

20. Bulletin

No. 23

Bulletin of the Medical University of Vienna
Academic Year 2020/2021
20th Volume; No. 23

CURRICULA

23rd curriculum for the University Course "Prosthodontics and
Interdisciplinary Therapy Concepts – Academic Expert"

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In its meeting of March 26, 2021, the Senate of the Medical University of Vienna approved the curriculum for the university course "Prosthetics and Interdisciplinary Therapy Concepts – Academic Expert", which was decided on November 10, 2020, by the decision-making Curriculum Commission for University Courses appointed pursuant to § 25 para. 8 no. 3 and para. 10 UG. The duration of the curriculum is limited to three years. The curriculum is as follows:

Part I: General

§ 1 Objective

The university course "Prosthodontics and Interdisciplinary Therapy Concepts – Academic Expert" is a postgraduate training and further education for practising dentists. The course builds on the study of dentistry and imparts specialisation in the field of prosthetics as well as interdisciplinary cooperation with other disciplines of dentistry and medicine. In addition to the acquisition of scientific basics, an update of theoretical and practical training under the supervision of experts in the field of prosthodontics forms the basis of this university course.

The aim of the course is to impart detailed practical and theoretical knowledge that far exceeds the content of student training. In logical continuation of these theoretical and practical skills, practice-relevant contents from all prosthetic sub-areas are to be taught.

The increased life expectancy of the population is leading to a higher number of elderly patients, for whom adequate treatment of the masticatory organ brings about an important improvement in the quality of life. The number of patients with functional disorders of the stomatognathic system is constantly increasing. Therefore, extensive training in diagnostic and therapeutic options is absolutely necessary from a public health perspective. An important part of the curriculum is therefore the diagnosis and therapy of the functional disorders.

A separate focus is on the interdisciplinary therapy of the difficult patient: patients with additional medical problems, difficult jaw situations, surgical interventions, patients with phobias and other neurological or psychiatric problems.

§ 2 Qualification profile

Graduates of the university course "Prosthodontics and Interdisciplinary Therapy Concepts – Academic Expert" acquire the theoretical and practical skills to plan complex prosthetic cases in an interdisciplinary way and to treat them independently. They acquire extensive innovative knowledge and clinical skills in the field of ceramic restoration, telescopic prosthetics and implant prosthetics as well as in the field of diagnostics of dysfunctions of the masticatory organ.

The university course "Prosthodontics and Interdisciplinary Therapy Concepts – Academic Expert" provides an in-depth, scientifically and methodologically high-quality education oriented towards lasting knowledge, which qualifies graduates for further qualification and for employment in, for example, the following fields of activity and makes them internationally competitive:

- Diagnostics and therapy of functional disorders
- Occlusal medicine
- Interdisciplinary case planning
- Orthodontics
- Interdisciplinary therapy of complex patients

Based on the professional requirements, the university course "Prosthodontics and Interdisciplinary Therapy Concepts – Academic Expert" provides qualifications in the following categories:

- Graduates have knowledge of the functions and dysfunctions of the masticatory organ.
- Graduates are able to solve interdisciplinary problems independently.
- Graduates have the competence to independently carry out diagnostics and therapy of functional disorders using innovative methods.
- Graduates think and act holistically and interdisciplinarily. They can propose creative solutions and evaluate them professionally with their analytical skills.

§ 3 Duration and structure

- (1) The university course lasts 4 semesters with 70 ECTS credits and consists of compulsory courses and module examinations in the modules (including a final examination by an exam board).
- (2) The maximum duration of study is 6 semesters, which corresponds to the scheduled study time plus 2 semesters.
- (3) Part of the theoretical material will be offered as e-learning.
- (4) The university course can be carried out part-time. The courses can also be held during the non-teaching time.
- (5) The courses are held in English.

