ORTHODONTICS AND PERIODONTICS, CERTIFICATE

The Orthodontics and Periodontics program features a Clinical Track and an Academic Track. Applicants to this joint program must be accepted by both the Periodontics and Orthodontic admissions committees.

Clinical Track

In this track, the first year provides a comprehensive background in periodontics through extensive literature reviews, seminars, and clinical practice. Selected periodontal cases are continued into the second year, which focuses on formal training in orthodontics, orthodontic preclinical laboratories, and the beginning of clinical training in several multi-band techniques. The third and fourth years consist primarily of orthodontic seminars, clinical practice of periodontics and orthodontics, and evaluation of post-treatment periodontal cases. Third- and fourth-year students also do limited teaching. Graduates in this program are fully certified and board eligible in both periodontics and orthodontics. The four-year track will develop skilled clinicians who will be able to practice and teach in a clinical setting.

Duration of program: 48 months

Academic Track

The five-year program is designed to prepare students for full-time academia as dental educators and highly trained clinicians in periodontics and orthodontics. This program is planned in cooperation with a research preceptor and leads to a Master of Science in Oral Biology. The five years are planned and balanced by the Departments of Periodontics and Orthodontics and the research preceptor, so students can undertake clinical research while also being trained as a clinician. The clinical portion of the program is similar to the four-year track. Students will also have courses in the Graduate School of Education and have teaching responsibilities the fourth and fifth years.

Duration of program: 60 months

For more information: https://www.dental.upenn.edu/academic_programs_admissions/graduate_dental_education_programs/perio_ortho_residency_program (https://www.dental.upenn.edu/academic_programs_admissions/graduate_dental_education_programs/perio_ortho_residency_program/)

This degree requires a minimum of 250 Credit Hours.

Curriculum

All Dental Medicine certificate students share a common core of required courses throughout the first year. In addition, students complete additional courses specific to their particular program.

Program Requirements (Certificate Only)

- Core Graduate Dental Education Courses (Year 1 only)
- Program Specific Courses (Years 1 - 4 Didactic & Clinical)
- Literature Review (Years 1 - 4)
- Case Presentations (Years 1 - 4)
- Program Seminars (Years 1 - 4)
- Clinical Rotations (Years 1 - 4)

Students in the Orthodontics and Periodontics program are required to complete all requirements for both programs. These requirements can be found here:

Orthodontics: https://catalog.upenn.edu/graduate/programs/orthodontics-certificate/
Periodontics: https://catalog.upenn.edu/graduate/programs/periodontics-certificate/

These requirements are completed in the first three years. Beginning in PGY4, students take additional clinical rotations.

Code	Title	Course Units
PGY4		
Fall		
GPRD 9991	Clinical Periodontics VII	
GORT 9145	Clinical Orthodontic Training V	
Spring		
GPRD 9992	Clinical Periodontics VIII	
GORT 9146	Clinical Orthodontic Training VI	
PGY5 (Academic Tract Only)		
Fall		
GPRD 9993	Clinical Periodontics IX	
GORT 9147	Clinical Orthodontic Training VII	
Spring		
GPRD 9994	Clinical Periodontics X	
GORT 9148	Clinical Orthodontic Training VIII	

Core Graduate Dental Education Courses

Code	Title	Course Units
Year 1		
Fall		
DADE 9330	Ethics, Professionalism and Jurisprudence	1-3
DADE 9340	Evidence-based clinical practice	1.75-3
DADE 9350	Oral and systemic diseases	3.75-5
Spring		
DADE 9360	Oral infection and immunity	4-6
DADE 9370	Conservative and regenerative clinical practice	2-5
DADE 9380	Oral Health Care Delivery for Vulnerable Populations	1.5-3.5

Master of Science in Oral Biology

The School of Dental Medicine also offers a Master of Science in Oral Biology (MSOB) (https://catalog.upenn.edu/graduate/programs/oral-biology-msob/). Candidates receive the MSOB degree after completion of both their specialty training and the Master's curriculum, which consists of didactic, seminar, and research practicum courses. The MSOB program is comprised of two tracks designed for outstanding students who are interested in either integrating research or structured evidence-based learning into their post-graduate education.

Depending on the track selected, research activities or a systematic literature review form the core of the MSOB program. Students are expected to participate in a clinical or basic science research project

of sufficient scope and intensity or a formally structured and critically evaluated literature review focused on an important oral health-related research or clinical question. A thesis composed of an in-depth review of the relevant literature along with a manuscript reporting the results of the research or a systematic review is required for graduation for the research and evidence-based learning tracks respectively.

Code	Title	Course Units
Additional MSOB Course Requirements		
GBIO 9511	Current Topics in Oral Health Research I	
GBIO 9512	Current Topics in Oral Health Research II	
GBIO 9513	Current Topics in Oral Health Research III	
GBIO 9514	Current Topics in Oral Health Research IV	
GBIO 9521	Fundamentals of Oral Biology I	
GBIO 9522	Fundamentals of Oral Biology II	
GBIO 9711	Oral Biology Seminar	
GBIO 9712	Oral Biology Seminar Spring	
GBIO 9713	Oral Biology Seminar I	
GBIO 9714	Oral Biology Seminar II	
GBIO 9721	MS Research Thesis Practicum I	
GBIO 9722	MS Research Practicum	
GBIO 9723	MS Research Thesis Practicum III	
GBIO 9724	MS Research Thesis Practicum IV	
GBIO 9731	Introduction to Systematic Reviews Fall	
GBIO 9732	Introduction to Biostatistics Spring	

For more information: https://www.dental.upenn.edu/academic_programs_admissions/graduate_dental_education_programs/masters_of_science_in_oral_biology (https://www.dental.upenn.edu/academic_programs_admissions/graduate_dental_education_programs/masters_of_science_in_oral_biology/)

The degree and major requirements displayed are intended as a guide for students entering in the Fall of 2026 and later. Students should consult with their academic program regarding final certifications and requirements for graduation.