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) and dental materials. 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-carries 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

Coursework and clinical experiences in operative dentistry are fundamental to the overall education of Doctor of Dental Surgery students. Operative dentistry coursework 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 the best evidence available and the latest proven technological approaches, 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:5126 Operative Dentistry Seminar 0-1 s.h.
Review and critical analysis of operative dentistry literature.

OPER:5127 Introduction to Operative Dentistry Advanced Education arr.
Broad introduction to key operative dentistry concepts in preparation for clinical patient care and teaching; overriding objectives are to reinforce fundamental principles of operative dentistry, refine clinical skills, enhance/add approaches of clinical problem solving, establish concepts of acceptable clinical performance levels, and preparation for resident instructors in predoctoral simulation clinic courses.

OPER:5140 Operative Dentistry Advanced Clinic 0-3 s.h.
Medical and surgical clinical management of dental disease; special emphasis on minimally invasive dentistry using advanced aesthetic principles.

OPER:5234 Selected Applications of Operative Dentistry 0-3 s.h.
Advanced techniques completed on simulated patients.

OPER:5245 Pre-Clinical Teaching 0-3 s.h.
Teaching predoctoral dental students on simulated patients.

OPER:6246 Clinical Teaching 0-2 s.h.
Clinical teaching instruction in operative dentistry clinics.

OPER:8120 Dental Anatomy 3 s.h.
Basic dental terminology and nomenclature, human tooth morphology, creation of tooth crowns with wax.

OPER:8122 Introduction to Operative Dentistry 1 s.h.
Introduction to basic didactic knowledge and psychomotor skills in the practice of operative dentistry in a preclinical setting with simulated scenarios; for first-year dental students.

OPER:8124 Operative Dentistry I 5 s.h.
Basic didactic knowledge and psychomotor skills of principles, terminology, instruments, materials, and techniques utilized in the practice of operative dentistry in a preclinical setting with simulated scenarios; for first-year dental students. Prerequisites: OPER:8120.

OPER:8240 Operative Dentistry II 3 s.h.
Principles of cavity preparation and digital workflow for designing and fabrication of restoration using CAD/CAM, dental material properties and applications, principles of caries management and restoration on simulated caries, peer exercises on basic clinical concepts. Prerequisites: OPER:8124.

OPER:8243 Introduction to Clinical Operative Dentistry 3 s.h.
Students provide clinical care from diagnosis and treatment planning to caries and non-carious lesion management in patients; clinical experience in restoring teeth with small to moderate lesions or defects; demonstration of effective patient management skills (including pain control), professionalism, and critical thinking; esthetic dentistry including tooth bleaching, tooth recontouring, and esthetic buildups with dental composite. Prerequisites: OPER:8120 and OPER:8124 and OPER:8240.

OPER:8369 Introduction to Operative Dentistry III 2 s.h.
Introduction to a 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.

OPER:8370 Operative Dentistry III arr.
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.