

Study Program	Integrated Studies of Dental Medicine
Independent higher education institution in which the study program is implemented	University of Belgrade
Higher education institution in which the study program is implemented	School of Dental Medicine
Educational-scientific/educational-art field	Medical Sciences
Scientific, professional or art field	Dental Medicine
Type of studies	Integrated Basic and Master Academic Studies Level of studies: second
Workload expressed in ECTS credits	360 ECTS
Degree title	Doctor of Dental Medicine
Length of studies	6 school years, 12 semesters
Year of implementation of the study program	2008, reaccredited in 2013
Year of implementation of the study program (if the program is new)	/
The number of students enrolled to the study program	1445
Planned number of students to be admitted to the study program	240, 220 in the Serbian language, 20 in the English language
Date of approval granted by the relevant governing body (provide the governing body)	14 th November, 2007 pursuant to Decision of the Senate of the University of Belgrade of 20 th March, 2013 and amended Decision of the Senate of the University of Belgrade of 26 th November, 2013, Decision of the Teaching and Scientific Council of 26 th November, 2019
Language of the study program	Serbian for 220 students English for 20 students
Year of study program accreditation	2008, reaccredited in 2013
Website containing the information about the study program	www.stomf.bg.ac.rs



Standard 1: Structure of the Study Program

The School of Dental medicine, University of Belgrade represents a higher education institution which has more than seventy years of tradition in carrying out multiple study programs with its Integrated Studies of Dental Medicine being among the best study programs in Europe when it comes to acquiring knowledge and obtaining the professional title of doctor of dental medicine.

The experience gained from previously accredited study programs of integrated studies and a critical analysis of the results achieved have called for changes and the accreditation of a new program, which has been a practice at the School of Dental Medicine for decades. This is conducted in accordance with the accreditation standards outlined in 2017 Rulebook on Accreditation of Study Programs and pursuant to Directive 2005/36/EU and Directive 2013/55/EU of the European Parliament.

The Integrated Studies of Dental Medicine comprise basic and master academic studies in medical sciences – field: dental medicine, level of studies: second.

The length of this study program is six academic years equating to 360 ECTS credits. One academic year is divided into two semesters.

After completing this study program, students acquire the professional title of Doctor of Dental Medicine.

The enrollment quota for this study programme is 240 students – 220 students studying in the Serbian language and 20 students who can study in English.

The purpose of this study programme is to educate health professionals – doctors of dental medicine who are trained to treat diseases affecting the mouth, teeth and other structures of the stomatognathic system, including preventive actions and raising awareness in children and adults in the field of oral health.

The goal is to create sympathetic, educated and competent dentists capable of:

- Using their knowledge and practical skills in patient care
- Accepting professional responsibility for safe and efficient patient care
- Accepting the necessity for continuing professional development

The plan and programme should:

- Contribute to students understanding and accepting that a dentist's practices are always in the best interest of the patient while adhering to legal regulations
- Enable students to acquire clinical competencies to practice without supervision after graduation while enabling them to be aware of their own capabilities so that they could refer their patients to the appropriate specialist doctor if necessary
- Promote acquisition of skills, behavior and professional views contributing to a more efficient and effective interaction with patients and colleagues
- Provide a foundation for effective and long-term education and professional development



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A person who has completed four years of secondary education, i.e. a high school or a medical vocational school may enroll in the first year.

A candidate applying for admission to the first year of study under paragraph 1 of this article takes the entrance exam, i.e. the aptitude test.

Candidates take an entrance examination in Chemistry and Biology. The order of candidates for admission to the first year of study is determined based on the grade point average achieved during secondary education and the results in the entrance exam, i.e. the aptitude test.

Based on the criteria specified in paragraph 3 of this article, the School compiles a ranking list of the applicants.

