

## School of Oral Health Sciences

[◀Back](#)

<a href="#">About Us</a>	 <b>Director's message</b>
<a href="#">Admission Requirements</a>	The School of Oral Health Sciences strives towards excellence in the teaching of the science and art of Dentistry, excellence in providing for the oral health needs of the community, as well as excellence in community oriented research.
<b>Academic Programme</b>	We care, and because we care, we respond to the various challenges with all the vigour and expertise we can muster. We care about people. It is our task and responsibility to alleviate pain and to restore the stomatognathic system in order to improve the quality of life of all the citizens of South Africa.
<a href="#">Undergraduate Programmes</a>	
<a href="#">Postgraduate Programmes</a>	We do not only want our Students to pass their examinations successfully but also to be life-long learners. The challenges posed by the expected increase in oral health needs and demographic changes of the Southern African populations within the next decade offers many challenges for future oral health professionals.
<a href="#">Departments</a>	
<a href="#">School Calendar</a>	This School is pro-actively undertaking research into the broader issues at stake and the dynamics involved, searching for effective solutions to future problems within the Southern African oral health care delivery systems.
<a href="#">Contact us</a>	Accentuating the positive, respecting the individual, and empowering our dedicated School to provide the best possible learning environment for every dental Student are among our primary goals.
	<b>Prof OA AYO-YUSUF</b>

## About School of Oral Health Sciences

[◀Back](#)

The School of Oral Health Sciences forms part of the functional organisational structure of the University of Limpopo. We believe that it is our primary goal to provide integrated community-based education and training for oral health personnel who realistically meet the changing needs of the community through an appropriate caring service, community centred research, and an accessible consultancy.

The School strives towards ensuring that all appropriate activities, opportunities and initiatives are fully utilised. We give well-balanced education for oral health personnel, acceptable to the community and appropriate within the primary health care system whilst also developing

individual potential. We keep our oral health personnel abreast of new developments in primary and other forms of oral health care delivery by means of continuing education. Through fundamental and applied research we address the broader oral health needs of the community.

**Values**

- Knowing the art and science of oral health.
- Caring for society's oral health.
- Responding to oral health needs.
- Respecting human individuality and autonomy.

**SOHS Admission Requirements**

[←Back](#)

<b>Degree</b>	<b>Requirements prior 2008</b>	<b>National Senior Certificate</b>	<b>Duration</b>	<b>Career Opportunity</b>
<b>Dentistry (BDS)</b>	Full matriculation exemption with a symbol in Mathematics and Physical Science of at least E on higher grade and C on standard grade. The minimum rating for consideration for entrance into BDS is 12	Mathematics 5 Physical Sciences 5 Language of learning (English) 4 Life Sciences 5 Life Orientation 3 Additional subject 4 Additional subject 4	5 years	A Dentist's work ranges from the prevention of tooth decay, preparing and filling of cavities to highly intricate tooth reconstruction and realignment procedures, as well as exciting methods to perfect the appearance of the mouth, teeth and surrounding tissues. A Dentist can work in Private Practice, Public dental services, Academic dentistry
<b>Dental Therapy (BDT)</b>	Full matriculation exemption with a symbol in Mathematics and Physical Science of at least E on higher grade and C on standard grade. The minimum rating for consideration for entrance into BDT is	Mathematics 4 Physical Sciences 4 Language of learning (English) 4 Life Sciences 4 Life Orientation 3 Additional subject 3	3 years	A Dental Therapist performs all the basic much needed dental procedures, preparing and filling cavities, extractions, cleaning and polishing teeth, and x-rays. A Dental Therapist can work in Private Practice,

