Dental Public Health, M.S.

Learning Outcomes
Students will demonstrate:

• in-depth knowledge of the core concepts of public health, including those within the disciplines of epidemiology, biostatistics, behavioral science, environmental health, and health care policy and management;
• in-depth knowledge of, and the ability to apply, the ten competencies that define dental public health—manage oral health programs for population health; evaluate systems of care that impact oral health; demonstrate ethical decision making in the practice of dental public health; design surveillance systems to measure oral health status and its determinants; communicate on oral and public health issues; lead collaborations on oral and public health issues; advocate for public health policy, legislation, and regulations to protect and promote the public’s oral health and overall health; critically appraise evidence to address oral and public health issues for individuals and populations; conduct research to address oral and public health problems; and integrate the social determinants of health into dental public health practice; and
• critical thinking skills to develop and complete an evidenced-based research project as part of their master’s thesis.

Requirements
The Master of Science program in dental public health requires 40 s.h. of coursework and is designed to be completed in two academic years of full-time study. Students must maintain a cumulative g.p.a. of at least 3.00 to earn the degree.

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.

Admission
Applicants must have a D.D.S. degree or equivalent or be a dental hygienist with a baccalaureate degree. They also must meet the admission requirements of the Graduate College and complete the Graduate Record Examination (GRE) General Test.