The following applicants are admitted to the first year of dental studies without taking the entrance examination:

1. A person who has already acquired a higher education qualification at the first level of studies, as well as a person who has completed the basic studies pursuant to the regulations prior to adopting the new Law on Higher Education (*Official Gazette of the Republic of Serbia*, No. 76/05, 100/07 – authentic interpretation, 97/08, 44/10, 93/12, 89/13, 99/14, 45/15 – authentic interpretation, 68/15 and 87/16).
2. A student from another university, i.e. another higher education institution who has obtained at least 60 ECTS credits within a study program of academic studies at another university, i.e. another higher education institution under the terms and conditions compliant with the terms and conditions stipulated by the School and the University.
3. A person who no longer has the status of a student pursuant to Article 101, paragraph 7, items 2 and 3 of the Statute of the University, providing they have previously obtained at least 60 ECTS.

The person referred to in paragraph 1 of this article can only be enrolled as a self-financing student.

The Rulebook on the Rules and Regulations of Studies sets out the conditions and procedures for recognition of passed exams and ECTS obtained at other faculties.

A student from another university or another independent higher education institution cannot be enrolled at the School if they have 60 or fewer ECTS credits remaining to graduate at the higher education institution where they are enrolled.

Assessment is embedded in teaching and learning by means of mid-term tests and/or seminars. Types of final examinations:

1. test;
2. test and oral exam;
3. test and practical exam;
4. test, practical and oral exams;
5. practical and oral exams;
6. oral;
7. written and oral parts;
8. written or oral defense of a project on a chosen topic.

Curriculum structure and the scoring system

Contained in the Appendix



Standard 2: The Purpose of the Study Program Integrated Studies of Dental Medicine

The purpose of the study programme Integrated Studies of Dental Medicine at the School of Dental Medicine, University of Belgrade is to provide primary education of students in terms of training them until they have become completely capable of practicing dentistry independently as doctors of dental medicine who are willing to maximize their contributions to oral and general health of the public while adhering to the established legal norms. Furthermore, it is important to create an environment that will enable qualified doctors of dental medicine to become completely aware of their capabilities but also their own limitations when it comes to patient care, an environment that will also pave the way for promoting professional communication with colleagues who are specialists in different branches of dentistry and other healthcare professionals. The overall goal of a dentist's professional endeavors is to ensure patient management and patient care, to raise awareness of the importance of oral health, and to promote preventive dentistry as an integral part of the nation's lifestyle.

The purpose of the study programme Integrated Studies of Dental Medicine is to be accomplished through:

- harmonizing of contemporary trends in professional, scientific and technological development so that the outcomes of education, validated through the quality of professional and scientific capacity of the graduates, completely corresponds to the national needs, European requirements and market needs;
- introducing a flexible system of study and research;
- harmonizing theoretical knowledge acquired and the opportunities for its everyday practical application in the dental practice;
- implementing a system for quality control;
- introducing new methods and information technologies in the implementation of the existing program and the development of new modules of the study programme Integrated Academic Studies;
- increasing the efficiency of the educational process through improving all parameters related to the quality of the educational outcomes of dental students;
- international cooperation with other institutions and student exchange programs
- providing opportunities for students to be equal participants in decision-making processes at the School and at the University



Standard 3: The Objectives of the Study Program

The objective of the study programme of integrated studies at the School of Dental Medicine, University of Belgrade is to create competent dentists capable of:

- Applying their theoretical knowledge and practical skills in patient care;
- diagnosing, suggesting and implementing an adequate treatment plan as part of dental management;
- Engaging in the promotion of oral health and disease prevention;
- Accepting professional responsibility for safe and efficient patient care;
- Understanding the necessity for continuous professional development.

The curriculum of this study programme should:

- Contribute to students understanding and accepting that a dentist's practices are always in the best interest of the patient while adhering to legal regulations
- Enable students to acquire clinical competencies to practice without supervision after graduation while enabling them to be aware of their own capabilities so that they could refer their patients to the appropriate specialist doctor, if necessary. These include the specialists in the following branches of dentistry: prosthodontics, periodontology and oral medicine, restorative odontology and endodontics, pediatric and preventive dentistry, oral surgery, orthodontics, maxillofacial surgery;
- Promote the acquisition of skills, attitudes and professional behavior contributing to a more efficient and effective interaction with patients and colleagues;
- Provide a foundation for effective and long-term education and professional development.

