Preventive and Community Dentistry

Head
- Daniel Caplan

Graduate degree: M.S. in dental public health
Faculty: http://www.dentistry.uiowa.edu/preventive-faculty
Web site: http://www.dentistry.uiowa.edu/preventive

The Department of Preventive and Community Dentistry educates future and practicing dental and oral health professionals, preparing them to understand and recognize:
- conditions that compromise patients;
- social, cultural, community, and political influences on dental practice;
- principles of preventive dentistry for individuals, groups, and communities; and
- considerations for preventing and treating oral disease in geriatric and special needs patients.

In addition to offering educational programs, the department provides patient care at the College of Dentistry and in a variety of off-campus settings. It also is home to research that advances dental public health.

D.D.S. Student Training

Predoctoral training in preventive, community, and geriatric dentistry is designed to increase Doctor of Dental Surgery students' awareness of preventive dental practices, aspects of dental practices affected by community factors, and care of compromised adult patients.

Community dentistry programs give students opportunities to interact with health care teams and the public in Iowa and around the world. The department conducts off-site community programs statewide, nationwide, and worldwide. It also operates the Special Care Clinic, which is housed in the Dental Science Building.

Using the community dentistry programs as the classroom, D.D.S. students observe and participate in a variety of activities that nurture their awareness of the societal obligations they must assume in order to become effective practitioners.

Graduate Program of Study
- Master of Science in dental public health

Master of Science

The Master of Science program in dental public health requires 40 s.h. of course work and is designed to be completed in two academic years of full-time study. It prepares dentists and dental hygienists to be specialists in dental public health. The program emphasizes research and requires a research project culminating in the completion and defense of a thesis. Successful dentist graduates meet the educational requirements for eligibility to take the certifying examination of the American Board of Dental Public Health.

Applicants must meet the admission requirements of the Graduate College.

Courses

For D.D.S. Students

The department offers courses in preventive and community dentistry for D.D.S. students.

PCD:8116 Fundamentals of Clinical Dentistry
Identification of health and disease in the mouth; practical methods of disease control, philosophy of preventive dentistry; patient assessment, clinical diagnosis.

PCD:8117 Cariology and Preventive Therapies
Multifactorial etiology of dental caries; support data for use of fluorides, sealants, antimicrobials, and plaque control mechanisms in prevention of caries. Prerequisites: PCD:8116.

PCD:8118 Preventive Dentistry Assessment and Patient Care
Patient oral assessment, communication, patient management skills; preventive dentistry risk assessment, oral hygiene instruction for collegiate recall patients; skills in instrumentation for detection, removal of calculus deposits. Prerequisites: PCD:8116 and PCD:8117.

PCD:8245 Clinical Preventive Dentistry
Experience providing complete prophylaxis and preventive services for college patients; application of nutrition principles and communication skills in a clinic setting. Prerequisites: PCD:8118.

PCD:8360 The Practice of Dentistry in the Community I
Issues related to the role of the dental professional at a local and state level, including dental public health, health literacy, cultural competency, and forensic dentistry; the role of the state dental director.

PCD:8361 The Practice of Dentistry in the Community II
Factors that affect the profession and practice of dentistry, including basics of health care systems in the U.S. and in other countries; health care reform; Medicaid; dental insurance; health care delivery systems; legal and malpractice issues; dental utilization and dental workforce; quality of care.

PCD:8485 Broadlawns Medical Center
Dental care to low-income patients in a metropolitan hospital-based clinic; community-related assignments; student team experience in Des Moines.

PCD:8486 Colorado Migrant Program
Experience providing primary dental care and outreach services to a migrant population; broad understanding of needs, resources for migrant, low-socioeconomic populations.

PCD:8487 Community Health Care: Davenport
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Experience providing dental care at medical-dental ambulatory health care facility serving Scott County; community-related assignments.

PCD:8488 St. Lukes Dental Health Center
Experience providing clinical and outreach services for low-income children and adults with developmental disabilities at St. Luke's Hospital, Cedar Rapids; operative and behavioral dental problems, hospital protocol, special needs of low-socioeconomic clients.

PCD:8489 Geriatrics and Special Needs Program
Experience in Special Care Clinic and Geriatric Mobile Dental Unit; comprehensive care for medically, physically, cognitively compromised adults, including frail elderly nursing home residents with portable equipment, other underserved populations.

PCD:8491 Private Practice Preceptorship
Development of skills and knowledge necessary for day-to-day practice of dentistry; experience at selected preceptor sites in Iowa.

PCD:8494 Special Field Clinic
Extramural experiences developed according to student needs, extramural opportunities.

PCD:8496 Siouxland Community Health Center
Experience providing dental care at medical/dental ambulatory health care facility; community-related assignments.

PCD:8497 ADEAGies/AADR-ADCFP Fellowship
Window into day-to-day experiences of dental school faculty members for oral health professional students; exposure to multifarious educational experiences at dental institutions including academics, clinical practice, and biomedical, clinical, educational research, and administration.

For Graduate Students
The department offers courses in dental public health for graduate students.

DPH:5000 Introduction to Dental Public Health
Science, philosophy, practice of dental public health.

DPH:5001 Literature Review Methods: Dental Public Health
Concepts and process of literature review, particularly in area of student's interest.

DPH:5005 Administration of Public Dental Programs
Application of general management concepts; practical aspects of planning, financing, staffing, implementing, operating, evaluating dental public health programs at federal, state, local levels.

DPH:5006 Preventive Programs in Dental Public Health
Prevention, control methods for major dental conditions, primarily dental caries, periodontal diseases; clinical efficacy, cost-effectiveness; development of comprehensive preventive oral health plan for a community.

DPH:5008 Field Experience in Dental Public Health
Arranged with public and voluntary health agencies according to students' and agencies' needs.

DPH:5009 Advanced Field Experience in Dental Public Health
Opportunity to research, develop, and implement programmatic objectives with local, state, national, and/or federal agencies and organizations on an issue that is both relevant to the student and the agency; may require off-site visits to agencies or organizations. Prerequisites: DPH:5008.

DPH:5014 Dental Care Policy and Financing
Dental financing and policy issues: payment mechanisms for health care service providers, third-party prepayment plans, salaried and public-financed programs, Medicaid and Medicare programs, dental insurance systems, and care of the underserved.

DPH:5016 Introduction to Statistical Computing
Use of statistical packages on a personal computer for data management and analysis. Offered summer session.

DPH:5031 Geriatric Care
Issues and problems related to oral health care in older adults, especially the frail or functionally dependent.

DPH:6002 Research Protocol Seminar
Development of a master's thesis protocol; identification of thesis topic, review of relevant literature, development of research methods, writing.

DPH:6003 Independent Study: Dental Public Health

DPH:6004 Principles of Oral Epidemiology
Retrospective, prospective, cohort study designs; validity and reliability; distribution and determinants of oral diseases—caries, periodontal diseases, oral cancer, malocclusion, fluorosis, HIV infection, tooth loss, edentulism.

DPH:6011 Thesis: Dental Public Health
Protocol preparation; data collection, analysis, organization; writing, defense of research.

DPH:6017 Teaching Methods and Evaluation
Philosophies of dental education, teaching methodologies, evaluation; focus on learning to write educational objectives, writing and analyzing exam items.

DPH:6018 Clinical Teaching Practicum: Preventive Dentistry
0-3 s.h.
Teaching experience in preventive dentistry clinic setting with first-year dental students; outcomes focused on methods in clinical teaching, evaluation, and remediation.