§ 4 Prerequisites for admission

- (1) The prerequisite for admission to the university course is proof of:
 - a) A completed university degree or an equivalent degree successfully completed at a recognised domestic or foreign post-secondary educational institution for a total of at least 300 ECTS in the discipline of dentistry.
 - b) Admission to practice dentistry at the place of patient treatment, since course participants must treat patients outside the Vienna University Dental Clinic in the facilities of their own dental practice according to the criteria learned in the curriculum in order to be able to manage the patient cases required for the successful completion of the university course.
 - c) Six months of previous clinical or professional experience.
- (2) Applicants must prove that they have the necessary knowledge of the English language at level B2 of the Common European Framework of Reference for Languages (CEFR), either by means of

internationally recognised language certificates/diplomas or diplomas (for example. school-leaving certificate based on teaching in this language, completion of a degree course in the language of instruction concerned) or within the framework of an examination by the academic course management. Proofs can be waived if the language of instruction is the first language of the applicant. Furthermore, computer skills are required that enable the problem-free use of a teaching and learning platform as well as the use of literature databases.

- (3) A letter of application and a curriculum vitae must be enclosed with the application for admission.
- (4) The academic course management checks the suitability of the applicants on the basis of the documents submitted, in particular the application documents, and, if necessary, a personal interview.
- (5) Admission is only possible before the start of the course. The academic course director determines the maximum number of participants per course, taking into account the available study places from a pedagogical and organisational point of view and in accordance with the cost plan.

Exceptional cases for admission after the start of the course can only be approved by the curriculum director upon proposal of the academic course director, provided that the completion of equivalent teaching and learning contents can be proven.

- (6) Pursuant to § 70 par. 1 in conjunction with § 51 par. 2 no. 22 UG, participants must apply for admission to the course as extraordinary students. The rectorate decides on the admission of the course participants on the proposal of the academic course management according to the available study places and the qualification of the applicants.

Part II: Study and examination regulations

§ 5 Course content

	LV type ¹	academic hours (aS) ²	Self-study ³	ECTS	Mode of examination/performance review
Module 1 Functions and dysfunctions of the masticatory organ		46	200	10	Combined written and/or oral module examination
LV-1 Physiology of the masticatory organ	VS	30	80	4.5	examination-immanent with written and/or oral performance review
LV-2 Dysfunctions of the masticatory organ	VS	15	90	4.5	examination-immanent with written and/or oral performance review
Module examination 1	-	1	30	1	written and/or oral module examination

This module deals with functions and dysfunctions of the masticatory organ. Starting with the historical development of gnathology, evolution and phylogenetic development of the masticatory organ are presented. The main focus is on the structures and function of the stomatognathic system in order to provide students with a basic understanding of compensation mechanisms. Based on this knowledge, bruxism and dysfunctions are discussed.

	LV type	academic hours (aS)	Self-study	ECTS	Mode of examination/performance review
Module 2 Interdisciplinary diagnostics of the masticatory organ		68.5	340	16	Combined written and/or oral module examination
LV-1 Clinical functional analysis	SK	30	140	7	examination-immanent with written and/or oral performance review
LV-2 Instrumental functional analysis	PR	37.5	170	8	examination-immanent with written and/or oral performance review
Module examination 2	-	1	30	1	written and/or oral module examination

This module deals with interdisciplinary diagnostics of the masticatory organ. Interdisciplinary diagnostic procedures include clinical, instrumental and radiological examination methods as well as postural evaluation, which is carried out by the physiotherapist. Special importance is attached

¹ VO = Lectures | UE = Exercises | PR = Internships | SE = Seminars | WA = Scientific work
Combined courses: VS = Lecture and seminar | VU = Lecture and exercise | VB = Lecture with practical exercises | SK = Seminar with internship | SU = Seminar with exercise | PX = Practical seminar | PU = Practical exercise
² One academic hour (aS) lasts 45 minutes. If semester (week) hours (1 SWS = 15 aS) are specified: The scope of lectures or all compulsory courses is given in contact hours (attendance hours). Corresponding to the duration of a semester (15 weeks), one contact hour means 15 units of academic teaching time (aS) of 45 minutes each.
³ The times for self-study are given in (real-time) hours.

to the mandibular position in relation to head position and posture. Clinical TMJ and muscle evaluation is covered both theoretically and practically, and electronic condylography is performed on all participants.

