GENERAL INFORMATION
PRECLINICAL FIXED PROSTHODONTICS
OBJECTIVES

To prepare the dental student to master technical skills and knowledge necessary for
beginning clinical practice of Fixed Prosthodontics. At the end of the course, the student
should understand and skillfully execute the following:

1. Diagnosis and treatment planning for patients requiring restorative dentistry.

2. Rationale and criteria for each restoration used at the
University of Pacific, Arthur A. Dugoni, School of Dentistry.

3. Fabrication of articulated diagnostic casts from preliminary alginate
impressions. Arbitrary as well as facebow mounted techniques will be taught.

4. Evaluation of the master cast with removable dies from Polyvinylsiloxane or
Polyether impressions.

5. Preparation design and execution of the following crown preparations under
clinically simulated conditions: full veneer, three quarter crown preparation
with grooves or boxes, anterior and posterior porcelain fused to metal crown
preparation, anterior and posterior all ceramic preparations. Design and
preparation of abutment teeth for anterior and posterior fixed bridges, based
on knowledge of principles of treatment planning, path of insertion, resistance
and retention forms.

6. Knowledge and manipulation of the various materials and technical
procedures necessary to fabricate, fit, finish, polish and deliver cast crowns
and bridges, under clinically simulated conditions.

7. Fabrication of temporary restorations utilizing direct and indirect techniques
for single crowns and temporary bridges under clinically simulated conditions.

8. Restoration of extensively damaged teeth with an amalgam build-up, resin
build-up or custom cast post and core, prior to fabrication of a cast, milled, or
pressed restoration.

9. Contouring, staining and glazing porcelain.

10. Laboratory communication.


12. Long-term maintenance for patients with Fixed Prosthodontic restorations.
PREREQUISITES

1. DENTAL ANATOMY: Students are expected to understand tooth morphology, pulp morphology and anatomy of the normal dentition.

2. OPERATIVE DENTISTRY: Motor skills learned in operative dentistry are essential to success in Fixed Prosthodontics. These skills are expected to be mastered and expanded upon throughout the freshman year.

3. RELATED DENTAL SCIENCES: Knowledge of anatomy, histology, Periodontology and occlusion are necessary to achieve a full understanding of the biologic aspects of Fixed Prosthodontics.
PRECLINICAL FIXED PROSTHODONTICS
LECTURE COURSE POLICIES

I. ATTENDANCE

Attendance to lecture is highly encouraged and it is the belief of the course directors that active participation and presence will lend itself to a better understanding of fixed prosthodontics. While lecture is not mandatory, late arrival to class and disturbing those individuals that are present will be deemed unprofessional and will reflect negatively upon your grade.

II. GRADING

Midterm examinations cover material from the current quarter and the final examination is comprehensive. Quiz questions cover the textbook and handout reading assignment and the syllabus section pertaining to the current laboratory project.

Quizzes – Quizzes will be scheduled and given at various times during the quarter. All quizzes will have five questions and be cumulative in content tested. The cumulative score received over the three quizzes will be factored into your midterm grade as extra credit. For example: If three quizzes were given and the student received 12 out of 15 possible points, 1/3 of the total points received would be directly added to the final for that given quarter (i.e. 12 pts / 3 = 4 pts added to exam score on the given quarter’s final exam). There will be absolutely no make up quizzes regardless of excuse, being that quizzes can only help one’s individual grade.

Professional Integrity – This component of the grade will be assigned by the course directors with input from the row instructors – to be discussed on the first day of lecture.

Midterm examinations, comprehensive final exam, and professional integrity are weighted as follows:

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<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Exam</th>
<th>Points</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Fall Quarter End</td>
<td>Midterm</td>
<td>25%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Winter Quarter End</td>
<td>Midterm</td>
<td>30%</td>
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<td>Spring Quarter End</td>
<td>Final</td>
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<td>Demonstration of Professional Integrity</td>
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<td>Grade</td>
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<td>A</td>
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<td>B</td>
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<td>C</td>
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<td>D</td>
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<tr>
<td>F</td>
<td>0-59</td>
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There are no make-up quizzes or examinations. Quizzes missed for any reason will receive a grade of zero. The weight of the comprehensive final examination will be increased accordingly for any missed midterm examinations. Final grades may reflect class distribution.

Lecture examinations consist of questions from lectures textbook, syllabus, handouts and manufacturers' instructions from dental supplies utilized in the course.

Final course grades will be based on class grade distribution to reflect class performance and readiness to challenge the National Board Examinations.
PRECLINICAL FIXED PROSTHODONTICS
LABORATORY COURSE POLICIES

I. ATTENDANCE

Attendance is mandatory and recorded daily. Excused absences must be confirmed by the Dean's Office and may be considered only in the case of major extenuating circumstances.

