

DENTAL PUBLIC HEALTH SCIENCES 201

Planning A Career In Dentistry For The Future

**Dept. of Dental Public Health Sciences
School of Dentistry
University of Washington
Seattle, Washington 98195
Telephone: (206) 543-2034**

**Course Website (requires UWNNetID)
<https://mydental.uw.edu/dphs201>**

Wednesday, 3:30 – 5:20pm, Health Sciences Center
Dr. Phil Weinstein, Course Director (B-509e; 616-1507)

Course Description

The intent of this course is to provide students with various mechanisms to learn about the many aspects of dentistry and the career opportunities within the profession. This course, offered each Spring Quarter, is primarily designed for students contemplating a career in dentistry.

The course is structured in a manner that facilitates learning about the “traditional” responsibilities of dentists, as well as how these responsibilities are changing to reflect advances made through research, technology development, and the ever-changing epidemiology of orofacial diseases. Additionally, the course emphasizes the growing importance of the contributions that dentists make to integrated networks consisting of other health care professionals.

By the completion of the course, participants should have a greater insight about the oral health and disease, the dental profession, and what will be required to pursue this career pathway.

Overall Goals

1. To convey a future-oriented overview of important concepts in: (a) dental science; (b) contemporary modes of patient treatment; and (c) dental care delivery systems.
2. To provide a first-hand exposure to the present practice of dentistry unfamiliar to the layman.
3. To provide prerequisite materials in oral anatomy, epidemiology and other basic science subjects to insure that the above learning experiences will be fully appreciated.
4. To familiarize students with the University of Washington School of Dentistry and to assist in career planning.

Course Requirements

1. To attend Wednesday afternoon presentations and discussions.
2. To spend 10 to 20 hours in a new dental environment. Students will be given the choice of placements in Public Health Clinics, Dental School Clinics, or with selected private practitioners. While the activities the student will engage in will vary from site to site, students will observe and learn the "instruments of the profession" (instruments, materials and equipment) and dental procedures. In addition to the above objectives, students will show at all times a knowledge and appreciation for the principles of sterilization and aseptic technique.
3. Write a "critical incident" essay based on experiences in the dental environment
4. To complete course evaluation questionnaires that will help determine: (a) future course modifications and (b) impact of the course career plans, priorities, etc.
5. To pass final examination based upon key concepts presented in lectures and associated readings.

Grading

Graded course to be based upon all course requirements.