



*UNIVERSIDAD DE PUERTO RICO  
RECINTO DE CIENCIAS MÉDICAS  
ESCUELA DE MEDICINA DENTAL  
OFICINA DE ASUNTOS ACADÉMICOS*

## **DESCRIPCIÓN DE CURSOS ELECTIVOS**

### **DESP 7401 - Ethical, Social and Legal Issues Relevant to the Healthcare Professional Viewed through Film. Thirty six (36) hours.**

This course is aimed to the role of the health professional in society. Health professionals have a unique social position that allows the role of critical thinker, community leader, policies shaping, and role models. The course will allow creativity in approaching emerging societal issues and critical thinking in providing insight and solutions. Emphasis will be placed on legal, administrative and policy issues in Healthcare. The student will select a movie or publication relevant to a healthcare law, a social, administration or policy issue, problem or controversy. The student should analyze the situation and from the health professional point of view, lead his classmates in a thorough discussion. Ethical reasoning and legal principles learned in required prior courses will be applied to social issues. The emphasis is to use those ethical and legal reasoning skills and knowledge to analyze critically controversial issues, particularly related to healthcare.

### **DESP 7405 - History of Dentistry. Twenty four (24) hours. Pre-requisites: Approved Third Year Curriculum.**

This is an elective course directed to Fourth Year students. The course will cover the subjects of pre-history and history of the human beings from the perspective of Dentistry. Also, the development of the dental profession and its contribution to the improvement of mankind will be discussed. This course will be offered through lectures, group discussions, student's presentations, analysis and discussion of documentaries, as well as, visits to museums and historical and archaeological sites, among others.

### **DESP 7406 - Management and Financial Aspects of the Dental Practice. Twenty four (24) hours. Pre-requisites: Approved the Third Year of the curriculum.**

This is an elective course which will expand and elaborate on the topics taught in the required Private Practice Administration course. The students will also acquire knowledge and develop skills in areas such as basic economics, credit, financial planning, insurance, marketing contracts and related laws for the optimum functioning in the administration of the dental offices. The course consists of topic presentations, lectures, group discussion exercises and individual practice.

### **DESP 7407 - Prepaid Plans in Dentistry. Thirty six (36) hours. Pre-requisites: Approved Third Year of studies.**

This course will provide the dental students with an understanding of the prepaid dental plans in the practice of Dentistry. It will introduce the past, present and future of prepaid plans, including background information and understanding of the health insurance industry profile and the regulation agencies in Puerto Rico. The course will provide students with concepts related to dental coverage, policies and dental provider's agreement, including quality assurance and dental managed care. The methodology of the course includes lectures, discussion panels, laboratory experiences, and presentation of projects performed by students. The laboratory will provide students with the opportunity to practice the theory presented in the course utilizing a dental computer program, as well as practicing in a dentist's office.

**DESP 7408 – Forensic Dentistry. Twelve (12) hours. Pre-requisites: Third Year Curriculum.**

Basic concepts of forensic dentistry are discussed to train senior dental students to assist local, state and federal authorities in the identification of human remains in criminal cases where the assessment of dental evidence will be used in the quest for truth and justice. This course is conducted by means of group discussion and visits to forensic laboratories, museums and or court.

**DESP 7411<sup>1</sup> - Research Experiences in Dentistry. Thirty six to one hundred and twenty (36-120) hours. Pre-requisites: Third Year approved.**

This course provides dental students the opportunity to explore a variety of research experiences. These experiences include activities in research laboratories, dental schools or other institutions in Puerto Rico, the United States or other countries. Knowledge and skills in research methods are developed through active participation in research activities under the supervision of a mentor.

**PRET 7401 A learning Experience: Teaching in Preclinical Prosthodontic Laboratory. Twenty four (24) hours. Pre-requisites: PRET 7246, PRET 7276.**

This course is designed for fourth year students that shows interest and ability in the field of Prosthodontics and commitment with the academy. The course consists of a series of lectures, demonstrations and laboratory teaching experiences. The material is presented in a sequential and integrated manner combining and related to the laboratory activity that will be mentoring by the student. Students are also required to independently study in order to expand their knowledge. The purpose of this course is to provide a teaching experience in a prosthodontic laboratory course to students interested in an academic career and at the same time have a peer perspective on preclinical laboratory courses.