	10	Additional subject 3		Public dental services, Academic dentistry.
<b>Oral Hygiene (BOH)</b>	Full matriculation exemption with a symbol in Mathematics, Biology or Physical Science of at least E on higher grade and C on standard grade. The minimum rating for consideration for entrance into the University Diploma in Oral Hygiene is 8	Mathematics 3 <b>Or</b> Mathematics Literacy 5 Physical Sciences 3 Language of learning (English) 3 Life Sciences 4 Life Orientation 3 Additional subject 3 Additional subject 3	3 years	An Oral Hygienist is trained to instruct and motivate on effective oral hygiene care in order to prevent oral disease. He/she is skilled in cleaning and polishing teeth, taking x-rays and preventative procedures, including health promotion. An Oral Hygienist can work in Private practice, Public dental services, Academic dentistry

## SOHS Undergraduate Programmes

[←Back](#)

- **Dentistry (BDS):** A dentist's work ranges from the prevention of tooth decay, preparing and filling of cavities to highly intricate tooth reconstruction and realignment procedures, as well as exciting methods to perfect the appearance of the mouth and teeth. Duration: 5 years
- **Dental Therapy (B Dent Ther):** A dental therapist performs all the basic much needed dental procedures, preparing and filling cavities, extractions, sealing and polishing teeth, and x-rays. Duration: 3 years
- **Oral Hygiene (UDOH):** An oral hygienist is trained to instruct and motivate on effective oral hygiene care in order to prevent oral disease. He/she is skilled in sealing and polishing teeth, taking x-rays and preventative procedures, including health promotion. Duration: 2 years

## SOHS Postgraduate Programmes

[←Back](#)

- **Postgraduate Diploma in Dentistry:** To provide dentists with an opportunity to refresh their knowledge base and improve their skills in selected fields in Dentistry.
- **Advanced Diploma in Community Dentistry:** To equip oral hygienists, dental therapists, dentists with sufficient theoretical and clinical knowledge of the various levels of prevention of disease within community and other settings.
- **Bachelor of Science (Dental) (Honours):** A significant percentage of teaching and research is

performed by non-dental basic scientists. This program will provide a career path for scientists in academic oral centres for dental training. They will furthermore be of value to industries which develop materials and equipment for the dental profession.

- **Masters in Dentistry Degree (M Dent):** To train dentists in a registrable speciality in dentistry in one of the following specialities: Community Dentistry, Maxillofacial & Oral Surgery, Oral Pathology, Orthodontics, Periodontics and Oral Medicine and Prosthodontics.
- **Master of Dental Science Degree (MDS):** Aimed at establishing independent research in specific fields of Dentistry.
- **Master of Science (Dental) (MSc (Dent)):** To provide a career path for non-dental scientists appointed to dental tertiary institutions. To provide industries involved in the development of dental materials and dental equipment with appropriately trained scientists.
- **Doctor of Philosophy (PhD):** To provide a candidate the opportunity to perform an in-depth research project in any field of Dentistry

## SOHS Departments

[←Back](#)

[Community Dentistry](#)

[Oral Hygiene Division](#)

[Integrated Clinical Dentistry](#)

[Maxillofacial and Oral radiology](#)

[Maxillofacial and Oral Surgery](#)

[Operative Dentistry](#)

[Oral Pathology and Oral Biology](#)

[Orthodontics](#)

[Periodontology and Oral Medicine](#)

[Prosthodontics](#)

[Medunsa Dental Laboratory](#)

[Stomatological Studies](#)

## Community Dentistry

[◀Back](#)

The Department of Community Dentistry is involved with the diagnosis, prevention and control of dental diseases. As a discipline, or specialty of dentistry, Community Dentistry deals with the community and its aggregate dental or oral health challenges rather than that of the individual patient. The specialty of dental public health aims to improve oral health care through appropriate health promotion, preventive, educational and treatment services based on reliable evidence for effective decision making. Particular consideration is placed on the environmental, social and behavioural influences on the oral health of the population and the availability of effective and efficient services to improve dental health.

The teaching program focuses on the philosophy, principles and practice of Oral and Dental Epidemiology, Preventive Dentistry, Dental Public Health, Oral Health Care System, regulation and Evaluation. The goals of programs are to equip students to critically appraise literature, expose them to philosophy and methodology in health promotion, prevention, and epidemiology. Students will be skilled to plan, conduct, monitor and evaluate public health programs in various settings; to contribute to the scientific basis of public health programs through the conduct of applied research in order to improve the health of the public; be enabled provide leadership and management of oral health institutions, understand public policy issues, organization and administration related to dentistry. The programs provide students with both clinical and health promotion experiences in community-based settings.

