

Dentsoc Survival Guide

3rd Year



Time to brush up

Going into 3rd year you will be expected to be competent at history taking including patient history, bleeding on probing scores, plaque scores, CPITN probing, DMFT, brushing techniques (Modified Stillman & Modified Bass), Flossing, Interdental cleaning, Diet advice, Smoking cessation advice. Review these before your first clinical session. There will be lots of reading before your practical sessions (OTL, Prosthodontics Lab, Clinic) and it's a really good idea to make sure you have it done.

What to expect

Most people really enjoy 3rd year. It is mostly practical based, you get to know your class, and especially your group really well. If you are finding the practical side difficult, don't hesitate to ask your instructor, class mates or members of older years to give you advice. 3rd year is a huge learning curve, introducing you to the run of CUH and dealing with patients upstairs in the Restorative Clinic.

Instruments

At the start of 3rd year you will be expected to pay €4000 to the Dental School for the use of instruments, CSSD and materials. Typically this is payable by cheque in the 1st or 2nd week.

What you need from the start

Below are a few things that students found handy to have for specific sessions.

<i>Prosthodontics</i>	<i>OTL</i>	<i>Clinic</i>
Lab coat	Dental loupes*	Notebook or address book
Storage box (tool box)	Teeth stored in jar with milton	Template for history taking
Super glue	Box for your mounted teeth	Blue & Red pens
Lighter Plastic	A4 folder for marking sheets	Clip board
Sharpie marker	Notebook for tutorials	Hand mirror
Colouring pencils, not markers	Pencil for drawing on teeth	Mini calculator

*Dental loupes are optional. Half of the current 4th years have them and find them very useful. We ordered through Medlite USA via the international students in our class. They cost roughly €230 with a discount.

Label everything from the start with your initials. Presentation is very important, so keep things neat and consistent. For the mounted teeth, make sure you label the block with tooth number and mesial, distal, buccal, palatal/lingual. If you want to replace a tooth in your typodont (manikin teeth), these are available from Ann Marie in the Restorative Clinic office for €2.50. For endo, label all your radiographs as you go. For clinic, keep record of your patient's CDS, name and what treatment you do (with dates) – it will really help to keep track of your requirements.

Bring a travel mug to college and leave it in your locker. Most of us have tea bags or instant coffee in our lockers! There is hot water in the student computer room and milk at coffee dock.

Dentsoc Survival Guide

3rd Year



Helpful readings

Carrotte et al. (2004). Endodontics
Curtin et al. (2011). Breaking Bad News
Davenport et al. (2000). RPD design
McConnell et al. (2011). FAQs in Restorative Dentistry

Pickard. Manual of Operative Dentistry – BUY THIS! Read this to keep up with whatever you covered in OTL that day. This will help you greatly in all RD exams throughout the year

Oxford clinical dentistry manual handbook

What to hold on to

You will need to present EVERYTHING from your OTL & Prosthodontics Lab sessions at your oral exam in June. Hold on to and label everything (name, student number, group) so that you are not frantically searching a few weeks before. Image last page: example setup for oral exam.

Instruments

At the start of 3rd year you will be expected to pay €4000 to the Dental School for the use of instruments, CSSD and materials. Typically this is payable by cheque in the 1st or 2nd week.

Booking in patients

At the start of the year you will work in allocated pairs and can bring in friends and family as patients if wanted. Patients are also available from the 3rd year list which is managed by Ann Marie in the Restorative Clinic office. Use the phone in the restorative clinic to contact patients. If you can't speak to the patient directly, leave your name and call back again. Do not give any personal or treatment information to anyone other than the patient. If you need to give directions, offer to email the patient directions (link available on our website).

Modules & exams

You will have 5 modules this year. Pathology and Pharmacology will be an extension of what you learnt in 2nd year. You will be expected to be able to draw on what you learnt previously, so review last years topics if needed. Each will have continuous assessment exams (MCQ and/or EMQ), and you should take these seriously. These percentages will really help you towards your final exams. In Pharmacology this year there is a prize for the best mark – see the Dr. Anne Wilson Award in the awards section. Typically only a small number (1 or 2) students will get a 70 in Pharmacology this year.

There are 3 modules in the dental subjects:

RD3002: OTL and Prosthetics Lab
RD3005: Oral and written exam
RD3006: Restorative clinic & OSCE

Dentsoc Survival Guide

3rd Year



Modules & exams ctd.

The marking scheme for some of these modules will be new to students. In OTL, Prosthetics Lab & Clinic, you will be scored as follows:

Score	Equivalent %	Notes
4+	70	These rarely happen!
4	65	If you are excellent!
4-	60	The odd time
3+	55	Most of the time
3	50	Most of the time
2	FAIL	
1	FAIL	

Considering the way the marking scheme works, you can expect that in general your score for the RD3002 module will fall between 50-60% if you have got 3s, 3+s and 4s during the year. So don't get a shock on results day!

In the oral, you will present all of your OTL and Prosthetics lab things from the whole year. You will be allocated examiners before the exam and make sure you know their topics in detail. You can't expect though that you won't be asked on other topics, so make sure you also know everything about Caries, Dentures, Composite vs Amalgam etc.

In the OSCE anything can happen! You normally have around 13 stations, with one of these being a rest station. You typically are given 2 role plays which can include Behavioural Science (Rapid relaxation and/or Patient scenario), Law (even though it is not part of this module, we got a bullying situation), Patient advice (smoking, diet, OHI etc). You are given a reading station before a case scenario, so use this time to formulate what you will say. Each station lasts 5 minutes and a buzzer will ring to tell you to move on. Other topics that have been asked in the past are denture cleansers, toothpaste ingredients, putting on a matrix band & wedge, putting on rubber dam, uses of rubber dam, cross-infection control video (what is wrong with it), clean or setup chair, sharps disposal (what goes in there), special tray (what are the features or what is wrong with it), draw a survey line and clasp on a specific tooth image, root canal access cavities and so on. You will be given a sample list a few weeks before but this list is definitely not everything! You are required to score 60% or more in the RD OSCE and Oral at the end of the year to pass.

In OTL and Prosthetics Lab you will sit 7 exams in total. If you fail more than 3 you will be called back to repeat practical sessions in August.

Dentsoc Survival Guide

3rd Year



Requirements

Make sure you get EVERYTHING signed off after your clinic session, it will all add up.

You will be required to have 3 maintenance cases and 3 fillings complete by a specified date (usually early June).

Maintenance cases are patients who have been seen twice (or more), who have had gingivitis and shown to improve (want < 25% plaque). The first time you see the patient it is coded as "S&P" and if improved on the 2nd visit it is coded as "Maint".

Fillings cases are 3 separate fillings. The number of surfaces doesn't matter for this year but they will contribute to 4th & 5th year so get as many as you can.