**PRET 7405<sup>2</sup> - Oral Health Promotion in a Special Community. Thirty six (36) hours. Pre-requisites: Approved First, Second, and Third Year.**

This is an elective course designed for dental students to provide clinical education in a disadvantaged community. Its purpose is to sensitize students towards the community's sociocultural characteristics. Students are expected to develop skills to understand the community and its priorities towards oral health, design and implement a preventive clinical-education program in the selected community, and report the results of the intervention. Educational activities include visits to the community, videos, meetings with community leaders, and with members of the Oral Health Division of the Department of Health.

**PRET 7406 - Restoration of Endodontically Treated Teeth. Twenty four (24) hours. Pre-requisites: Third Year Curriculum.**

This course consists of a series of lectures involving all the present techniques for restoration of endodontically treated teeth. All of these techniques will be practiced in the laboratory, on extracted teeth. Students will also practice these techniques in some patients under the supervision of a faculty member.

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<sup>1</sup> DESP 7409 – Research Experiences in Dentistry (todo el curso es por acuerdo)

<sup>2</sup> PRET 7405 - Oral Health Promotion in a Special Community (14 horas son por acuerdo)

**PRET 7407 - Dental Photography. Twenty four (24) hours. Pre-requisites: Third Year curriculum approved.**

This course introduces the student to the use of dental imaging and photography in several areas such as: treatment planning, record keeping, continuing education, staff education, dental insurance and others. The course covers topics related to the combination of digital technology and photography and the use of digital images for patient education. This course will be delivered through twenty-four (24) hours of lectures, demonstrations and clinical practice.

**PRET 7408 - Effective Tobacco Control Interventions for Patients in the Dental Office. Twenty four (24) hours. Pre-requisites: Approved Third Year of the curriculum.**

This course provides the student the basic knowledge necessary for including brief tobacco control interventions for patients in their dental practice. The students have the opportunity of visiting a Smoking Cessation Clinic during the evaluation of patients. The purpose of this visit is to show them the diagnostic approach with these patients. This course will be conducted with the use of conferences, clinical visits, and student presentations.

**PRET 7409<sup>3</sup> - Sports Dentistry. Twenty four (24) hours. Pre-requisites: Approved Third Year curriculum.**

This is an elective course for senior students which includes demonstrations and laboratory exercises as well as lectures from invited faculty and students. All contemporary concepts in managing oral health in sports, including prevention and treatment of sport related injuries and recommended treatment in common and/or advanced athletes are considered.

**PRET 7410<sup>4</sup> - Clinical Experiences in Dental Treatment. Forty to eighty (40-80) hours. Pre-requisites: Third Year approved.**

This course will provide the student the opportunity to provide dental care, under the supervision of a senior dental professional, in a hospital or health center environment. Emphasis will be placed on providing dental care to medically compromised patients. Students will have the opportunity to attend medical rounds, dental case presentations, clinical seminars, and lectures.

**PRET 7415<sup>5</sup> - Nitrous Oxide Inhalation Sedation in Dentistry. Forty eight (48) hours. Pre-requisites: Third Year curriculum approved.**

The course is designed to teach the student the use of N<sub>2</sub>O inhalation sedation for control of pain and apprehension in General Dentistry Practice. The instructional strategies to be used are: lecture, group discussions, clinical demonstration and supervised clinical practice.

**PRET 7416<sup>6</sup> - Use of Microscope in Dentistry. Twenty four (24) hours. Pre-requisites: Third Year Curriculum.**

This course is designed to develop knowledge and skills in the use of the dental clinical microscope in the different disciplines of Dentistry. The student will also have the opportunity to do clinical procedures utilizing the microscope.

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<sup>3</sup> PRET 7409 - Sports Dentistry (este curso se ofrece por Blackboard y por acuerdo)

<sup>4</sup> PRET 7410 - Clinical Experiences in Dental Treatment (una semana de rotación por un programa graduado, debe tener la aprobación de su coordinador de módulo de cuarto año y director del programa graduado)

<sup>5</sup> PRET 7415 - Nitrous Oxide Inhalation Sedation in Dentistry (24 horas adicionales son por acuerdo)

<sup>6</sup> PRET 7416 - Use of Microscope in Dentistry (curso se ofrece por Blackboard y por acuerdo)

**PRET 7417<sup>7</sup> - Endodontic Treatment in Molars. Twenty seven (27) hours. Pre-requisites: Third year curriculum.**

This course consists of a series of lectures, demonstrations and laboratory exercises related to the prevention and treatment of pulpal and periapical diseases. Laboratory practice will be focused in root canal treatment for molars. The rationale and armamentarium for conventional root canal therapy are discussed in this course. Laboratory exercises consist of root canal therapy in natural extracted mandibular and maxillary molars.