	LV type	academic hours (aS)	Self-study	ECTS	Mode of examination/performance review
Module 3 Orthodontics and occlusal medicine		68.5	330	16	Combined written and/or oral module examination
LV-1 Interdisciplinary diagnostics	SK	17.5	150	7	examination-immanent with written and/or oral performance review
LV-2 Interdisciplinary case planning in prosthetics	VS	50	150	8	examination-immanent with written and/or oral performance review
Module examination 3	-	1	30	1	written and/or oral module examination

This module deals with orthodontics and occlusal medicine. Craniofacial dynamics and cephalometry are the basis for understanding orthodontic procedures. The occlusal plane is an important factor in the diagnosis of malocclusion. Special consideration is given to Class II and Class III malocclusion and midline shifts. Early occlusal intervention as well as pre-prosthetic orthodontics are important therapeutic steps in terms of an interdisciplinary therapeutic approach.

	LV type	academic hours (aS)	Self-study	ECTS	Mode of examination/performance review
Module 4 Occlusion and articulation in prosthetic rehabilitation		23.5	125	6	Combined written and/or oral module examination
LV-1 Occlusion concepts	VS	4.5	65	3	examination-immanent with written and/or oral performance review
LV-2 Wake-up technology	PR	18	30	2	examination-immanent with written and/or oral performance review
Module examination 4	-	1	30	1	written and/or oral module examination

This module deals with occlusion and articulation in prosthetic rehabilitation. Instrumental diagnostics with the help of articulators plays an important role in precise prosthetic case planning. With modern dental technologies we can realise theoretical occlusal concepts with high precision.

	LV type	academic hours (aS)	Self-study	ECTS	Mode of examination/performance review
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Module 5 Interdisciplinary therapy of functional disorders		98.5	430	22	-
LV-1 Interdisciplinary therapy for functional disorders of the masticatory organ	VS	50	200	10.5	examination-immanent with written and/or oral performance review
LV-2 The prosthetic rehabilitation of the complex patient	VS	47.5	200	10.5	examination-immanent with written and/or oral performance review
Final commission examination	-	1	30	1	written and/or oral performance review

This module deals with the interdisciplinary therapy of functional disorders. All contents regarding pre-therapy, such as physiotherapy, osteopathy, speech therapy, psychiatry and splint therapy, are taught. In the context of definitive occlusal rehabilitation, dentists, oral surgeons, periodontists and orthodontists work together in an interdisciplinary team. Another focus is on prosthetic rehabilitation with implants and CAD/CAM-supported procedures for aesthetic rehabilitation. "Backward planning" is emphasised as an important planning concept to achieve aesthetic aspects as well as adequate mastication and articulation. Interdisciplinary therapeutic steps are presented for both fixed and removable prosthetic solutions.

	academic hours (aS)	ECTS
Modules 1-5 (incl. final examination)	305	70
TOTAL		70

§ 6 Practical work

University course participants have to carry out patient treatments in their practices as part of the course after planning in the university course. These treatments are to be documented and presented. Case presentations are required as part of the final examination.

University course participants must have the possibility of independent patient treatment (premises and patient base) outside the university course in order to be able to manage the patient cases required for the successful completion of the university course. Compliance with the legal requirements for the independent treatment of patients is the responsibility of the participants of the university course.

§ 7 Recognition of examinations

Upon application of the course participant, the curriculum director decides on the recognition of examinations according to § 78 Abs. 9 UG. A maximum of 20% of the ECTS of the examinations prescribed in the curriculum can be recognised.

Prohibition of double recognition and of double use: Courses and examinations that have already been completed for the degree programme that is considered an admission requirement cannot be recognised again in the university degree programme. Courses and examinations that have already

been completed for another compulsory or elective module of this university programme cannot be used again in another module of the same university programme.

§ 8 Compulsory attendance

- (1) Attendance at the modules or courses is compulsory. The extent of justified absences per course may not exceed 10% of the scheduled attendance times (corresponding proof of absences must be provided).
- (2) If the topic of the course allows it, in the case of absences of more than 10% (corresponding evidence of the absences must be provided), opportunities for repetition and/or substitute performance can also be offered in justified individual cases. The academic course management decides on the necessity of providing a substitute performance or repeating one or more modules (of the courses). Subject-specific specialist congresses can be credited as substitute work up to an amount of 1 ECTS. Prior consultation with and approval by the academic course management is required.