II. GRADING

Numerical grades (0-9) are assigned to daily work projects and practical examinations. Final course grades will be based on class grade point distribution to reflect class performance compared with standards established for clinical dentistry.

The final lab grade given at the end of the 4th quarter reflects the student's ability to perform consistently on preparation, provisional, and laboratory practicals. The practical grades are assigned point values and each student's total points are placed on a distribution curve. Although definite cut-offs are developed for grading purposes, each individual grade is influenced by the number of practicals passed, the number of temporaries passed, completed daily project evaluations, instructor evaluations, and trend analysis of practicals. AN UNACCEPTABLE PERFORMANCE LEVEL (Average below 5) ON INDIVIDUAL PROJECTS AND PRACTICAL EXAMS, REPRESENTS A LACK OF ABILITY TO PERFORM AT A CLINICALLY ACCEPTABLE LEVEL AND MAY CONSTITUTE AN OVERALL COURSE FAILURE.

Professionalism is expected of all professional students. Outstanding attitude and exceptional efforts may be reflected in the instructors evaluation. A student's understanding and ability to execute criteria, attendance, neatness, organization, preparedness, time management, professional attitude and ability to perform relative to ideal published criteria will be evaluated on an ongoing basis. Attention to these areas will aid the student in producing a quality result and will contribute to excellent course performance and final grade. Conversely, unexcused absence, tardiness, lack of preparation for laboratory sessions, messy or disorganized work habits, disrespect for fellow students and faculty, loud or abusive language, will be considered during instructor's evaluation. This evaluation is ongoing and reflects input from instructors.

III. EVALUATION

Preparation and provisionalization practicals are given two grades:
1) Criteria (80% of grade)
   Equilibrated typodont – Pass or Fail – If fail -1 from criteria grade
2) Demonstration of hand skills (20% of grade)
   Environment Cleanliness – Pass or Fail - If fail -1 from the demonstration of hand skills grade

Objective evaluation based on published criteria is an essential part of fair testing. Criteria sheets in the syllabus describe the ideal design for each component of preparation or restoration. These components are evaluated as 9 ideal range, 7-8 above average, 5-6 average, 3-4 unacceptable and correctable or, 2 or below unacceptable and uncorrectable.

IDEAL RANGE - Preparation or restoration feature conforms to Criteria Sheet specifications.

ABOVE AVERAGE - Feature deviates slightly from published criteria. May be slightly "overdone" or underdone"

AVERAGE - Feature is clinically acceptable but is not ideal; may be moderately "overdone" or "underdone" Feature lacks definition and finesse but will not prevent fabrication or clinical use of a cast restoration.

BELOW AVERAGE - Feature is clinically unacceptable but could be corrected. This may include under preparation, parallelism, open interproximal contacts, heavy interproximal contacts, over contoured restoration, damage to adjacent teeth that could be corrected by polishing, slightly open gold margins that could be corrected by burnishing, etc.

FAILURE - Feature is clinically unacceptable and is also uncorrectable, or multiple clinically unacceptable but correctable features. This may include gross overpreparation, gross overtaper, gross undercut, gross open gold margins, any open PFM margins, gross damage to adjacent teeth, clinically unacceptable fit of a crown, such that it could not be cemented, etc. It may also include multiple correctable features, such as underprepared occlusally and axially undercut and rough margin design.

To reduce subjectivity during practical grading, each instructor will look at every individual typodont. In particular one instructor will be assigned to grade an individual criteria segment for the entire class. The cumulative nature of each individual grade will result in a final grade given for the practical.

The criteria are organized in categories to facilitate your evaluation of any preclinical or clinical Prosthodontic procedure.

III. EVALUATION (Continued)

Experience will facilitate your ability to evaluate Prosthodontic procedures. Those criteria considered "major" and their importance will become clearer as you progress
through preclinical courses. Errors in major categories carry more weight than those in other areas.

Slight overpreparation, while not ideal, does not interfere with fabrication of a crown. Slight underpreparation, conversely, can prevent proper crown fabrication due to inadequate space for restorative material. Therefore, slight overpreparation is a less serious error than slight underpreparation. Gross overpreparation, however, is damaging to the tooth end is much more harmful than underpreparation. Such clinical considerations are reflected in the grading of each practical exam.