It is necessary to point out that the program of Integrated Studies of Dental Medicine at the School of Dental Medicine, University of Belgrade is expected to:

- Encourage efficient studying and programs of student mobility;
- Enable mastering innovation technologies and application of knowledge and skills in everyday dental practice;
- Foster inventiveness and creativity in students and enable them to participate in professional and scientific discussions and debates;
- Contribute to the development of dental science and profession, which beneficial for Higher Education in Serbia as a whole.



Standard 4: The Competencies of Graduates

The Competencies of graduates are in accordance with the new National Framework of Qualifications and Directive 2005/36/EU which entail:

1. Knowledge of the human anatomy and functioning, including normal growth and development;
2. Knowledge of the fundamental scientific insights which are at the core of dentistry;
3. The ability to identify risk factors for the development of oral diseases and design an appropriate preventive strategy;
4. The ability to perform a complete dental examination and establish a diagnosis along with knowledge of differential diagnosis and the ability to determine a treatment plan;
5. Accurate interpretation of the results of clinical and radiographic examination, including the application of diagnostic tests;
6. The competence in implementing clinical skills and procedures for various pathological conditions of the mouth, teeth and periodontal tissue, including temporomandibular joint disorders;
7. The ability to perform therapeutic procedures when attending to different types of patients and provide first aid for patients suffering from diseases affecting the mouth, teeth and periodontium, experiencing injuries of the mouth and teeth, and for patients having dental emergencies;
8. Knowledge of the principles of oral health promotion and oral disease prevention;
9. The competence in communicating with patients and their families but also in communicating with associates while being aware of their age and their social and cultural circumstances;
10. Knowledge of up-to-date regulations relevant for everyday clinical practice
11. Knowledge and understanding of the moral and ethical responsibilities involved in patient care
12. The competence and skills that include research, analytical and communication skills that are in line with contemporary insights and perceptions



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Standard 5: Curriculum

The length of the Integrated Academic Studies at the School of Dental Medicine, University of Belgrade is six academic years, or 12 semesters. The teaching process lasts 15 weeks per semester, and each academic year equates to 60 ECTS. The total number of ECTS within this study program is 360 (60 ECTS credits per year).

The curriculum of the Integrated Academic Studies of Dental Medicine contains the information about compulsory and elective subjects, including their structure and description.

The program is comprised of 39 compulsory subjects and 6 elective blocks with 129 subjects. The curriculum of this study program contains 5,505 teaching classes – 4,575 (classes of active teaching) + 930 (professional practice within the last 3 years).

There are 2,070 classes of theoretical lectures, 2,505 practicals, and 930 classes of professional practice.

The electivity factor in terms of students choosing the courses is 10.83%, while the electivity factor in terms of additional (alternative) courses is 36.94%.

The distribution of courses by type was carried out as follows:

- academic-general education 10.71%
- theoretical-methodological 19.05%
- scientific-specialist 32.14%
- specialist-applicative 38.10%

In other words:

- scientific and specialist-applicative 70.24%
- general education and theoretical-methodological 29.76%

Course description contain: course title and the name of the course leader, year and semester when the teaching process takes place, the contents of the course, including the methodological units and teaching methods, a list of references, assessment methods, examination protocol with the number of points for each pre-exam requirement and the final exam.

The teaching methods include: lectures, practicals, seminars, mid-term tests, independent research, consultations and examinations consisting of practical and oral parts when it comes to clinical courses and tests when it comes to general education courses. After completing the requirements stipulated by the study program and passing all examinations, the student is eligible for the final paper that constitutes 3 ECTS of the total number of ECTS credits and is comprised within the total number of ECTS that define the completion of the study program.