**PRET 7419 - The Dentist in the Hospital Environment. Thirty six (36) hours. Pre-requisites: Third Year curriculum approved.**

This course is designed for senior dental students to develop knowledge and skills to comprehend hospital organization, protocol procedures and professional requirements in order to participate as a member of the health team, and provide optimal patient care.

**PRET 7425 - Maxillofacial Prosthetics and Dental Oncology. Twelve (12) hours.**

The course will introduce the student to the subspecialty of dental oncology and maxillofacial prosthetics. The student will learn how cancer patients are treated prior, during and after cancer treatment in the areas of surgery, radiation therapy and chemotherapy with emphasis of a team approach with other professionals in the field of cancer treatment. In addition the student will be introduced to the role of prosthodontics in the rehabilitation of these patients. In this course discusses item about psychodynamic interactions, maxillectomy anatomy, principles of maxillofacial RPD, maxillary obturators, radiation therapy oral manifestations, oral complications, management, extraoral prosthesis, special prosthesis.

**PRET 7427 - Craniomandibular Stabilization. Twenty seven (27) hours.**

This elective course is designed to provide the dental students the opportunity to develop proficiency in their analytic and psychomotor skills in the treatment of patients needing dentognathic orofacial rehabilitation suffering temporomandibular disorders. In addition, the student will be introduced to the importance of a holistic and comprehensive approach to diagnose and treat patient temporomandibular disorders in order to attain and maintain optimum oral health.

**PRET 7428 - Dental Biomaterials Clinical Applications. Thirty (30) hours.**

This is a Lecture-Seminar course dealing with the clinical aspects of dental biomaterials. Emphasis will be given to the clinical significance of material's properties and proper management of dental materials. This course will also involve the students in the search of recently published literature related to the course and promote the effective learning through discussion groups.

**PRET 7429<sup>8</sup> - Advanced Operative and Esthetic Dentistry. Seventy two (72) hours.**

This course, intended for 4th year dental students, is designed to develop knowledge, skill and understanding on advanced operative and esthetic dentistry. The student will also have the opportunity to perform a clinical procedure.

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<sup>7</sup> PRET 7417 - Endodontic Treatment in Molars (matrícula máxima de 6 estudiantes y se requiere autorización por escrito de la Dra. Carmen Santa)

<sup>8</sup> PRET 7429 - Advanced Operative and Esthetic Dentistry (40 horas adicionales son por acuerdo)

**PRET 7435 - Technological Advances in Oral Health Care. Eighty one (81) hours. Pre-requisites: Third Year Dental Curriculum.**

This course is designed to help students develop knowledge, skills and understanding of how technological advances are transforming oral health care and the uses of these technologies. The student will have the opportunity to perform laboratory and clinical procedures utilizing new technologies.

**PRET 7436<sup>9</sup> - Dental Medicine and Public Policy. Forty five (45) hours. Pre-requisites: Third Year Dental Curriculum.**

In this course, students will analyze the role of the dentist in the development of policies in the areas of service providing, work setting, government, organizations, public health and the community. The social, economic, legal, bioethical and technological impact on health policy from a local, national and global perspective will be studied.

**PRET 7445<sup>10</sup> – Oral Health Issues in Sexual and Gender Minorities. Forty five (45) hours. Pre-requisites: Third Year Dental Curriculum.**

In this course the overall complexity of human sexuality across the life span and its impact on the dental practice using a multidisciplinary approach, will be explored. Gender issues and sexual minority backgrounds will also be discussed. Students are expected to develop skills and strategies on how dental practitioners must manage these issues while providing oral health care to patients. The aim of this course is to increase cultural competency of professionals of oral health with these communities.

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<sup>9</sup> PRET 7436 - Dental Medicine and Public Policy (9 horas adicionales son por acuerdo)

<sup>10</sup> PRET 7445 – Oral Health Issues in Sexual and Gender Minorities (13 horas adicionales son por acuerdo)