



COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY

*College of Dental Medicine*

# Honors/Pass/Fail at Columbia

Lauren Zubiaurre Bitzer D.M.D., M.S

Associate Dean of Admissions and Student Affairs

# Columbia University Medical Center



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# Snapshot: CDM Class Statistics

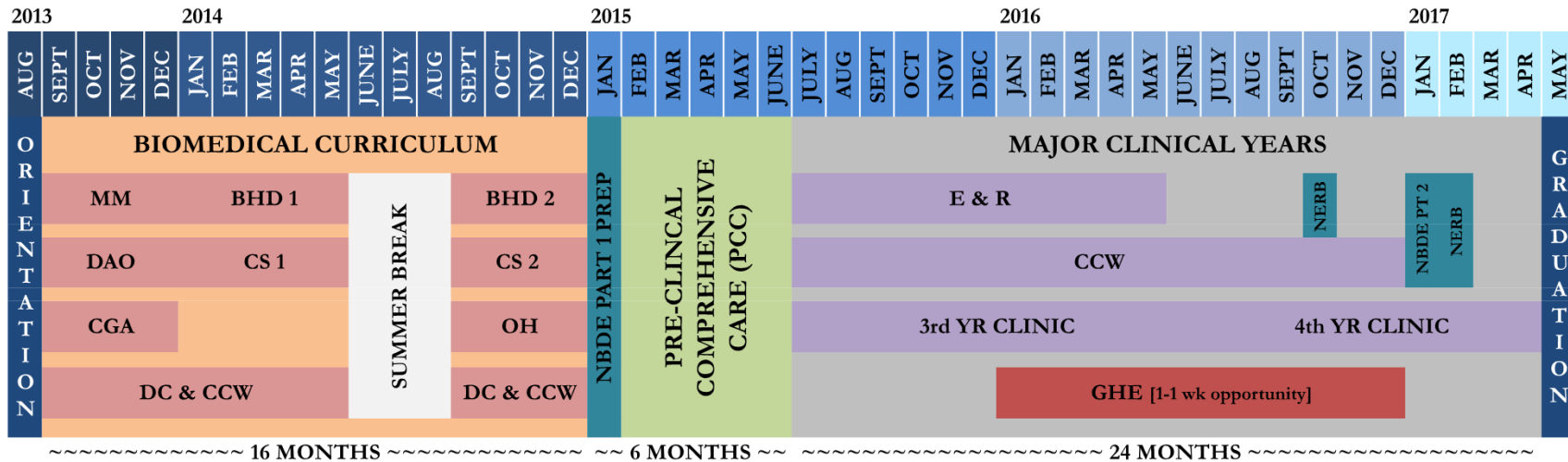
Statistics by Class Year		2017	2016	2015	2014
Total National Applicant pool		11,719	11,780	11,282	11,263
Total Applicants to CDM		2,266	2,453	2,259	2,365
Total Enrollment		80	80	81	80
Average Pre-dental scores					
	DATs	22.4	23	22.59	22.24
	SCI DAT	22	23	22.81	22.97
	GPA	3.5	3.6	3.52	3.44
	SCI GPA	3.5	3.6	3.5	3.44
Males		38	43	39	53
Females		42	37	42	27
Average Age		23	23	23	25
National representation of CDM Class					
	# of states	16	15	18	17
	# of colleges	53	53	52	44
	international	1	1	0	0
Percentage of underrepresented minorities in the class		20.00%	17.50%	19.75%	11.40%



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# THE FOUR-YEAR CURRICULUM AT THE COLLEGE OF DENTAL MEDICINE



### CURRICULUM KEY

- MM: Molecular Mechanisms
- CGA: Clinical Gross Anatomy
- DAO: Dental Anatomy & Occlusion
- CS: Core Skills
- BHD: Body of Health and Disease
- OH: Oral Histology
- DC: Dental Correlations
- CCW: Clinical Coursework
- E&R: Externships and Rotations
- GHE: Global Health Externships (\*1 one-week opportunity)

### NOTES

- **Major Clinical Years (MCY)**
  - 2 Months of Vacation during your MCY – 1 month each summer; timing dependent on schedule.
- **Clinical Coursework (CCW)**
  - The first 4 semesters of coursework consist of clinical clerkships, behavioral science and introductory dental classes.
  - The remaining semesters consist of continued dental courses, including oral pathology, local anesthesia & pain control, oral surgery and diagnosis & treatment planning.
  - Primary medicine grand rounds provide opportunities to integrate previously learned biomedical information into the dental care of the student's patients.
- **Board Prep**
  - Given a month vacation after first 3 semesters to prepare for the NBDE Part 1; the deadline is third week in January
  - NBDE Part 2 deadline is January 1st
  - NERB October - Typodont  
February - Clinical
- **Externships**
  - 2 two-week Oral Surgery Rotations and 2 three-week General Practice Rotations performed during your 3rd year (class is divided into 3 sections).