The Oral Health course is designed to provide the student with knowledge and experience in providing preventive, educational and therapeutic services for the control of oral diseases and the promotion of oral health.

### Academic Staff

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Dr PR-Q Gwengu	Specialist		
Dr A Khan	Registrar		
Dr G Phalwane	Lecturer		
Mr FM More	Lecturer		

## Oral Hygiene Division

[◀Back](#)

## Introduction

The Oral Health course is designed to provide the student with knowledge and experience in providing preventive, educational and therapeutic services for the control of oral diseases and the promotion of oral health.

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### Academic Staff :

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Ms B Mthethwa	Lecturer		

## Integrated Clinical Dentistry

[←Back](#)

The department provides academic teaching and training of undergraduate learners in practicing their profession with integrity, professionalism and accountability, and building a relationship of mutual trust between patients and health care practitioners.

Integrated Clinical Dentistry is the exit level year of study, where the learners must synthesize their learning from the previous four years of study in dentistry and develop the skill to assess their own learning through self-reflection. The modules at this level are: Comprehensive Care Clinic, Problem Based Learning, Electives and Community Outreach Programme. The learner must pass all the modules to graduate as a dentist.

Ethics and Practice Management:

The purpose of this module is to develop, refine and inculcate the knowledge, skills and attitudes necessary for the health professionals as required by the external validating body, the HPCSA, and enriching them to being a long-life learner with ethical and moral principles within the profession and towards the society at large.

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Dr WPJ McClure	Lecturer		
Dr PM Nyalunga	Lecturer		
Dr HM Shabalala	Lecturer		

## Maxillofacial and Oral Radiology

[←Back](#)

The mission of Maxillofacial and Oral Radiology (MFOR) is to serve the Community by training oral health personnel in the field of Maxillofacial and Oral Radiology and by providing an excellent radiographic service to the Oral Health Centre.

MFOR render academic as well as diagnostic radiological service to the Medunsa Campus Oral Health Centre at the School of Dentistry. The academic service provides a basic and practical account of the essential subject matter of both, dental radiography and dental radiology to undergraduate Oral Hygiene, Dental Therapy and dental students as well as to postgraduate dental students.

Since most patients enter the hospital first by passing through the Division of Radiography, from where they are channelled or taken into the hospital's teaching and treatment system, our Division fulfils a vital role in the service delivery of the dental school. Further it assists in the procurement of patient teaching material for pre- and postgraduate students.

### Academic Staff

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Mr O Makungo	Radiographer		
Dr NB Rakgwale	Lecturer		
Ms D Sekao	Radiographer		
Ms A van der	Radiographer		

## Maxillofacial and Oral Surgery

[←Back](#)

Maxillofacial and Oral Surgery is the specialty which combines surgical training with dental expertise for the treatment of diseases, injuries, tumours and deformities of the mouth, jaws and face. The specialty forms the natural bridge between the current disciplines of dentistry and medicine. The department serves a vital role in various interdepartmental collaborations, including Head and Neck Cancer reconstruction, with the Department of Otorhinolaryngology (ENT), the multidisciplinary cleft palate team and Oral Pathology service.

Maxillofacial and oral surgeons manage a wide variety of problems relating to the mouth, teeth and facial regions with particular emphasis on dental implants, wisdom teeth removal, tooth extractions, jaw reconstruction, treatment of infections, facial trauma, oral pathology, orthognathic surgery, management of salivary gland diseases, management of temporomandibular joint disorders including open and arthroscopic surgery and non-invasive facial cosmetic procedures. We believing that detailed surgical repetition leads to surgical excellence, we are dedicated to excellence in patient care.