By defending the thesis, the student graduates from the School of Dental Medicine, Integrated Academic Studies of Dental Medicine and acquires the academic title of Doctor of Dental Medicine.



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Standard 6: Quality, Modernity, and International Compatibility of the Study Program

The study program Integrated Academic Studies at the School of Dental Medicine, University of Belgrade is a result of years of monitoring the development of higher education programs relevant for the studies at our School and other European dental schools and faculties, which is in accordance with the recommendations contained in the Rulebook proposed by the Commission for Accreditation of the Ministry of Education, Science and Technological Development, and adopted by the National Council of the Republic of Serbia which define the standards and procedures for the accreditation of study programs.

The basic principles for second level studies were determined upon reviewing several documents issued by European ministries of Higher Education.

The program is consistent with similar programs in European and global educational and scientific environments, such as:

1. Medical University of Vienna

(https://www.meduniwien.ac.at/web/fileadmin/content/serviceeinrichtungen/studienabteilung/studierende/zahnmedizin/pdf/20180912_Kons._Fassung_Curriculum_Zahnmedizin_Stand_Okt_2018_clean.pdf)

2. Faculty of Medicine, University of Ljubljana

(https://mf.unilj.si/application/files/7215/5117/4514/Predstavitveni_zbornik_EMS_Dentala_medicina_2019-2020.pdf)

3. University of Parma

(https://www.unipr.it/sites/default/files/albo_pretorio/allegati/08-04-2019/lmu-odontoiatria_e_protesi_dentaria.pdf)

This program of study is compatible with the recommendations of the Association of Dental Association of Europe (ADEE-www.adee.org).

The length of the Integrated Academic Studies of Dental Medicine for obtaining the title of Doctor of Dental Medicine is 6 years, i.e. 5,505 theoretical classes, practical classes, independent learning and professional practice, which is compliant with Directive 2005/36/EU and the European Council issued in 2005.



Standard 7: Student Admission

The School's Teaching and Scientific Council reaches the decision to enable admission to the study programme. The competition for admission to the programme is then announced by the University. The competition is open after it has been announced in official gazettes, on the website of the University, and on the website of the School. The number of students to be admitted is determined by the license. After announcing the competition for admission and in due time, candidates submit required documentation through the School's organizational unit.

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Standard 8: Student Assessment and Progress

Student assessment is conducted in accordance with a predetermined schedule both for pre-exam requirements and for the final exam.

During their studies students complete a study program by sitting examinations. Every single course within the study program has been allocated a certain number of ECTS credits that students acquire by passing the examination. ECTS credits are allocated based on the workload of students while mastering a particular course by applying a methodology that is unique for the higher education institution and its courses. The student's progress in terms of mastering a particular course is continuously monitored in classes and is expressed in points. The maximum number of points a student can acquire during a particular course is 100. The student acquires points within a course through classroom work, pre-exam requirements and passing the exam. The minimum number of points a student can accumulate by completing the pre-exam requirements in the classes is 30 and the maximum is 40. Each course within the study programme has a clear and published plan indicating how the points can be accumulated. During the teaching process, the student may accumulate points by completing different in-class activities or a pre-exam requirement, or by passing the exam. The overall success of a student within the subject course is expressed through a grading scale from 5 (failed) to 10 (remarkable). The student's grade is based on the total number of points the student has accumulated by completing the pre-exam requirements and passing the exam, including the quality of the knowledge and skills acquired. Students attending accredited study programs are continually monitored and assessed during classes, which is in accordance with the grading scheme for each course. The grading schemes are contained in the book of courses which is posted on the official website of the School and available to everyone.



