

REGULATIONS FOR THE DEGREE OF BACHELOR OF DENTAL SURGERY (BDS)

*These regulations are applicable to students admitted to the 6-year BDS curriculum in the academic year 2025-2026 and thereafter (the “**Relevant Students**”) save and except that they are not applicable to students admitted in a subsequent year if new degree regulations are later introduced and applied to those students.*

*These regulations also apply to students admitted in other academic years who continue their studies in the same class(es) as the Relevant Students, including any repeaters who were admitted in an earlier academic year. In the event that any of the afore-mentioned students to whom this set of Degree Regulations applies has to repeat any year of his/her studies, a different set of regulations may become applicable to him/her and a notification will be provided to such student as may be necessary and appropriate.
(See also General Regulations and Regulations for First Degree Curricula)*

D1 A candidate for admission to the curriculum leading to the award of the Degree of Bachelor of Dental Surgery must show evidence satisfactory to the Board of the Faculty of Dentistry of the ability to understand and profit from the learning experiences to be undertaken.

D2 To be eligible for admission to the degree of Bachelor of Dental Surgery, a candidate shall

- (a) comply with the General Regulations and the Regulations for First Degree Curricula; and
- (b) complete the curriculum and have been assessed as having made satisfactory progress in learning and attainment of proficiencies throughout the First, Second, Third, Fourth, Fifth and Final Years of the curriculum.

D3 The curriculum shall extend over not fewer than six years, including twelve academic semesters and such inter-semester learning periods and vacations as may be prescribed, and shall include all assessments and class tests as may be prescribed by the Board of Undergraduate Studies. Candidates shall not in any case be permitted to extend their studies beyond the maximum period of registration of nine academic years.

D4 To complete the curriculum, all candidates shall complete within the maximum period of registration the following studies to satisfy the requirements of UG5 of the Regulations for First Degree Curricula mandated by the Senate, in addition to the Professional Core learning in Dentistry prescribed:

- (a) a non-credit bearing Academic Communication in English course, unless they are exempted through having achieved Level 5 or above in English Language in the Hong Kong Diploma of Secondary Education Examination, or equivalent;
- (b) 6 credits in an English in the Discipline course specified for the degree curriculum;
- (c) 6 credits in a Chinese language enhancement course¹ specified for the degree curriculum;
- (d) 36 credits in the Common Core Curriculum, comprising at least 6 credits and not more than 12 credits from each Area of Inquiry with not more than 24 credits being selected within one academic year except where candidates are required to make up for failed credits;
- (e) 6 credits in artificial intelligence literacy;
- (f) a non-credit bearing course in national education and national security education, and any other non-credit bearing courses as maybe required from time to time; and

¹ Candidates who have not studied Chinese language during their secondary education or who have not attained the requisite level of competence in the Chinese language to take the Chinese language enhancement course specified for the degree curriculum should write to the Board of the Faculty to apply to be exempted from the Chinese language requirement, and take a 6 credits course in either Chinese language or Chinese culture offered by the Chinese Language Centre of the School of Chinese in lieu.

- (g) a capstone experience specified for the degree curriculum.
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D5 Candidates shall complete 36 credits in the Common Core Curriculum in accordance with these regulations and as prescribed in the syllabuses, and perform course selection before the beginning of each academic year. Changes to the selection of Common Core courses may be made only during the add/drop period of the semester in which the course begins, and such changes shall not be reflected in the transcript of the candidate. Requests for changes after the designated add/drop period of the semester shall not normally be considered unless supported by the Director of Common Core Curriculum. Candidates withdrawing from any University courses without permission after the designated add/drop period shall be given a fail grade.

D6 To complete the curriculum in Dentistry, all candidates shall follow the Professional Core in Dentistry and complete the requirements of UG5 of the Regulations for First Degree Curricula as prescribed in the syllabuses and shall have been assessed as having made satisfactory progress in assessments and tests of learning outcomes and professional competences throughout. The Professional Core in Dentistry includes, but is not limited to, learning in the biomedical sciences relevant to Dentistry, behavioural and social sciences related to Dentistry, professional dental practice and clinical dental sciences.