### Who is a Maxillofacial and Oral Surgeon?

A maxillofacial and Oral Surgeon is a healthcare provider that has completed five years dentistry degree followed by a 5-year postgraduate hospital based residency/registrarship training program. This postgraduate training includes rotations in General Surgery, Intensive Care Unit, Trauma, Plastic Surgery, Ear, Nose and Throat Surgery, Neurosurgery and Oral Pathology.

Formal didactic courses outside of the medical school curriculum include Applied Head and Neck Surgical Anatomy, Advanced Oral Pathology, TMJ Diseases, Orthognathic Surgery. Conferences consist of clinical pathology, preoperative surgery, journal club and oral and maxillofacial teaching seminars. Thus a maxillofacial and oral surgeon is a doctor that specializes in the treatment of diseases, injuries and congenital deformities of the head (mouth, jaws and face) and neck.

### Academic Staff

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Dr MC Machaka	Lecturer		
Dr PP Mandondo	Lecturer		

Dr DM Molomo	Lecturer		
Dr CJ Perumal	Lecturer		
Dr MM Tlholoe	Lecturer		

## Operative Dentistry

[←Back](#)

The Department of Operative Dentistry trains and educate students in Pre-clinical and Clinical Direct Restorative Dentistry, Paediatric Dentistry, Endodontics and Restorative Materials for Direct Procedures at under- and postgraduate levels

### Academic Staff

Name	Position	Tel	E-mail
Dr JH Olivier (Acting HOD)	Senior Stomatologist	012 521 4813	<a href="mailto:Jan.Olivier@ul.ac.za">Jan.Olivier@ul.ac.za</a>
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Dr R Ballyram	Lecturer		
Dr CS Lefotlha	Lecturer		
Dr MA Maaga	Lecturer		
Dr J Mistry	Lecturer		
Dr N Msimanga	Lecturer		

## Oral Pathology and Oral Biology

[←Back](#)

The Department consists of three distinct sections: Oral Biology, Oral Pathology and Forensic Odontology. Oral Biology is defined as the study of the development, anatomy and physiology of the normal oral cavity. Modules in Oral Biology form part of the syllabi of most under- and post graduate courses in the School of Dentistry. Oral Pathology is the study of diseases affecting the oral- and peri-oral tissues and forms an integral component of most courses offered in the School of Dentistry.

The Department serves the community by providing a diagnostic clinical and microscopic service to patients with oral disease states attending the Oral and Dental Hospital as well as other regional hospitals and clinics. In order to execute this function, the Department has a state of the art diagnostic histopathology laboratory staffed by Medical Technologists. The service rendering platform is used to train post graduate Dental students in the Specialist discipline of Oral Pathology.

Forensic Odontology is the branch of Dentistry which, in the interest of justice, deals with the professional handling of Dental evidence.

### Oral Microbiology Staff

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Dr MMJ Mamabolo	Specialist		
Dr P Ngwenya	Specialist		
Dr LM Masilo	Lecturer		

## Orthodontics

[←Back](#)

The Orthodontics department strives to deliver quality orthodontic care by determining the orthodontic needs of all South African citizens and developing treatment and service modalities to satisfy these needs in an affordable, efficient and accessible manner.

In pursuit of this goal, we strive to improve the orthodontic awareness of our community by:

- Assisting in the teaching and training of oral hygienists/dental therapist/dentist
- Training of orthodontic specialists
- Rendering a consultancy service to the medical and dental profession
- Being an authority on the diagnosis and treatment of dentofacial abnormalities in the South African community
- Encouraging and promoting research at undergraduate and postgraduate levels.