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# Body in Health and Disease

## 2 semester course

Semester 1	Hours
Renal	40
Endocrinology	28
Hematology	10
Pulmonary	21
Cardiovascular	34
Mechanisms of Infectious Disease (Micro)	59
Immunology	15

Semester 2	Hours
Neural Science	61
GI/H	32
Oncology	26
Rheumatology/ Musculoskeletal	16
Endocrinology	28
Small groups	6



# Adhoc Committee on Grading Policy

In 1998, Academic Dean mailed survey to PG program Directors to sample current attitudes about indicators used to evaluate applicants to postdoctoral programs (58 responses).

	High	Medium	Low
National Board Scores	35	19	4
Transcripts	32	26	-
Class Ranking	52	5	-
GPA	28	24	4
Dean's Letter	8	28	22
Faculty Letter	22	25	10
Other indicators rated highly	Interview-16 GRE scores-7 Research-7 Practice Experience-7		



## Advantages

- Reduction of anxiety levels especially years 1 & 2
- Greater conformity with Medical School (P/F)
- Students are expected to perform to their level of excellence in all courses
- Students taught and tested with competency exams
- Not worrying about grade-more time to do research, community service, GHE

## Disadvantages

- More stress than Medical Students (P/F)- P&S most important grades-clerkships
- Increased stress for borderline students. A-, B+ students lumped into “P”
- Reduced effort by some students who believe they will not Honor
- Lack of grades will complicate postdoctoral applications
- NBDE not scored



# Honors/Pass Fail

- Admissions selection bias towards students who perform well
- 10% of students receive Honors depending on the course. Standing policy-predetermined. Students told the requirements for Honors before class starts
- Compete H/P/F among class.
- Even a student who does not receive an H would probably perform very well at another Dental school without our basic science curriculum
- Four US Schools- Harvard, University of Connecticut, Stony Brook and Columbia offer a similar basic science curriculum.





# Evaluation and Requirements for Graduation

- 3 Class Committees-meet regularly to evaluate student academic/clinical performance
    - Basic Science Class Committee- first three semesters
    - Preclinical Class Committee-fourth semester
    - Academic/Clinical Progress Committee- third and fourth years
    - Academic Dean, Admissions/Student Affairs Dean sit on committees ex-officio.
  - Passing grades in ALL courses
  - Passing grades in NBDE Part I and Preclinical OSCE exam before entering clinic
  - Completion of all third and fourth year comprehensive clinical requirements, skills assessments, competency exams and satisfactory completion of hospital rotations
  - Passing grade in NBDE Part II
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# Evaluation

## Institutional Evaluation Letter (Dean's Letter)-

- Three or more “**Internal Student Evaluation**” forms
  - Students select three **educators or a research mentor** (who know their work) to complete a Student Evaluation Form. Similar to PPI.
  - Evaluate: scholarship, interpersonal skills, personal and professional integrity, clinical or research performance, patient management, maturity
  - Summary Postdoctoral Education Potential ?/10
  - Personal comments
- Individual Meeting with Dean of Student Affairs
- Resume- Admissions Folder
- Courses weighted for hours and # of honors in course. Ex: the higher number of hours and/or the lower # of H' s = the higher the weight of the course
- Students are Ranked in Thirds
  - Highest Recommendation/Highly Recommended/ Recommend



# Postdoctoral Placement 10-Year Summary



CLASS	GPR	AEGD	OMFS	PED. DENT.	PERIO	ENDO	PROS	ORTHO	UNIF. SVC.	PRIV. PRACT.	FELLOW- SHIPS	DUAL DEGREE	NONE/ NO INFO	% in Postdoc
2003	27	15	5	6	3	3	3	4	3	1			1	94%
2004	27	13	3	6	2	3	1	6	5	3			1	92%
2005	27	10	8	6	1	2	4	8	2	1			-	94%
2006	28	17	14	5	1	3	4	8	5	2			-	97%
2007	27	8	9	7	1	3	3	6	7	2			1	95%
2008	23	7	10	7	2	2	4	5	5	5	3		3	94%
2009	18	12	12	12	3	1	1	6	2	4	3	1	1	96%
2010	21	9	9	14	4	-	2	10	4	1	1	2	-	95%
2011	32	4	5	11	4	-	1	13	-	6	-	1	2	91%
2012	24	6	8	12	2	-	3	10	2	7	-	-	-	92%
2013	29	5	8	5	3	3	1	7	7	9	-	1	-	95%



# Our Concerns with H/P/F

- Placement in Post Doctoral and Residency programs
    - 95% of our students complete postdoctoral training
    - 50% of our students go directly into specialty programs- especially strong placement in OMFS, Orthodontics, Pediatric Dentistry
    - This cycle 15 applied to OMFS, 11 Ortho, 12 Ped Dent, 6 Endo
  - NBDE Not Scored
    - Our Mean Part I Board scores were 89-90
  - OMFS- National Board of Medical Examiners (NBME) Comprehensive Basic Science Exam.
    - Our students- even lower ½ of class is in the national mean
    - How is score presented?
  - Orthodontics- GRE- our PG Director would like us to rank numerically.
  - New Dean- we will begin to look at H/P/F again
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