D7 Self-assessment, peer assessment and tutor assessment are used throughout the Professional Core to help each candidate in the evaluation of his or her progress in self-directed learning. Candidates shall be assessed in each semester and during inter-semester periods. Assessment may be conducted in any one or any combination of the following manners: written assignments, tests and examinations; problem-based evaluation exercises; continuous assessment of learning progress and performance; practical and clinical assessments, including tests for the attainment of proficiencies; laboratory work, field work, research and project reports; oral examinations and presentations; or in any other manner as specified in the syllabuses.

D8 Assessments are conducted throughout the Professional Core (both during semesters and inter-semester periods) and are not only conducted at the end of each semester.

D9 In accordance with the University's General Regulations on students' attendance at classes, students shall attend all scheduled sessions and complete the requirements of their curriculum to the satisfaction of the Dean of the Faculty of Dentistry. Absence from scheduled sessions through applying for leave of absence is allowed up to a certain limit, as stipulated by the Faculty. Failure to attain the requisite level of attendance may lead to the student being debarred from attending the year-end summative assessment of that year.

D10 Credit-bearing learning activities, or components thereof, in which a candidate is given a fail grade or in which a candidate has been assessed as having failed to make satisfactory progress, shall be recorded on the transcript of the candidate.

D11 Candidates who fail to complete satisfactorily, or who fail to make satisfactory progress in the Professional Core or the UG5 required studies in any academic year may be required to sit a re-assessment or repeat a year of study in the manner specified by the Board of the Faculty or be recommended for discontinuation of study. Candidates who are required to repeat a year of study may be required to continue learning in parts of the Professional Core or the UG5 requirements in which they have been assessed as having made satisfactory progress. In such an event the assessment outcomes obtained in both years shall be recorded on the transcript of the candidate.

D12 Before a candidate may be considered to have completed the degree curriculum in Dentistry, the candidate concerned shall bring evidence that he or she will have completed his or her twenty-first year of age by June 30 of the calendar year in which the assessment of his or her progress in learning and tests for his or her attainment of proficiencies are due to finish.

D13 Candidates who are unable, because of illness, to be present for any assessment exercise may apply for permission to present themselves at a supplementary assessment to be held before the beginning of the First Semester of the following academic year. Any application for such permission shall be made on the form prescribed within seven calendar days of the first day of the candidate's absence from any assessment exercise. Any supplementary assessment shall be part of that academic year's assessments, and the provisions made in the regulations for failure at the first attempt should apply accordingly.

D14 Advanced standing may be granted to candidates in recognition of studies completed successfully elsewhere before admission to the University. The amount of credits to be granted for advanced standing shall be determined by the Board of the Faculty, in accordance with the following principles:

- (a) at least half the number of credits of the degree curriculum normally required for award of the degree shall be accumulated through study at this University; and
 - (b) under the provisions in Statute III.5 and notwithstanding the granting of advanced and/or transfer credits, a minimum of two years of study at this University shall be required before the candidate is considered for the award of the degree.
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D15 The degree of Bachelor of Dental Surgery may be awarded with Honours. A list of candidates with the award of Honours shall be posted on Faculty notice boards.

August 22, 2025

SYLLABUSES FOR THE DEGREE OF BACHELOR OF DENTAL SURGERY

These Syllabuses apply to students admitted to the 6-year BDS curriculum in the academic year 2025-2026 and thereafter (the "Relevant Students"), save and except that they are not applicable to students admitted in a subsequent year if new syllabuses are later introduced and applied to those students.

These Syllabuses also apply to students admitted in other academic years who continue their studies in the same class(es) as the Relevant Students, including any repeaters who were admitted in an earlier academic year. In the event that any of the afore-mentioned students to whom this set of Syllabuses applies has to repeat any year of his/her studies, a different set of syllabuses may become applicable to him/her and a notification will be provided to such student as may be necessary and appropriate.

A. PROGRAMME AIMS AND NATURE

The degree curriculum in Dentistry is an integrated programme in which the study of biomedical sciences, of behavioural and social sciences as well as professional practice relevant to Dentistry forms the foundation for and continues alongside the study of clinical dental sciences.

Programme level learning outcomes and competences expected of a graduate from the undergraduate curriculum of the Faculty of Dentistry, The University of Hong Kong, are listed below.

