Graduate School of Dentistry

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Graduate programs at the Department of Dentistry lead to an advanced academic degree, either the master of science (MSD) or the doctor of philosophy (Ph.D.) in basic and clinical dental fields. These programs have a strong research orientation and require a thesis. MSD and Ph.D. programs in basic dental sciences permit the students to focus on one of the following tracks: dental materials, community dentistry, craniofacial morphology and function, oral molecular, cellular and systems biology, and oral diseases including infectious diseases. Programs are also available for those who wish to pursue a graduate degree in the clinical dental sciences concurrently with or without clinical special education of Operative Dentistry, Prosthodontics, Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery, Pediatric Dentistry, Periodontology, Orthodontics, Oral and Maxillofacial Radiology, and Oral Medicine. Welcoming the challenges of the 21st century, the College of Dentistry is preparing for its transformation into a system of professional school similar to that of American dental schools in which candidates are required to obtain a bachelor's degree before application. The Dental College employing the new system started in 2003. The new system will be in full operation from 2005. Eventually, graduate studies in dentistry will also adopt a new curricular system and academic degree to meet the need of higher professional expertise in clinical fields and advanced studies in basic dental sciences.

Degree Requirements

- At least 24 course units of graduate level credit in Dentistry courses are required for the MSD, 60 course units for the Ph D
- Students are required to take an integrated bloc lecture course in each program.
- Students are required to take at least 9 credits of the required courses in their major for the MSD, 15 credits for the Ph.D.
- Students must pass a foreign language examination and a qualifying test; a total of 18 credits in MSD program and 24 credits in Ph.D. are required to take a qualifying test.
- A thesis

Courses

Biostatistics, Thesis Writing, Research Methodology, Dental Caries Research, Bone and Bone Metabolism, Oral Health Administration and Education, Protein Chemistry, Pain, and Current Topics in Anatomy, Pathology, Physiology, Microbiology, Biochemistry, Pharmacology, Preventive Dentistry, Dental Materials, Operative Dentistry, Prosthodontics, Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery, Periodontology, Orthodontics, Pediatric Dentistry, Oral and Maxillofacial Radiology, and Oral Medicine

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Laboratories

■ Testing & Development Center for Dental Materials

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The Testing & Development Center for Dental Materials was founded on January 17, 2000 to perform the laboratory testing business of dental materials defined in medical devices national laws established in May 2005, and the research and development business of dental materials for domestic manufacture systems. The Center is registered at KFDA as one of representative facilities of testing dental materials with the accepted quality assurance, and has been designated by the Korean Agency for Technology and Standards (KATS), Ministry of Commerce, Industry and Energy (MOCIE) as a managing organ representing Korea in the world business related in ISO TC 106 (International Standardization Organization, Technical Committee 106 for Dental Materials) from 1999 till 2004. The Center is divided into the administration party, the testing department and the developmental department, and equipped with 18 specialized staffs, and approximately 50 testing instruments.

The Center has a system for partnership for high-price testing equipments with equivalent quality manual between us and the other testing facilities.

The Center has functions including the testing & evaluation business, the research & development business, and the standardization business for all dental materials including dental equipments. The Center has some activities including the research financing, the training of specialized researchers, the publication of journal, the international academic communications, the linked research between basic & applied sciences, the opened partnership for testing facilities, venture business, internet homepage managements, and seminars, etc.

The Center has goals such as being receiving official recognition as a worldwide testing center through the accumulation of fine and standardized technologies for the experiments and the development of manufacturing procedures for dental materials through systemic research. The Center 's final goals are to make an image of our University as eminent and trustful, and to make the Center globalized, via academic and scientific services for our society and world.

■ Laboratories in association with the Institute of Oral Biology

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Director: Professor, Young-Hyuk Kwon (kyhyuk@khu.ac.kr)

As industrial development progresses, the need for better oral health increases. The Institute of Oral Biology was founded to meet the needs of the public. The function of the institute is to support inter-departmental research teamwork, design a new research system, and to plan and conduct institutional projects. Thereby, the institute contributes to the development of dental science and industry. Institute of Oral Biology is composed of 16 departmental laboratories of the College of Dentistry. Research interests of the laboratories include craniofacial development and regeneration of oral tissue, bone and bone metabolic disease, oral cancer and carcinogenesis, biologic effect of irradiation, neuroscience and biology of pain, stress, electrophysiology, food-based vaccine against infectious diseases, implant biology, evaluation and development of dental materials and oral hygienic aids.