

## **701575 Geriatric Dentistry**

[1 cr., 1, 0] Recognizing the unique dental and medical needs of senior citizens, the Division of Geriatric Dentistry helps students develop the knowledge and skills needed to render comprehensive oral health care to this population. Students gain an understanding of the complexities of aging, learn about adaptive devices, and study the role of dentistry in total patient care. The division supplements classroom instruction with a rotation in the school's geriatric clinic, mandated for all third-year students.

As part of this rotation, students provide care to senior citizens and attend a weekly seminar session in which each patient and patient management issues are discussed. Special needs of older persons seeking dental care: systemic and oral health, physiology and psychology of aging, socioeconomic problems, effective communication, dental management, special problems in home health care, and managing frail elders in institutional and long-term care settings.