§ 9 Examination regulations

- (1) The examinations or coursework in the university course consist of:
 - Course-related examinations in the examination subjects, the aim of which is to determine whether the course participants have gained a thorough overview of the learning objectives
 - Courses of immanent examination character (pi): "examination-immanent with written and/or oral performance review"
 - Combined module examinations
 - Final examination with written and oral examination part (case presentation)
- (2) Within the framework of the university programme, **the courses have an immanent examination character (pi)**: The assessment of courses with an immanent examination character is not based on a single examination at the end of a course, but on the basis of regular written and/or oral contributions of the students (for example, seminar paper, presentation, active participation and own contributions in group work or discussions, fulfilment of tasks in exercises, etc.), continuous observation and fulfilment of the prescribed compulsory attendance (accompanying performance review) as well as optionally through an additional final (partial) examination.

The following examination immanent (pi) course types are offered

- a. Exercises (UE): Exercises are courses in which students learn and apply specific practical skills under supervision, building on theoretical knowledge. Exercises have an inherent examination character and are primarily designed for basic academic training. A final, summative examination to check the contents learned can also be provided.
- b. Internships (PR): Internships are courses in which students work independently on specific issues based on theoretical and practical knowledge. The teaching of this form of teaching/learning is structured in terms of time, systematically specified in terms of content and oriented towards detailed learning objectives. Internships have an inherent examination character and serve to acquire skills in preparation for later professional practice. A final, summative examination to check the contents learned can also be provided.

- c. Seminars (SE): Seminars are courses in which students work on and discuss course content independently. They represent an important training method for the acquisition of knowledge and also attitudes, whereby through interactive participation of the students in small groups, above all the ability is learned to independently apply the acquired knowledge to the analysis and solution of questions. This form of teaching trains above all the independent examination of theoretical problems on a scientific basis and also serves to reflect on attitudes.
- d. The combined course type "SK" combines the definitions of the course types "seminar" and "internship" (see above), the combined course type "VS" combines the definitions of the course types "lecture" and "seminar" and the combined course type "VU" combines the course types "lecture" and "exercise". The elements are integrated, which results in an added didactic value.

Elements from the course type "Lecture" flow into the course types VS and VU: Lectures are courses in which parts of a subject and its methods are taught in a didactically prepared manner. They serve to introduce the basic concepts and systematics, to show the scientific background, to create cross-connections and to explain complicated issues and their significance for clinical/practical application. Assessment in a lecture is based on a single examination at the end of a course. This final examination is conducted in writing or orally.

- (3) **Combined module examinations:** The achievement of the study objectives of modules 1 to 4 is examined by means of the respective examination-immanent courses and, for each module, by means of a written and/or oral module examination ("combined module examination"). Admission to the respective module examination requires positive completion of the examination-immanent courses of the module.

The module examinations are examinations in the form of a single examination at the end of a module. They can be conducted as a final written and/or oral examination. The participants shall be informed in an appropriate manner about the examination method before the start of the module.

The provisions for course examinations (§ 14 para. 3 no. 1) of Section II of the Statutes shall apply *mutatis mutandis* to module examinations.

- (4) As a rule, the examiner in examinations during the course of study is the lecturer whose course the student has taken. Students must be informed in good time before the start of the module which examiner is responsible for the module examination.
- (5) In the case of written examinations, the examination questions must be answered in writing. Oral examinations are conducted by the examiners as individual discussions or in the form of a presentation or similar. Course achievements can also be assessed via e-learning (e.g. Moodle).
- (6) The heads of a course shall inform the students in due time before the beginning in an appropriate manner about the objectives, the contents and the methods of their courses as well as about the contents, the methods, the assessment criteria and the assessment standards of the course examinations.
- (7) At the end of the university course, that is, after successful completion of modules 1–4 as well as after successful participation in the courses of module 5, a written and oral (exam board) final examination on the professional qualification within the scope of the 5th module is scheduled, which is conducted in the form of a single examination. For admission to the final examination, the following must be submitted:
 - Proof of professional experience in the field of dentistry, oral and maxillofacial medicine or a scientific activity within the framework of a full-time position at a

scientific institution in this field. The practical and theoretical contents taught in the university course must be carried out in self-responsible activity. The course director decides on the recognition of professional experience or scientific activity as a prerequisite for admission to the final examination.

