

Geriatric and Special Needs Dentistry, Professional Certificate

Requirements

The professional Certificate in Geriatric and Special Needs Dentistry requires at least 40 s.h. over a minimum of one year of full-time study. Students must earn a minimum grade of C in each course. The program prepares dentists to evaluate and manage the oral health problems of older adults and adults with special health care needs across the spectrum of health care services. It also prepares professionals for scholastic positions in geriatric and special needs dental education.

Graduate students collaborate with medical residents and other allied health care professionals while providing holistic care for patients who have complex dental, medical, or behavioral conditions. Students gain experience in the College of Dentistry's patient care clinics and, in tandem with the Geriatric Mobile Dental Unit, travel to nursing homes to provide on-site dental care with state-of-the-art mobile and portable dental equipment.

Highlights of the curriculum include experiences in advanced clinical geriatric and special needs dentistry, interdisciplinary geriatric patient assessment, geriatric and special needs dentistry case studies, outreach, and teaching practicum.

The Certificate in Geriatric and Special Needs Dentistry requires the following coursework.

First Summer

Course #	Title	Hours
This course:		
GSND:5700	Advanced Clinical Geriatric Dentistry I	4

First Fall

Course #	Title	Hours
All of these:		
GSND:5702	Advanced Clinical Geriatric Dentistry II	4
GSND:5720	Outreach/Advanced Clinical Geriatric Dentistry I	3
GSND:5730	Interdisciplinary Geriatric Patient Assessment I	2
GSND:5740	Advanced Topics in Geriatric Dentistry and Special Needs I	2
GSND:5750	Geriatric Dental Case Study Seminar I	2
GSND:5770	Advanced Clinical Training for Developmentally Disabled Adults I	2

First Spring

Course #	Title	Hours
All of these:		
GSND:5703	Advanced Clinical Geriatric Dentistry III	4
GSND:5721	Outreach/Advanced Clinical Geriatric Dentistry II	3
GSND:5731	Interdisciplinary Geriatric Patient Assessment II	2
GSND:5742	Advanced Topics in Geriatric Dentistry and Special Needs II	2
GSND:5751	Geriatric Dental Case Study Seminar II	2
GSND:5760	Teaching Practicum in Geriatric Dentistry I	2
GSND:5771	Advanced Clinical Training for Developmentally Disabled Adults II	2

Second Summer

Course #	Title	Hours
This course:		
GSND:5704	Advanced Clinical Geriatric Dentistry IV	4

Admission

Applicants must hold a DDS or DMD degree from an accredited dental school. International applicants should have at least three years of clinical experience in general dentistry and/or postgraduate prosthodontics training and be licensed dentists. All applicants must meet the admission requirements of the Graduate College. Contact the Geriatric and Special Needs Dentistry Certificate Program to learn more.