Operative Dentistry

Head

• Erica C. Teixeira

Professional certificate: operative dentistry
Faculty: https://www.dentistry.uiowa.edu/operative-faculty
Website: https://www.dentistry.uiowa.edu/operative

The Department of Operative Dentistry teaches the foundational concepts of dentistry to predoctoral dental students in caries management (diagnosis, prevention, repair, and restorative techniques). The primary departmental focus is to provide the knowledge, technical skills, critical thinking and judgment for the diagnosis, prevention, and management of dental caries, non-caries dental defects (attrition, abrasion, erosion, abfraction, developmental abnormalities, discoloration, and trauma), and elective esthetic smile enhancements. It also serves an equally important position to provide national leadership in dental research and advanced restorative technology in its collective faculty efforts and through the professional Certificate in Operative Dentistry.

D.D.S. Student Training

Course work and clinical experiences in operative dentistry are fundamental to the overall education of Doctor of Dental Surgery students. Operative dentistry course work covers roughly one quarter of curriculum time during the first three years of dental school as students progress toward competency in operative dentistry. The department's primary goal is to educate dental students, using best available evidence, to achieve and maintain optimal patient oral comfort, function, and aesthetics through risk-based diagnosis, prevention, and minimally invasive treatment of caries and noncarious lesions of the teeth.

Programs

Professional Program of Study

Certificate

• Certificate in Operative Dentistry

Courses

Operative Dentistry Courses

OPER:5120 Dental Anatomy 3 s.h.
Basic dental terminology and nomenclature, human tooth morphology, creation of tooth crowns with wax.

OPER:8122 Operative Dentistry I 6 s.h.
Principles and design of cavity preparations; placement of restorative materials using simulated patients.

OPER:8240 Operative Dentistry II 5 s.h.
Principles of caries and non-carious lesion management, design of cavity preparations, restoration of teeth, patient management, pain control; esthetic dentistry; tooth bleaching, tooth recontouring, esthetic buildsups with dental composite; exercises on mannequins in simulation clinic and procedures performed on patients in operative clinic. Prerequisites: OPER:8122.

OPER:8370 Operative Dentistry III 4 s.h.
Combination of didactic and clinical aspects of operative dentistry; medical and surgical management of dental disease; emphasis on minimally invasive dentistry with advanced aesthetic principles.