University Educational Aims and Programme Level Learning Outcomes

University Educational Aim 1: Pursuit of academic / professional excellence, critical intellectual inquiry and life-long learning

By the end of the BDS programme, students should be able to:

- Access, critique and synthesise relevant evidence from multiple sources in order to make appropriate clinical decisions for patients' oral health care;
- Demonstrate knowledge and understanding of the complex interrelationship between the biomedical, clinical dental, behavioural and social sciences in oral health care.

University Educational Aim 2: Tackling novel situations and ill-defined problems

By the end of the BDS programme, students should be able to:

- Identify key issues related to a newly encountered clinical dental situation, activate prior knowledge and integrate new information in order to manage the situation;
- Handle unfamiliar problems in a confident and professional manner.

University Educational Aim 3: Critical self-reflection, greater understanding of others, and upholding personal and professional ethics

By the end of the BDS programme, students should be able to:

- Evaluate their own and their team's strengths and weaknesses in their professional situation as oral health care providers;
- Respond to patients in an empathetic manner, recognizing their individual characteristics, perceptions and emotions.

University Educational Aim 4: Intercultural communication, and global citizenship

By the end of the BDS programme, students should be able to:

- Identify and respond to the socio-cultural factors that influence oral health in local and international community contexts;
- Demonstrate positive attitudes towards people with diverse cultural and social backgrounds when educating patients and other health care personnel about aetiology, prevention and management of oral diseases and disorders.

University Educational Aim 5: Communication and collaboration

By the end of the BDS programme, students should be able to:

- Demonstrate the ability to communicate ethically, sympathetically, and effectively with patients, peers and other health care providers;
- Work independently as well as in teams across academic, professional and clinical contexts.

University Educational Aim 6: Leadership and advocacy for the improvement of the human condition

By the end of the BDS programme, students should be able to:

- Apply leadership skills in the effective management of oral health care teams;
- Contribute to their profession through supporting the work of professional organisations;
- Recognize and act upon their responsibility to the community and the profession in working towards improved oral health and general wellbeing in the community;
- Advocate for the recognition of oral health as an integral component of general health and wellbeing.

Competences

BDS graduates are expected to have acquired competences in the following domains:

- (a) Professionalism;
- (b) Ethics and jurisprudence;
- (c) Communication;
- (d) Knowledge base and information handling;
- (e) Patient assessment and diagnosis of disease;
- (f) Treatment planning;
- (g) Delivery of oral health care;
- (h) Management of dental and medical emergencies and complications arising from the delivery of oral health care;
- (i) Oral health promotion and health education; and
- (j) Oral health care in the community of the HKSAR and China.

B. PROGRAMME STRUCTURE

Learning takes place through problem-based learning tutorials, self-directed study, seminars, demonstrations, practical classes, field trips, ward teaching and supervised clinical care for patients, with some large-group interactive workshops and lectures to supplement the learning opportunities listed above. Whenever practicable, students are assigned to small groups for defined modules of learning.

The degree curriculum extends over six academic years and is divided into twelve semesters and six clinical skills periods. The degree curriculum thus consists of the **Professional Core** relevant to Dentistry **and the requirements specified in UG5** of the Regulations for First Degree Curricula. The Professional Core consists of four types of credit-bearing activities. These are *Knowledge and Reasoning (K&R)*, *Practical Skill Learning (PSL)*, *Clinical Learning in Dentistry (CLD)*, and *Integrative Projects (IP)*. Each credit-bearing learning activity is coded from DENT1003 – DENT6132. The UG5 requirements consist of courses in English language enhancement, Chinese language enhancement, Common Core, artificial intelligence literacy, and national education and national security education; and a capstone experience.

Experiential Learning: Students can engage in enrichment and personal development during the clinical skills period of the second year, including experiential learning that can be non-dentally related.

Capstone Experience: The final year 'Portfolio' represents a culmination of student learning activities across the Professional Core. Required elements in the portfolio include, but are not limited to, patient care synopsis, case presentations, written reports and self-reflections. The International Capstone Experience provides out-of-classroom experience and learning in different contexts, including attachments to dental education or service providers across a variety of institutional settings outside Hong Kong, that will enrich students' perspective of dentistry.

Learning outcomes are written for each year of the curriculum to guide students in their study. Detailed schedules will be provided for each semester and clinical skills period. These, and further specific instructions to students, are made available by the Faculty Office situated on 6/F, Prince Philip Dental Hospital and via the Learning Management System.