FINAL LAB GRADE:

Grade

A  Student performs consistently on practicals and demonstrates excellent motor skills and understanding of concepts. (Weighted average score 8 or higher)

B  Student performs consistently on practicals and demonstrates above average motor skills and understanding of concepts. (Weighted average score 7 or higher)

C  Student performs consistently on practicals and demonstrates average motor skills and understanding of concepts. (Weighted average score 5 or higher)

D  Student does not perform consistently on practicals and demonstrates below average motor skills and understanding of concepts. Student does demonstrate some ability and remediation would benefit the student. (Weighted average score 4 or higher)

F  Student does not perform consistently on practicals and demonstrates clinically unacceptable motor skills and understanding of concepts. (Weighted average score 3 or below will result in a grade of F)

All students will receive interim grades in quarters 2 and 3. These interim grades can either have a traditional letter grade, or be given a credit / no credit. This scenario will be determined by the course directors. The 4th quarter graded will be a letter grade and will be a final grade.
APPROXIMATE QUARTERLY BREAKDOWN OF GRADES

Quarter 1: Interim grade - 20% Instructor feedback, 80% Practical and case presentation grades

Quarter 2: Interim grade - 10% Instructor feedback, 90% Cumulative practical and case presentation grades

Quarter 3: Final grade – 10% third quarter instructor feedback, 20% first quarter practical and case presentation grades, 30% second quarter practical and case presentation grades, 40% third quarter practical and case presentation grades.

**90% of instructor feedback will be based on graded projects and 10% overall evaluation**

IV. DEADLINES

Some projects are designed to mimic clinical office procedures. A typical appointment consists of preparation of a tooth for a crown, fabrication of a temporary crown and taking a final impression. The crown is then inserted at a subsequent appointment. Once the patient leaves, the dentist must work from the master cast. If a problem is discovered later, the patient must be called in for another appointment.

In this course, we may collect the prepared teeth after the final impression is made, just as if the patient went home. If you discover a problem, you can call your patient back in by checking your tooth back out for a specified appointment time during the following class session. Just as in private practice, extra appointments are inconvenient but may be necessary to obtain the highest quality.

Teeth will only be available for checkout during the time announced by Course Directors. Your patient can only come in during these specified times. You must carefully evaluate your preparation, master cast and die to be certain that they meet your standards prior to this time.

To mimic Board Exams, time deadlines are strict. Practical examination teeth or projects that are not handed in when the collection deadline is announced will be considered late and a letter grade will be lost.

Due dates for projects are rigorously enforced. Out of fairness to faculty and to students who complete their work on time, a project that is late for any reason loses one letter grade if turned in up to one week late. Beyond one week, projects will not be graded and will receive a grade of 'F'. No other assignments or extra credit projects will be graded if the previous project is not completed.
IV. DEADLINES (Continued)

Practical examinations must be taken during the scheduled examination period. Examinations not taken as scheduled receive a grade of 'F'. Major extenuating circumstances, such as lengthy hospitalization or death of an immediate family member must be documented in writing by a letter from the Dean's office. At the discretion of the Course Director, a make-up examination will be scheduled. All unsubstantiated or unexcused absences will be treated as a failure. If because of illness, a student cannot finish a practical examination, the student must notify an instructor and the tooth in progress will be collected and the remaining time noted. The examination will be continued at another time. If a student leaves a practical examination before completion without permission, a failing grade will be awarded.

V. ETHICS

The highest ethical standards are expected of professional students. All work must be your own. You may not utilize commercial laboratories or laboratory technicians, except when submitted by the Course Directors as part of a class project.

Violations of the Ethics Code include any means to obtain unfair advantage over your classmates. The examples on the following list, among others, are clearly unfair and constitute violations of the Ethics Code:

1. Altering or removing typodont teeth during a practical examination or timed project.

2. Removing the typodont from the rod for work or inspection during a practical examination. Remember, these exams are simulated clinical experiences and you cannot remove a patient's head in the clinic.

3. Misrepresentation of someone else's work as your own. It is important to understand the gravity of this situation. Any incidents of dishonesty during practical examinations or projects will be taken very seriously by the Course Directors. If a student is caught cheating, the incident will be sent to the Student Appeals Committee and could result in dismissal from the University.

Knowledge of practical examination rules is the responsibility of each student. Failure to abide by examination rules demonstrates a lack of professional responsibility and is a breach of ethical conduct.
VI. GENERAL POLICIES

All typodonts (upper and lower members), ivorine project teeth and working casts must be engraved with student numbers prior to submitting for evaluation. All laboratory forms, grading sheets, quizzes and other lecture or laboratory paperwork must have student name and number clearly visible. No unidentified material will be graded.

No work may be done for other courses during Fixed Prosthodontics laboratory time.

Students must seek advice from University of Pacific Fixed Prosthodontic instructors. To avoid disruption, no second or third year students are permitted in the laboratory during class time.

Practical examinations are designed to mimic clinical procedures; the typodont must be kept in the simulator for the entire testing period to simulate the patient in a clinical setting.

In order to maintain consistency and reproducibility in performing technical procedures, only course procedures as demonstrated in lectures, syllabus and handouts will be taught in the preclinical course. Students will not be permitted to substitute materials or methods, and instructors will not engage in teaching other methods of performing the same procedures. The preclinical laboratory rules apply to all preclinical courses, including Preclinical Fixed Prosthodontics.