (MDS Oral Max Fac Sur)

The curriculum extends over not less than thirty-six months of full-time study, or the equivalent by part-time study. The prescribed course of study has a minimum of 900 hours of coursework.

DENT6006 Oral and maxillofacial surgery

A course of advanced study in a clinical aspect of oral and maxillofacial surgery will be planned for each candidate in consultation with his supervisor.

It is intended that the course of study will consist primarily of coursework and include training in research method. Whenever it is practicable candidates will be encouraged to extend their knowledge in one or more allied basic or clinical sciences relevant to the practice of oral and maxillofacial surgery.

The coursework may consist of lectures, tutorials, assignments and practicals or clinical work. Reading lists will be produced in consultation with each candidate's supervisor. Clinical training in a wide variety of oral and maxillofacial surgery is provided.

MDS in Endodontics (MDS Endo)

The curriculum extends over not less than twenty-four months of full-time study, or the equivalent by part-time study. The prescribed course of study has a minimum of 600 hours of coursework.

DENT6013 Endodontics

A course of advanced study, supervised clinical practice and research into the theory and practice of endodontics, which include the biology of the normal pulp, root and periradicular tissues and the aetiology, prevention, diagnosis and treatment of diseases and injuries that affect these tissues. The course may consist of lectures, tutorials, written assignments, clinical and laboratory work and training in research method. It may also include courses in other related disciplines.

MDS in Family Dentistry (MDS Family Dent)

The curriculum extends over not less than forty-eight months of part-time study. The prescribed course of study has a minimum of 600 hours of coursework.

DENT6021 Family Dentistry

The objectives of this MDS curriculum are to enable practising dentists to achieve an advanced level of knowledge and competence in general dental practice. Candidates must attend the Prince Philip Dental Hospital (or another approved hospital) for at least 2 sessions a week.

The course will include lectures, tutorials, case conferences, clinical and laboratory work together with project assignments and training in research method. It is composed of modules relevant to the practice of modern dentistry in the general practice setting. The nature and scope of the modules offered will be updated from time to time. The modules include:

A. Applied Basic Sciences

1. Applied Dental Materials and Dental Technology
2. Pharmacology in relation to dentistry
3. Research methodology and statistical methods
4. Dental Public Health / Health Care Economics
5. Evidence-based Dentistry

B. Clinical Skills

1. Sedation, pain and anxiety control
2. Dento-alveolar surgery
3. Oral Medicine and Oral Pathology
4. Paediatric Dentistry
5. Periodontology
6. Endodontics
7. Prosthodontics including implantology
8. Geriatric Dentistry
9. Special Needs Dentistry
10. Hospital Dentistry

C. Practice Management and Operations

1. Infection Control
2. Medical Informatics and Information Technology in relation to the practice of dentistry
3. Practice Management and Business Administration
4. Dental Ethics
5. Service Quality Assurance
6. Clinical Audit and Governance

D. Patient Management and Family Practice

1. Holistic approach in patient care
2. Medical emergencies and management of medically-compromised patients
3. Patient education and preventive programmes
4. Patient communications
5. Medico-legal considerations and Risk Management

The course allows some flexibility to enable the practising dentist to complete the requirements according to the individual's private practice pattern. Students can also seek greater depth of knowledge in certain areas according to their clinical interests. They are encouraged to consult the Programme Director concerning special arrangements to accommodate their needs.