

FACULTY OF DENTAL MEDICINE (FMD)

HISTORY

The Faculty of Dental Medicine (FMD) at USJ has played a significant role in the country's oral health sector, training competent and high-quality dental professionals for over a century. Located in the heart of Beirut, FMD is one of only three dental schools in the country—one private, one government-supported, and USJ's non-profit institution. Originally established as part of the Faculty of Medicine and Pharmacy in 1920, the dental school became the Faculty of Dental Medicine in January 1975. Initially, it offered a three-year program with a faculty of ten clinical internship chairs. In October 1936, the program expanded to four years, with further clinic expansions in 1957, 1960, 1963, and 1969. By 1967, it had evolved into a five-year program. Postgraduate studies began in 1987 and now include seven concentrations. In 2003, FMD adopted the European Credit Transfer System (ECTS) for its curriculum, and the University Practicing Doctorate program launched with its first graduating class in 2007. Today, the dental facility includes 106 dental units, a radiology center, an oral surgery center, a laser unit, and an emergency, urgent care, and trauma unit. Equipped with the latest advancements in digital and virtual dentistry, as well as artificial intelligence, the faculty also houses a dedicated craniofacial research lab, chaired by the Dean Nada Farhat Mchayleh, with seven specialized research units, which comprises seven research units, supervised by the following leaders:

Nada Farhat Mchayleh and Pierre Azar for the Strategic Research Unit

Carole Chakar and Wassim Manhal for the Oral Biology Unit

Roula El Hachem for the Biomaterials Unit

Nada Farhat Mchayleh and Marlene Khoury for the Oral Health Unit

Paul Boulos and Amine Zoghby for the Craniofacial Anomalies Unit

Louis Hardan and Hani Tohme for the Digital Dentistry, AI, and Robotics Unit

Karim Corbani and Nancy Chemaly for the Laser Unit

DENTAL CARE CENTER

The dental care center, established in 1920, serves as a hub for clinical practice, equipped with 106 dental units distributed across eight rooms, covering all dental disciplines.

Each year, the center treats approximately 3,500 new patients, offering specialized services in endodontics, fixed and removable prosthodontics, implantology, and services for individuals with special needs. Moreover, the Faculty of Dental Medicine provides dental care under general anesthesia within a hospital setting.

Recently, the care center has been upgraded with the latest technologies in digital, virtual dentistry, and artificial intelligence. Managed under the direct authority of the Dean, it operates under the guidance of the Care Center Delegate and a commission of faculty members—Paul Boulos, Elie Wassef, and Gabriel Menassa—alongside an operational director, and 41 specialized staff members.

MISSION

The Faculty of Dental Medicine (FMD) aligns with the USJ's vision, mission, and values. It aims to “train highly qualified dentists who are fully aware of their social and ethical responsibilities. It also contributes to the development and influence of the dental profession by integrating experimental and clinical research, while actively advancing national oral health.”

Recognized nationally and regionally, FMD serves as a reference in training top-level dentists known for their excellence, ethics, professional conscience, and commitment to social responsibility. The Faculty emphasizes research, quality education, and community service as central to its mission. Additionally, FMD serves as the permanent headquarters of the Society of Arab Dental Faculties, with its dean serving as the permanent Secretary-General, underscoring its leadership in the region. The Faculty aspires to a distinguished center for education, research, and the promotion of oral health not only in Lebanon but across the Middle East.

ADMINISTRATION

Honorary Deans

Elie ARAMOUNI, Antoine HOKAYEM, Joseph MAKZOUME, Nada BOU ABBOUD NAAMAN

Dean

Nada FARHAT MCHAYLEH

Board Members

Nada FARHAT MCHAYLEH, Joseph BASSIL, Pascale HABRE-HALLAGE, Carole ABI GHOSN, Karim CORBANI, Gabriel MENASSA, Ghassan YARED, Roula HACHEM, Hani TOHME, Marleine KHOURY, Roland KMEID, Joy ELIAN (instructors' representative), 5th-year student delegate (students' representative)