Main functions of the Department are:

- Teaching relevant aspects of orthodontics to BDS I, II, III, IV, V, VI, BDT I/UDOH, and BDT II/UDOH undergraduate students
- Training of orthodontic registrars
- Service rendering to orthodontic patients at undergraduate and postgraduate level
- Treatment of patients with facial deformity

- Research on subjects pertaining to the field of orthodontics
- Continuing education programme for general dental practitioner

### Academic Staff

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Dr P Moodley	Lecturer		
Dr TF Mothobela	Lecturer		
Dr NP Sithole	Lecturer		
Dr J Wanjau	Lecturer		

## Periodontology and Oral Medicine

[←Back](#)

The Department of Periodontology and Oral Medicine provides periodontal care to the general community, where diseases of the gums and the surrounding periodontium are diagnosed and treated accordingly. Other diseases of the oral cavity and concerned structures are covered by the field of oral medicine. Students are taught the basics of Periodontology, learning how to prevent, diagnose and treat periodontal problems of all types. Students are also exposed to a variety of oral problems which come under the jurisdiction of oral medicine, from which they benefit proficiently.

### Academic Staff

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Dr RAG Khammissa	Specialist		
Dr R Chandran	Lecturer		

## Prosthodontics

[←Back](#)

The Department of Prosthodontics trains undergraduate students in pre-clinical and clinical prosthodontics. This includes teaching the techniques and clinical supervision of both removable and fixed work (i.e. complete, partial and immediate dentures, and posts, cores, veneers, crowns and bridges respectively). We also train postgraduate students in prosthodontics. The course includes removable and fixed prosthodontics as well as implantology, temporomandibular disturbances, endodontics and maxillofacial prosthodontics

### Academic Staff

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Dr P Moipolai	Principal Stomatologist	012 521 3349	<a href="mailto:pusetso.moipolai@ul.ac.za">pusetso.moipolai@ul.ac.za</a>
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Dr RM Phiri	Lecturer		
Dr KD Sehume	Lecturer		
Dr NP Zwane	Lecturer		

### Medunsa Dental Laboratory

[←Back](#)

#### Introduction :

The Medunsa Dental Laboratory renders services to all Clinical departments of the Dental School and assist with the training of registrars and undergraduate students.

The laboratory and its staff construct or facilitate the construction of various types of dental prosthesis. The following appliances are constructed:

- Fixed prosthetic devices such as inlays, onlays, ceramic and metal crowns and bridges.
- Removable dentures from acrylic and metal.
- Orthodontic appliances
- Acrylic plates for obturators, biteplates and cleft-palate feeding plates for babies.
- Gum guards for sportsmen and women
- Trismus screws and splints for surgical applications
- Artificial eyes and ears
- Eyelid weights

The laboratory is also an active participant in the design and construction of prosthesis on implants and is a member of the Dental Schools Implant Clinic.

Staff members of the laboratory assist with the presentation and facilitating of undergraduate practical courses like the BDS 1,2 and 3 Techniques courses. From time to time laboratory staff is requested to assist Registrars and other clinicians with research projects.

The laboratory forms an integral part of the Dental School and strives to render a world-class service to the School and the University of Limpopo .

**Academic Staff :**

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Ms A Goussard	Dental Technician		
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**Stomatological Studies**

[←Back](#)

The Department of Stomatological Studies teaches students oral microbiology at undergraduate and postgraduate levels. We develop the research capacity in students through basic and applied research projects derived from service delivery in the Department's outreach programmes.

**Academic Staff :**

Position	Name	Qualifications
Professor/Chief Stomatologist	Prof E Bignaut	BSc (Agric) (UOFS), HED (Unisa), MSc (Micr) (UP), BChD (UP), Dip Health Admin (Dent) (UP), PhD (UOFS)
Senior Lecturer/Senior Stomatologist	Dr SR Mtetwa	ND Medical Technology (Microbiology), BDS (Lits), MPH (Wits)
Lecturer/Snr Stomatologist	Dr J Wanjau	BDS (Nairobi), MDS (Medunsa), PG Dip in Dent (Medunsa)
Senior Medical Natural Scientist	Ms J Molepo	BSc (Unisa), BSc (Micro) (Hons) (Medunsa), MSc (Medunsa), Nat Dip Med Tech

		(Micro) (TNG)	
Medical Natural Scientist	Ms E Sekati	ND Med Tech (TNG); B Tech (Biomed Tech) (TNG)	

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[←Back](#)

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