

Periodontics, M.S.

Degree Offered

- Master of Science

Nature of the Program

The School of Dentistry and the Department of Periodontics offer a program of advanced study and clinical training leading to the degree of Master of Science. The program requires a minimum of thirty-four months (three academic years) of full time residency in the School of Dentistry. It is designed to qualify dentists for careers in periodontic clinical practice, teaching and research.

A stipend plus tuition waiver will be provided for graduate students in Periodontics at the end of the second year for summer session and fall/spring semesters of the third year. Special fees are not covered by the tuition waiver. You must pay special fees each term/semester.

Inquiries concerning this program should be directed to the Office of Dental Admissions, Recruitment and Access (<https://dentistry.hsc.wvu.edu/departments/dental-admissions-recruitment-access/>). Applications will be processed by the School of Dentistry. Applicants approved for admission to the program will be notified soon after interviews have been completed.

This program is accredited by the Commission on Dental Accreditation of the American Dental Association. For details about the faculty, publications and alumni information, please visit the Department of Periodontics (<http://dentistry.hsc.wvu.edu/departments/periodontics/>) website.

Program Goals

The postgraduate program is designed to train well qualified dentists in all aspects of periodontics. The program is organized into five components: biomedical science didactics, periodontal science didactics, clinical science activity, research and teaching. The department philosophy is to provide comprehensive training that encompasses all aspects of periodontal and implant therapy. The program qualifies the student for examination and certification by the American Board of Periodontology.

The Master of Science degree program requires the development of an in-depth research problem which must be reported in the form of a thesis.

Program Curriculum

FIRST-YEAR PROGRAM

In the first year of the program, the resident is introduced to the specialty of periodontics, its scope and its history. The resident receives instruction in the scientific and clinical aspects of periodontics and implant dentistry.

Seminars on current and classic periodontal literature will be offered in addition to case presentations and interdisciplinary seminars. The residents will also participate in didactic courses in biostatistics and research methodology.

The didactic activity will be combined with supervised patient care.

SECOND-YEAR PROGRAM

The second year of the program is a continuation of the first year of training, with increased emphasis on the clinical treatment of patients and the advanced concepts of periodontics. The resident will spend more time conducting a research study and in the development of a thesis.

THIRD-YEAR PROGRAM

Throughout the training, the resident is encouraged to be inquisitive regarding all phases of treatment and to use initiative to be resourceful. The senior resident should become a critic of his or her own accomplishments and be able to support clinical decisions with references from the literature. Completion of a research problem and thesis are required and the resident must successfully defend the thesis at the Committee level. The senior resident will be expected to present lectures and patient presentations in preparation for Board certification and future teaching responsibilities. Satisfactory completion of this year of training qualifies the resident for examination and certification by the American Board of Periodontology.

FACULTY

CHAIR AND GRADUATE PROGRAM DIRECTOR

- Arif Salman - BDS., MDS

ASSISTANT PROFESSOR

- Shorouk Elnagdy - BDS., MD

Admissions for 2025-2026

The program's admission requirements are as follows:

- Must have passed National Board Dental Examination - Part I at the time of application and Part 2 upon entrance to the program or the Integrated Exam (INBDE).
- Must have earned a D.M.D./D.D.S. degree, or its equivalent.
- Must be proficient in the English language (<https://graduateadmissions.wvu.edu/information-for/international-students/>) or provide a recent TOEFL score (if from a non-English speaking country).
- Must display evidence of scholastic and clinical achievement that would indicate the applicant's ability to progress in a program of this nature. A minimum grade point average of 3.0 is required.
- Must apply to the program through the Postdoctoral Application Support Service (PASS) (<https://adea.org/PASSapp/applicants/>) and have all application materials in PASS by September 15.
- Must apply to National Match Services (<https://natmatch.com/dentres/applicants/>) and obtain a MATCH number to be considered for admission to the program.
- Must complete and submit a WVU Graduate Application if invited for an interview.
- Must participate in an interview.
- Must consent to and pass a criminal background investigation prior to final acceptance.
- Must submit documentation of required immunizations. A complete list is available on the School of Dentistry website.
- Must become familiar with the West Virginia School of Dentistry's policy and procedure for Bloodborne Pathogens and Infectious Diseases.
- Must meet federal and university standards regarding the Responsible Conduct of Research.
- Must be eligible for and obtain a West Virginia dental license or dental resident/intern permit prior to the first day of program orientation.