Departments

Pediatric and Community Dentistry, Oral Surgery, Restorative and Esthetic Dentistry, Oral Medicine and Radiology, Endodontics, Orthodontics, Periodontology, Removable Prosthodontics, Fixed Prosthodontics, Digital, Virtual, and Artificial Intelligence Dentistry

Committees

Publication: Elie KHOURY

Lifelong Learning: Ghassan YARED

Ethics: Nadim MOKBEL

Research: Carole CHAKAR

ADMINISTRATIVE STAFF

Director of the Dental Care Center: Nada Farhat Mchayleh

Operations Director of the Dental Care Center: Paulette Khoury Abou Chaaya

Administrative Coordinators-Academic Affairs: Marie-Rose AKL-DAOUD, Elvire NAKHLEH HARB

Coordinator-Accounting Affairs: Hala HOYEK (AL) SLIM

Academic Affairs Assistant: Rita KHEIR MOACDIEH

Administrative Affairs Assistant: Nawal (EL) TURK

Academic Support Officers: Pamela BEAINO, Souad HAJJ MOUSSA (EL) FEGHALY

Administrative Support Officers: Rachelle ABDEL-HADI, Mireille ABDALLAH, Aline ABOU JAOUDE AOUN, Lamis FARES BADR, Hoda GHANEM NAMMOUR, Ghada HABIB, Vanessa ATALLAH

Laboratory Agents: Pascale (EL) SAYAH (EL) FEGHALI, Salwa HAJJ (EL) TANIOS, Laure KIZANA ABI SAMRA, Antoinette KLEIANY DAHER, Amal TABET GHOMEID, Marie HABCHI KEYROUZ

Administrative Agent: Nabihah RHAYEM EL KHAWAND

Cleaning and Hygiene Agent: Carla ASSAAD DAOUD

Stock Agents: Liliane SAMAHA ATTAR, Amale SKAFF, Souad HABCHI KEYROUZ, Gretta AZAR TAHAN, Samira DIAB CHAHINE

Laboratory Assistant: Charbel MANSOUR

Cashiers: Roudaina WEHBE, Soha (EL) KHOURY HARROUZ, Mariana (EL) KHOURY (EI) NAWAR

Reception and Billing Officers: Mariana ABOU KHALIL KOSSAYFI, Leyla KHAZEN MERHEJ

Storekeeper: Georges (AL) AZZI

Dental Laboratory Technician: Perla KHATTAR, Charbel ZGHEIB

Specialized Technician-Team Leader: Elie ABDEL SALIB

Specialized Technicians: Yacoub HASSOUN, Zaher ABOU SEIF

Specialized Technician - Medical Imaging: Marianne HADDAD HATEM

FACULTY

Professors

Jean Claude ABOU CHÉDID, Pierre AZAR, Nada BOU ABBOUD NAAMAN, Paul BOULOS, Nada CHÉDID, Jihad FAKHOURI, Nada FARHAT MOUCHAYLEH, Pascale HABRE-HALLAGE, Louis HARDAN, Carlos KHAIRALLAH, Issam KHALIL, Elie KHOURY, Christian MAKARY, Carina MEHANNA ZOGHEIB, Nadim MOKBEL, Alfred NAAMAN, Ronald YOUNÉS, Elie ZÉBOUNI, Amine ZOGHBY, Carla ZOGHEIB MOUBARAK.

Associate Professors

Carole ABI GHOSN YARED, Joseph BASSIL, Carole CHAKAR, Maha DAOU, Faouzi RIACHI.



Assistant Professors

Roula AKL, Samar BOU JAOUDE MEJAES, Karim CORBANI, Joy ELIAN HAYEK, Roula (EL) HACHEM WASSEF, Joseph HOBEICHE, Marlene KHOURY FREIHA, Adib KASSIS, Cynthia KASSIS, Wassim MANHAL, Gaby MENASSA, Elie NASR, Hani TOHMÉ, Ghassan YARED.

Clinical Professors

Georges ACHKAR, Nahida ASSAF-KHOURY, Elie DAOU, Robert DACCACHE, Fadi (EL) RAHI, H  l  ne HADDAD, Robert HADDAD, Marc KALOUSTIAN, Charles KHOURY, Philippe KHOURY ARAMOUNI, Ra  d LATTOUF, Lina MEDAWAR, Habib RAHM  .