Self-assessment, peer assessment and tutor assessment are used throughout the Professional Core to help each student in the evaluation of his or her progress in self-directed study. Formal assessments are conducted in each of the twelve semesters and during clinical skills periods.

Attendance is required for lectures, tutorials, seminars, demonstrations, practical classes, field trips, ward teaching and clinical care sessions. A satisfactory performance in formal assessments and learning, including oral health care delivery for patients, is generally required for continued progress throughout the Professional Core to graduation.

Students are provided structured guidance for and access to learning resources throughout the Professional Core.

First, Second, Third, Fourth, Fifth and Sixth Years (Professional Core)

The First and Second Years focus on learning of the biomedical sciences and the behavioural and social sciences relevant to Dentistry. It does not cease at any stage throughout the degree curriculum. Use is made of problems, scenarios and cases relevant to Dentistry to stimulate the learning in four designated knowledge domains: biomedical sciences relevant to Dentistry, clinical dental sciences, behavioural and social sciences related to Dentistry and professional dental practice. As progress is made up to the Sixth Year, exposure to the clinical dental sciences and professional dental practice progressively increases and reinforces the knowledge base in biomedical, behavioural and social sciences.

Biomedical Sciences Relevant to Dentistry

The topics of gross topographical anatomy, microanatomy, oral anatomy, neuro-anatomy and pre-natal and post-natal developmental growth of head and neck structures will be studied. The basic principles of biological and biophysical chemistry, including biologically active molecules, metabolism, oral tissue function and immunology, are studied. Cellular and tissue physiology in so far as they help in the understanding of body systems are studied. An understanding of the principles of drug action, with emphasis on those drugs encountered in dental care delivery, is fostered.

Paper cases/problems trigger learning of basic pathological processes – tissue injury and healing, inflammation and infection, tumour growth and immunology – relevant to Dentistry. The behaviour and role of microorganisms in the causation of human diseases relevant to Dentistry are studied. The principles and practice of medicine in the management of human diseases relevant to Dentistry are studied, and learning takes place of basic surgical principles and the surgical management of human diseases relevant to Dentistry. Particular emphasis is placed on appropriate and effective communication between medical and dental professional colleagues in the delivery of oral health care to medically compromised patients. Students are

expected to be able to demonstrate and to maintain proficiency in cardio-pulmonary basic life support.

Clinical Dental Sciences

Learning occurs progressively across the range of clinical dental sciences and associated subjects which include: cariology and the epidemiology, causes, prevention and management of dental caries including the restoration of teeth for children and adults; pulp diseases, dental trauma and endodontic treatment; periodontology and the epidemiology, causes, prevention and management of periodontal diseases; cranio-facial growth and development, including dental malocclusions and their prevention, diagnosis and treatment plan of orthodontic problems; oral diagnosis, including oral radiology; oral diseases, including their causes, clinical presentations, surgical pathology and surgical management; oro-facial pain and its control, including sedation and anaesthesia; biomaterials in relation to oral health care; dental public health including the provision and administration of oral health care; oral rehabilitation to acceptable function; and dental technology.

Behavioural and Social Sciences Related to Dentistry

Psychology and sociology relevant to oral health and oral health care are studied. Learning takes place on communication in relation to oral health promotion and oral health care.

Professional Dental Practice

Clinical learning takes place in supervision and includes all aspects relevant to the professional practice of Dentistry. Learning in the final years includes the principles of management of a dental practice including: auxiliary staff and physical resources, dental practice promotion, ethics and jurisprudence and continuing professional development.

C. SYLLABUSES

First Year

The theme of the First Year's learning is "Healthy Person and Disease Awareness".

DENT1003 Dentistry: Basic Medical Science Knowledge (18 credits)

This course provides an understanding and knowledge of the structure and function of the human body, including the embryology, growth and development of the oro-facial structures, as well as the common mechanisms of disease processes. Key concepts in anatomy, physiology, biochemistry, microbiology and pathology especially in relation to dentistry will be included.

Assessment: 100% written examination

DENT1004 Dentistry: Knowledge and Reasoning I (6 credits)

This course provides a solid understanding and knowledge of the oral environment in health and disease with emphasis on how physiological, pathology-free functions and psychosocial aspects could contribute to the maintenance of oral health in a person. Students will also learn about the fundamentals of dental research and why that is important for clinical dentistry.