Standard 9: Teaching Staff

The teaching process within the study program Integrated Studies of Dental Medicine is conducted by qualified and competent teaching staff who have been appointed to an academic position pursuant to:

- The Statute of the School
- The Rulebook on the Minimum Criteria for the Appointment of Lecturers/Teaching Associates
- The Rulebook on the Protocol and Procedures for the Appointment of Lecturers/Teaching Associates

The qualifications of all lecturers and teaching associates are consistent with their scientific fields and the level of their responsibilities.

The number of teaching staff members who are employed full-time is 142 (95 lecturers and 47 associates). An Emeritus Professor is also engaged in the teaching process. There are 10 lecturers and associates and 9 higher education associates employed under temporary agreement. There are 43 doctoral students, an associate receiving sponsorship from the Ministry of Education, Science and Technology, and 20 junior research assistants or research assistants employed at the School through the projects funded by the Ministry of Education, Science and Technology who are involved in practical classes.

The number of:

- lecturers required for the implementation of this study program is 39
- associates required for the implementation of this study program is 199

The average workload of the lecturers within this study program is 5.63 and the average workload of the associates is 10.51.

The number of teaching staff members is sufficient to cover the total number of theoretical and practical classes while meeting the criteria in terms of the number of students per group attending theoretical and practical classes within preclinical and clinical courses.



Standard 10: Organizational and Material Resources

The space and equipment that the School currently has at its disposal is adequate for all modes of delivery and for providing quality learning.

Library and information services at the School of Dental Medicine are managed by the Central Library responsible for acquisition and centralized processing (inventory, cataloguing and classification of library materials). There are two members of Library staff with appropriate professional and educational qualifications.

IT resources at the School are satisfactory. The School has a substantial number of networked computers in its possession. The IT Center, which is a separate department within the Deanery, consolidates and provides IT support to all employees. Students can access computers in three computer classrooms and at the library, or they can use their own notebook computers and access the Internet through the wireless network available virtually anywhere on the premises of the School.



Standard 11: Quality Control

Systematic monitoring and periodical quality checks are regulated by the Quality Policy, the Strategy for Quality Assurance, and the Rulebook on the Committee for Monitoring and Improving Teaching and Learning.

The Teaching and Scientific Council appoints the members of the Committee whose duty is to:

1. Monitor and analyze all study programs
2. Monitor and analyze the quality of teaching and learning at all levels
3. Analyze the efficiency of studying
4. Evaluate the accumulation of ECTS credits
5. Propose measures and activities for improving teaching and learning
6. Propose measures and activities for the reform of study programs

The results of the monitoring, controlling and improving teaching and learning processes are contained in a report provided by The Committee. The Report is an integral part of the Self-Evaluation Report.

The Committee consists of 7 members appointed for the period of 3 years, apart from the appointment of a student representative which lasts for one year.

The Committee is comprised of:

- 1 representative (a lecturer) per department
- 1 student representative designated by the Student Parliament
- Vice-Dean for Teaching and Learning
- Vice-Dean for Scientific Research
- 1 Student Department Officer



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Standard 12: Studies in a World Language

The School of Dental Medicine has accredited a study program Integrated Studies of Dental Medicine which comprise basic and master academic studies in medical sciences – field: dental medicine, level of studies: second. The length of this study program is six academic years equating to 360 ECTS credits. After completing this study program, students acquire the professional title of Doctor of Dental Medicine. The enrollment quota for this study programme is 240 students – 220 students studying in the Serbian language and 20 students studying in English.

The lecturers and associates who teach in the English language have the appropriate competencies enabling them to teach in the world language.

Teaching materials and a sufficient number of library items have been provided in English in order to complement the teaching process.

The Services that work with students are fully capable of communicating with students studying in English.

Public documents and administrative documents are issued on a bilingual form – in the Serbian language in Cyrillic script and in the language and script of instruction.

Students must demonstrate satisfactory language competencies in the world language of the study program and provide evidence of their level of competence upon admission to the study program by submitting a certificate – upper-intermediate certificate equivalent to level B2 according to the Common European Framework of Reference for Languages (CEFR).