- Documentation of consecutively treated cases.

The written and oral (exam board) final examination takes place before an examination board and comprises the following contents:

- Written examination
- Oral examination with presentation of the treated patient cases
- Knowledge of the theoretical and practical contents of the curriculum and the specialist literature recommended in the courses.

- (8) The examination boards in the university course are to be formed by the curriculum director on the proposal of the scientific director according to § 19 of the curriculum organisation plan for university courses. The examination board for the final examination consists of three professionally suitable members and is composed of the academic course director or their deputy and two examiners appointed by the academic course management: at least one member of the academic university staff (§ 94 para. 2 UG) with *venia docendi* in dentistry, oral and maxillofacial medicine or equivalent qualification; the other members with *venia docendi* or equivalent qualification in dentistry, oral and maxillofacial medicine or a related field. The examination board is chaired by the scientific course director or their deputy.
- (9) Non-attendance at an examination: If examination candidates are prevented from attending an examination due to illness or another reason worthy of consideration, and if they have reported this circumstance in writing or orally in due time, the examinations concerned shall be made up for at the earliest possible date.
- (10) The examination procedure shall be governed by §§ 72 ff UG and the relevant provisions of Section II (§§ 14ff) of the Statutes. Positive success in examinations and academic papers shall be assessed as "very good" (1), "good" (2), "satisfactory" (3) or "sufficient" (4), negative success shall be assessed as "not sufficient" (5). If this form of assessment is impossible or inappropriate, the positive assessment shall be "participated with success" while the negative assessment shall be "participated without success".

§ 10 Degree and academic title

- (1) The university course "Prosthodontics and Interdisciplinary Therapy Concepts – Academic Expert" has been successfully completed if all prescribed examinations have been positively assessed in accordance with the examination regulations.
- (2) The successful completion of the university course is certified by a certificate and the **academic title "Academic Expert in Prosthodontics"** is awarded by the Medical University of Vienna.
- (3) The degree certificate shall list the individual modules and the courses assigned to them with their total number of hours and their individual grades as well as the final examination. Courses whose participation was evaluated as "successfully participated/not successfully participated" shall also be listed. The ECTS credits shall be indicated on the degree certificate.

§ 11 Entry into force

- (1) This curriculum shall enter into force on the first day of the month following its announcement.
- (2) In case of a transfer to this curriculum from the university course "Prosthetics and Interdisciplinary Therapy Concepts – Master", published in the Bulletin of the Medical University of Vienna, Academic Year 2020/21, 19th Issue, No. 22, the academic achievements already completed shall be recognised accordingly. In case of a transfer to this curriculum from the university course "Prosthetics – Interdisciplinary Therapy Concepts" (published in the Bulletin of the Medical University of Vienna, Academic Year 2010/11, 4th Issue, No. 4), the academic achievements already completed shall be recognised according to the correspondence table in paragraph 3.
- (3) Correspondence table:

<i>Curriculum – old (MDSc)</i>	<i>Curriculum – new (AE)</i>
Functions and dysfunctions of the masticatory organ	Module 1 Functions and dysfunctions of the masticatory organ
Interdisciplinary diagnostics	Module 2 Interdisciplinary diagnostics of the masticatory organ
Orthodontics and occlusal medicine	Module 3 Orthodontics and occlusal medicine
Occlusion and articulation in prosthetic dentistry	Module 4 Occlusion and articulation in prosthetic rehabilitation
Interdisciplinary therapy of functional disorders	Module 5 Interdisciplinary therapy of functional disorders

The Chairperson of the Senate

Maria Sibilía

NOTE:

This translation is to be understood as a service. Only the original texts as published in the MedUni Vienna's Bulletin are legally binding: 23. *Curriculum für den Universitätslehrgang "Prothetik und interdisziplinäre Therapiekonzepte – Akademischer/r Experte/in"*, published in the Bulletin of the Medical University of Vienna for the academic year 2020/2021, 20th Volume; No. 23, dated April 8, 2021.