Assessment: 30% coursework, 70% written examination

DENT1005 Dentistry: Practical Skill Learning I (3 credits)

The content of this course builds on and integrates with DENT1003 and DENT1004.

This course provides an understanding of the importance of the practices and maintenance of good oral health. Students will be provided with learning opportunities to develop their psychomotor skills as well as relevant chairside or bench side dental skills. Practical skills in preventive dentistry and basic dental operative procedures will be acquired in a safe and simulation environment.

Assessment: 100% coursework

DENT1006 Clinical Learning in Dentistry I (3 credits)

The content of this course builds on and integrates with DENT1003, DENT1004 and DENT1005.

Students will be exposed to learning opportunities regarding the environment, functions and activities in a dental clinic, as well as knowledge of dental assisting and infection control.

Assessment: 100% coursework

English Language Enhancement Course

(Students who have achieved Level 4 or below in English language in the Hong Kong Diploma of Secondary Education Examination, or equivalent, are required to take a non-credit bearing course “CAES1001 Academic Communication in English”.)

Chinese Language Enhancement Course (6 credits)

(Students are required to take a 6 credits course either from CDEN9001 or CDEN9002. Exempted students are required to take a 6 credits course in either Chinese language or Chinese culture.)

Common Core Courses (24 credits)

(Students are required to select 24 credits Common Core in the First Year. Of the 36 credits in the Common Core Curriculum to be taken in the First and Second Years, students shall select at least 6 credits and not more than 12 credits from each Area of Inquiry.)

Artificial Intelligence Literacy Courses (6 credits)

(Students are required to take a 3 credits course “AILT1001 Artificial Intelligence Literacy I” in semester one and, upon successful completion of AILT1001, a 3 credits AILT course in the following semester.)

Second Year

The theme of the Second Year’s learning is “Common Oral Diseases”

DENT2003 Dentistry: Knowledge and Reasoning II (15 credits)

This course aims to equip students with knowledge base that underpins the prevention and management of the common biofilm-related oral diseases in human. The course includes oral diagnosis and treatment planning, caries prevention and management, periodontal and pulpal diseases, diagnostic imaging, as well as knowledge in pathology and microbiology.

Assessment: 100% written examination (with in-course formative assessment)

DENT2004 Dentistry: Practical Skill Learning II (21 credits)

The content of this course builds on DENT1005 and integrates with DENT2003. This course is a pre-requisite

for attending the Practical Skill Learning in the following year.

Students will learn some common clinical skills for the management of biofilm-related oral diseases, focusing on the practical aspects for prevention, direct dental restorations, and periodontal and endodontic treatments. Students will also be introduced to the techniques for rubber dam application, impression taking, wax carving and occlusion, to prepare them for clinical learning of dental restorative treatments. Clinical procedures will be practised in a simulation environment before performing the treatment in the clinical setting. In addition, techniques for local anaesthesia and cardiopulmonary resuscitation will be introduced.

Assessment: 100% practical examination (with in-course formative assessment)

DENT2005 Clinical Learning in Dentistry II (12 credits)

The content of this course builds on DENT1006, and integrates with DENT2003 and DENT2004.

Students will experience the reception of patients in the clinical setting, perform clinical examinations, participate in the making of diagnosis and treatment planning, and assist with the provision of dental treatments. Students will also experience the clinical management of plaque-related oral diseases, i.e. caries and periodontitis. Case-based learning and treatment planning workshops will be held to emphasize the importance of preventive care. Aspects on professionalism, clinical communication and ethics will be included.

Assessment: 60% continuous assessment, 40% coursework

Common Core Courses (12 credits)

(Students are required to select 12 credits Common Core in the Second Year to complete the UG5(c) requirements. Of the 36 credits in the Common Core Curriculum to be taken in the First and Second Years, students shall select at least 6 credits and not more than 12 credits from each Area of Inquiry.)

Third Year

The theme of the Third Year's learning is "Management of Oral Diseases at Discipline Level".

DENT3003 Dentistry: Knowledge and Reasoning III (18 credits)

This course equips students with the knowledge base that underpins the management of different kinds of oral diseases and conditions, such as mucosal disease, dental caries, and tooth loss. The course comprises seminars, tutorials and interactive workshops that provide learning in dental biomaterials, primary oral medicine, caries management, intra- and extra-coronal restorations, endodontics, and removable prosthodontics.