Clinical Teaching Coordinators

Habib ABI AAD, Richard ABOUD, Roy ABOU FADEL, Nagib ABOU HAMRA, Hadi AKL, Albert ARDO, Naba Maria ATALLAH, Hanane BAROUD, Georges BOU JAOUDE, Maroun BOU KARAM, Colette BOUEIZ, Claude CHAANINE ABDEL KARIM, Cynthia CH  MALLY ABILLAMA,   mile CHRABIEH, Sandra DAGHER, Elie DAHER, Marc DAOU, Nabil GHOSN, Claire HACHEM, Camille HADDAD, Wagih HAGE, Elie HAROUNY, Nicole HARRAK JABBOUR,   milie HAYEK, Corine HINDI ABOU CH  DID, Dany IRANI, Nadine KAMEL, Khalil KHARMA, Marwan KHOUDARY, Joe KHOURY, Maria KHOURY, Roland KMEID, Nicole LAHOUD, Abdallah MANHAL, Marwan MANSOUR, Amal MEHANNA, Solange MEHANNA, Rania NASSAR (EL) TURK, Andr   NICOLAS, Dany NOUJEIM, Iman OBEID, Christelle ROUHANA, Charles SACRE, Michel SALAMEH, Rawad SAMARANI, Camille SAMNEH, Germain SFEIR, Joyce TANNOUS, Fadi TOUMA, Elie WASSEF, Hyam WEHB  , Ali YAGHI, Genevi  ve ZGHEIB.

Clinical Internship Supervisors

Sandrine ABI RACHED, Maysa ADHAMI, Antonio AFRAM, Far  s AKL, Rayane ALAMEDDINE, Joseph ASSAF, Mayssam BACHACHA, Marc BAKALIAN, Randa BASSIL, Nawale BOU FARHAT, Patrick BOU NASSIF, Rim BOURGI, Jalal (EL) CHEIKH, Nancy CH  MALLY, Amine CHOUEIRI, Sarah DABBAGH, Berte EID, Georgina (EL) GHOU, Hasna GHALEB, Maroun GHALEB, St  phanie GHOBRI, Victor GHOUBRIL, Fahs HACHIMIAH, Elissa HADDAD, Mario HADDAD, Teissir HADDAD, Carel HAGE, Farah HAIDAR, Christine HANNA, Tony HARB, Ryan HAROUNY, Elie JABBOUR, Nathalie KABBANI, Cynthia KAMEL, C  line KAMEL, Abdel Rahman KASSIR, Carla Maria KHAIRALLAH, Gina KHAZAAL, Nicolas KHOURY, Michel KAROUNI, Abdel Majid KAISSI, Rapha  l LICHAA, Cindy MARKBAOUI, Roger MATAR, Maria MIKHAE, Carole MOUSSA, St  phanie MRAD, Nicolas NASSAR, Nancy NOCHARLY, Tamara REBEIZ, Hasna RIFAI, Alexandre SABER, Mark SALAME, Alain TAUK, Joseph ZAAROUR.


DEGREES, DIPLOMAS AND CERTIFICATES AWARDED


- Doctor of Dental Surgery (Practicing Doctorate)
- Master in Dental Medicine, concentrations: Esthetic and Prosthetic Dentistry, Pediatric Dentistry, Endodontics, Oral Surgery and Implantology, Oral Diseases and Surgeries-Periodontology, Orthodontics, Oral Pathology
- PhD in Oral Biology and Dental Materials Science
- University Diploma in Pediatric Dentistry
- University Diploma in Endodontics
- University Diploma in Advanced Implant Surgery
- University Diploma in Restorative and Esthetic Dentistry
- University Diploma in Implantology
- University Diploma in Digital and AI Dentistry
- University Diploma in Occlusion
- University Diploma in Oral Pathology
- University Diploma in Digital and AI Dentistry
- University Diploma in Occlusion
- University Diploma in Oral Pathology

JOB OPPORTUNITIES

Graduates of the Faculty of Dental Medicine at the Saint Joseph University of Beirut benefit from diverse career opportunities. They may establish private practices, join polyclinic teams, or take on roles within private healthcare institutions. Their in-depth training in dental sciences, combined with advanced clinical skills acquired during their studies, qualifies them to provide high-quality preventive, diagnostic, and therapeutic care.