Major Code: 8019

Degree Requirements

- Fulfill University requirements for graduate study.
- Complete 34 months (three academic years) of consecutive full-time advanced study and clinical training at the School of Dentistry.
- Complete an approved master's thesis based on original research completed during the course of study in an area related to Periodontics.
- Pass the American Board of Periodontology written qualifying examination.
- Pass the Mock American Board of Periodontology oral examination.
- Pass the Written American Board of Periodontology Written Exam with a score > 60 percentile.
- Complete all didactic and clinical work in the required curriculum successfully.
- Demonstrate satisfactory clinical competency in periodontics.
- Complete a minimum of 93 credit hours, including 70 hours of periodontic courses and a minimum of 8 hours of selected basic science subjects, 4 hours of teaching practicum, and a research/thesis (11 hours).
- Achieve a 3.0 GPA or an overall competence in the student's field. A minimum grade of B must be earned in all work attempted in the master's program. A grade of C or below in two courses will require a faculty review of the student's progress. A third C or below will result in suspension from the program.

Curriculum Requirements

Code	Title	Hours
Minimum GPA of 3.0 is required.		
Minimum grade of B- is required in all courses.		
Biomedical Sciences		
DENT 600	Advanced Oral Surgery	3
DENT 601	Advanced Oral Microbiology	1
DENT 602	Special Studies in Oral Pathology	2
PALM 716	Craniofacial Growth and Maturation	1
PCOL 765	Advanced Biomedical Sciences: Applied Pharmacology	1
Periodontic Courses		
ORTH 633	Orthodontics-Periodontics Seminar	1
Core Classic Literature Review		4
PERI 640	Core Classic Literature Review	
Classic Periodontics Literature Review		12

PERI 642	Classic Peri Lit Rev	
Clinical Management of Medically Compromised Patients		6
PERI 644	Clinical Management of Medically Compromised Patients	
Clinical Periodontics		35
PERI 650	Clinical Periodontics	
Implant Dentistry		6
PERI 662	Implant Dentistry	
Advanced Periodontal/Implant Surgery		6
PERI 664	Introduction to Advanced Periodontal/Implant Surgery	
Teaching Practicum		4
DENT 690	Teaching Practicum	
Research/Thesis		
DENT 686	Applied Statistics in Dentistry	3
DENT 687	Research Methods	1
DENT 697	Research	7
Total Hours		93

SUGGESTED PLAN OF STUDY

First Semester	Hours
DENT 600	1
PERI 640	2
PERI 650	4
PERI 664	2
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Second Semester	Hours
DENT 600	2
DENT 686	3
DENT 602	2
PCOL 765	1
PERI 642	2
PERI 644	1
PERI 650	3
PERI 662	1
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	15
Third Semester	Hours
DENT 601	1
DENT 687	1
PERI 642	2
PERI 644	1
PERI 650	4
PERI 662	1
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	10
Fourth Semester	Hours
DENT 697	1
PALM 716	1
PERI 640	2
PERI 650	3
PERI 664	2
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	9
Fifth Semester	Hours
DENT 690	1
DENT 697	1

ORTH 633	1
PERI 642	2
PERI 644	1
PERI 650	4
PERI 662	1
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Sixth Semester	Hours
DENT 690	1
DENT 697	1
PERI 642	2
PERI 644	1
PERI 650	4
PERI 662	1
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	11
Seventh Semester	Hours
DENT 697	2
PERI 650	5
PERI 664	2
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	9
Eighth Semester	Hours
DENT 690	1
DENT 697	1
PERI 642	2
PERI 644	1
PERI 650	4
PERI 662	1
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	10
Ninth Semester	Hours
DENT 690	1
DENT 697	1
PERI 642	2
PERI 644	1
PERI 650	4
PERI 662	1
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	10

Total credit hours: 93

Major Learning Outcomes

PERIODONTICS

- Provide the education and training necessary for graduate dentists to practice in their specialty.
- Provide the education and training necessary for a specialist to achieve Board Certification.