Assessment: 100% written examination (with in-course formative assessment)

DENT3004 Dentistry: Practical Skill Learning III (24 credits)

The content of this course builds on DENT2004 that students must satisfactorily complete before. This course integrates with DENT3003 and is a pre-requisite for attending the Practical Skill Learning in the following year.

Topics including radiography, endodontics, indirect restoration and removable prosthodontics will be covered to enable students to develop clinical and operative skills for managing a variety of teeth-related diseases.

Assessment: 100% practical examination (with in-course formative assessment)

DENT3005 Clinical Learning in Dentistry III (24 credits)

The content of this course builds on DENT2005, and integrates with DENT3003 and DENT3004.

This takes the form of case-based learning and integrated clinical practice in dentistry. Learning activities include supervised patient care and practice in oral radiology. The clinical practice aims to facilitate comprehensive patient care across the years. Increasing amounts of supervised clinical practice will take place from the third year of the curriculum onwards to build up students' clinical experience and competency.

Assessment: 20% continuous assessment, 80% Assessments of Clinical Learning (ACLs) (held at various times throughout the year)

[Note: Satisfactory performance at all structured ACLs throughout the curriculum is a pre-requisite for a student to be considered as having achieved the professional competency required of a graduate of the BDS programme.]

Fourth Year

The theme of the Fourth Year's learning is "Advanced Clinical Care".

DENT4003 Dentistry: Knowledge and Reasoning IV (18 credits)

This course equips students with the knowledge base that underpins the different ways of managing advanced dental conditions, and for the treatment of medically compromised patients. Topics include prosthodontic approaches to replace missing teeth and related dental biomaterials, advanced endodontics, extractions and dental management of the medically compromised.

Assessment: 100% written examination (with in-course formative assessment)

DENT4004 Dentistry: Practical Skill Learning IV (18 credits)

The content of this course builds on DENT3004 that students must satisfactorily complete before. This course integrates with DENT4003 and is a pre-requisite for attending the Practical Skill Learning in the following year.

This course takes the form of advanced case-based learning and integrated treatment planning and provides learning of clinical procedures in simulation for dental aesthetics, fixed prosthodontics (conventional and resin-bonded bridges), orthodontics, and tooth extractions. Clinical procedures for paediatric dentistry will also be introduced.

Assessment: 100% practical examination (with in-course formative assessment)

DENT4005 Clinical Learning in Dentistry IV (30 credits)

The content of this course builds on DENT3005, and integrates with DENT4003 and DENT4004.

This course takes the form of integrated and discipline-based clinical practice in dentistry. Learning activities include supervised patient care and specialty clinics of dental disciplines, such as endodontics, periodontology, prosthodontics, and oral and maxillofacial surgery. The clinical practice aims to facilitate comprehensive patient care across the years.

Assessment: 20% continuous assessment, 80% ACLs (throughout the year)

[Note: Satisfactory performance at all structured ACLs throughout the curriculum is a pre-requisite for a student to be considered as having achieved the professional competency required of a graduate of the BDS

programme.]

Fifth Year

The theme of the Fifth Year's learning is "Integrated Patient Care across Disciplines and into Communities".

DENT5003 Dentistry: Knowledge and Reasoning V (12 credits)

This course comprises tutorials, interactive workshops and lectures, which foster knowledge building and are integrated with practical applications across the semesters. Students will have opportunities to observe cases being treated in surgical wards, medical wards and operation theatres.

Assessment: 100% written examination (with in-course formative assessment)

DENT5004 Dentistry: Practical Skill Learning V (3 credits)

The content of this course builds on DENT4004 that students must satisfactorily complete before. This course integrates with DENT5003.

This course takes the form of demonstrations, practical classes, and ward teaching. Topics include periodontal surgery, oral medicine, minor oral surgery, advanced endodontics, and oral health care skills for the management of elderly patients.

Assessment: 100% coursework

DENT5005 Clinical Learning in Dentistry V (39 credits)

The content of this course builds on DENT4005, and integrates with DENT5003 and DENT5004.

This course takes the form of supervised patient care at comprehensive dental care clinics (for adults) and paediatric dentistry clinic, case-based learning, and integrated oral diagnosis and treatment planning. Clinical learning also involves workshops and discussion in both dental hospital and community contexts and covers topics such as complete dentures, dental biomaterials, aesthetic dentistry, and orthodontic case-based learning and treatment planning. Such learning provides in-depth discussion of complex, integrated patient care across dental disciplines, extending into society context.