Earning a specialized master's degree significantly enhances professional opportunities, opening doors to specialized areas of dentistry, such as orthodontics, oral surgery, endodontics, periodontology, and esthetic





dentistry. These specializations increase opportunities not only in Lebanon but also in Arab countries, where the demand for highly qualified oral health professionals is steadily growing. USJ graduates are well-positioned to meet the population's needs and contribute to improving oral health in the region.

TUITION FEES

Doctor of Dental Surgery (Practicing Doctorate): 269 Fresh US Dollars and 10,326,000 Lebanese Pounds (for semester 1), equivalent in Fresh US Dollars to 385 (exchange rate = 89,500 LBP)

Master in Dental Medicine, concentrations: Esthetic and Prosthetic Dentistry, Pediatric Dentistry, Endodontics, Oral Surgery and Implantology, Oral Diseases and Surgeries-Periodontology, Orthodontics, Oral Pathology: 250 Fresh US Dollars and 9,576,000 Lebanese Pounds (for semester 1), equivalent in Fresh US Dollars to 357 (exchange rate = 89,500 LBP)

PhD in Oral Biology and Dental Materials Science: 76 Fresh US Dollars and 2,865,000 Lebanese Pounds (for semester 1), equivalent in Fresh US Dollars to 108 (exchange rate = 89,500 LBP)

SPECIFIC PROVISIONS OF THE INTERNAL REGULATIONS OF STUDY

The Doctor of Dental Surgery is a 300-credit program spanning 10 semesters. It includes theoretical courses, practical and pre-clinical work, in-house clinical internships, and community dental care through extra-muros placements. Registration for the first year (semester 1) is through a competitive exam open to holders of the Lebanese baccalaureate or an equivalent diploma, contingent upon passing a French Placement Test. The program culminates in the awarding of a Doctor of Dental Surgery degree.

Credit Validation Conditions

Students validate their credits by obtaining a grade of 12/20 in theoretical, pre-clinical, and clinical courses. Those who do not achieve a grade of 12/20 in a course are entitled to a make-up exam. If, after this exam, the grade remains below 12/20, students may retake the course during the following regular academic year's two semesters. Students may register for a course up to four times only. If they fail four times, they are expelled from the program. The Faculty typically allows a minimum of two weeks between the official publication of exam results and the date of the make-up exam.

Any student who fails 3 courses or 6 credits during a semester is required to retake the failed credits and, in parallel, enroll in certain courses from the following semester, provided that the total credit load does not exceed 20 credits per semester. This limit includes both the failed courses and the courses from the following semester. As a result, the student's graduation will be delayed by one academic year.

Students who fail the same course in four exam sessions are no longer allowed to continue their studies.

End of Study Thesis

Starting from a predetermined date at the beginning of the 9th semester, students must pass a synthesis exam that includes an oral test before a panel of professors, followed by a written multiple-choice question (MCQ) test at the end of the 10th semester. These exams cover all knowledge acquired during the program. Students who fail the synthesis exam must retake it on a date set by the faculty. In case of a second failure, students will not receive the diploma; however, the jury may grant a final chance during the first semester of the following year. Students must also present a thesis project before an ad hoc jury appointed by the Dean. Validation of this project is mandatory for obtaining the diploma. If the thesis project is not validated, the jury may grant an additional semester the following year to resubmit it.

Absences in Theoretical, Pre-Clinical, and Clinical Sessions

For theoretical courses, unjustified absences exceeding 30% will prevent students from taking the exam or validating their results. For pre-clinical and clinical sessions, any unjustified absence will also result in the prohibition of taking the exam or validating results. The Dean is responsible for validating the justification of absences. In all cases, the minimum number of cases and sessions required must be met; otherwise, students cannot validate their pre-clinical and clinical evaluations.