Assessment: 20% continuous assessment, 80% ACLs (throughout the year)

[Note: Satisfactory performance at all structured ACLs throughout the curriculum is a pre-requisite for a student to be considered as having achieved the professional competency required of a graduate of the BDS programme.]

DENT5032 Community Health (9 credits)

This course provides learning experience with project-based research activities. Knowledge is synthesized and transferred through the training process of planning, organizing, conducting, and presenting a community health project.

Assessment: 20% coursework, 80% written examination

CAES9350 Academic English for Dentistry (6 credits)

The 6 credits English-in-the-Discipline course, "Academic English for Dentistry" (henceforth ED) course,

focusing on both written and oral English, aims to offer parallel language support to the Community Health Project offered by the Faculty of Dentistry, and to further enhance BDS V students' academic literacy in reflecting on their clinical experiences. In the ED course, students will develop effective language skills in their written presentation of the Community Health Project. Input will also be given to enhance students' ability to deliver a professional oral presentation of the project appropriate to the purpose of the research and the audience. The course also moves towards enhancing academic literacy in scientific research by allowing students to apply the understanding of disciplinary research and presentation to other academic contexts. Students will also learn about skills in writing a critical reflection on clinical learning points through questioning and hypothesizing.

Assessment: 100% coursework

Sixth Year

The theme of the Sixth Year's learning is "The Dentist into Practice".

DENT6103 Dentistry: Knowledge and Reasoning VI (9 credits)

This course equips students with the knowledge base that underpins the holistic patient care that includes primary care and dental emergencies in different environments and advanced oral diagnosis and treatment planning in various clinical areas which may involve a multidisciplinary approach. Workshops and visits will be undertaken to prepare students for dental practice.

Assessment: 100% written examination

DENT6104 Dentistry: Practical Skill Learning VI (3 credits)

The content of this course builds on DENT5004 and integrates with DENT6103.

Students will be exposed to the management of patients requiring special dental care, such as those with physical, medical, learning and/or social impairments. Further learning relating to medical emergency management, CPR, endodontics, aesthetic dentistry, and oral medicine will take place. Special topics in clinical dentistry, including dental implants, digital dentistry and dental ethics, will be covered in presentations, hands-on workshops, and clinical observations.

Assessment: 100% coursework

DENT6105 Clinical Learning in Dentistry VI (36 credits)

The content of this course builds on DENT5005, and integrates with DENT6103 and DENT6104.

This takes the form of case-based learning and supervised patient care in an integrated and cross-disciplinary manner. Participation in outreach dental service will be undertaken. Satisfactory performance at all structured assessments of clinical learning throughout the curriculum is a pre-requisite for a student to be considered as having achieved the professional competency required of a graduate of the BDS programme.

Assessment: 20% continuous assessment, 80% ACLs

DENT6131 International Capstone Experience (6 credits)

The course component will engage students in a dentally-related environment outside Hong Kong. Students will visit either dental teaching and learning institutions or clinical institute(s), or engage in outreach activity/activities with dentistry input, as an individual or in a group. The aim is to give students an international experience that allows comparison with the home setting, as well as to enrich the students'

perspective of dentistry in various cultures and communities. A project presentation will be conducted to allow shared learning from these visits and facilitate a broader collective experience. The students' presentation will be assessed together with their written report. Students will be required to accrue the stipulated number of credits for the capstone experience by the end of the BDS programme. All trips under the International Capstone Experience must be pre-approved as to the date, duration and number of credits assigned thereto, and may be held at times designated by the Faculty starting with the summer of BDS IV up to VI including all intervening summers.

Assessment: 100% coursework

DENT6132 Capstone Portfolio (6 credits)

The final year portfolio represents a culmination of student learning activities across the Professional Core. Contained in the portfolio include patient care synopses, written reports and self-reflections. The portfolio will demonstrate the students' achievement and experience in various domains of professional competency throughout the BDS programme, and will form the basis for individual oral examination.

Assessment: Written portfolio and oral examination (total 100%)

National Education and National Security Education

(Students are required to take a non-credit bearing course in national education and national security education before graduation.)

August 22, 2025