



Information on the New Curriculum Effective from the 2026/2027 Academic Year

Dear Students,

Starting from the autumn semester of the 2026/2027 academic year, a new curriculum will be introduced at the Faculty of Dentistry. The new curriculum was approved with the support of the Student Union of the Faculty of Dentistry and the Faculty Council of the Faculty of Dentistry, and was adopted by Senate Resolution No. 44/2026 (V.28.) of Semmelweis University.

The new curriculum introduces several changes aimed at supporting students' high-quality education and professional development. These changes will affect students enrolled in the 1st, 2nd, 3rd, and 4th years of the Hungarian, English, and German language programs from the 2026/2027 academic year. The curriculum for students entering their 5th year in the 2026/2027 academic year will remain unchanged.

The course requirements for all new and modified subjects are available on the Registrar's Office website:

<https://semmelweis.hu/registrar/dentistry/dentistry-curriculum/>

Changes

➤ Thesis Preparation Courses

The 20 credits awarded for the preparation and defence of the thesis have previously counted towards the total credit requirement but were not assigned to specific semesters and were awarded only after the successful thesis defence. Due to the introduction of the Thesis Module in the NEPTUN system, these 20 credits must now be allocated to specific semesters. In the new curriculum, this will be implemented as follows:

- Semester 7
 - A compulsory course entitled "Thesis I - Thesis Topic Selection" will be introduced with 6 credits.
 - The purpose of the course is to help students navigate among the available thesis topics in a structured and coordinated manner, including topics selected from the official list, topics related to Students' Scientific Association (TDK) work, and topics proposed by students and approved by the Faculty.

- The seminars will present the major thematic areas and the process of topic selection.

Thesis topic selection will take place during Semester 7 within the framework of this course.

A key objective of the course is to provide guidance to students in the rapidly changing scientific and educational environment, particularly in light of the increasing role of artificial intelligence, and to help them make informed use of the opportunities available at Semmelweis University.

- Semester 8

A compulsory course entitled “Thesis II - Content and Formal Requirements of the Thesis” will be introduced with 6 credits.

- The primary aim of the course is to familiarize students with the formal requirements, structure, and standardized writing rules of the thesis in accordance with the applicable regulations, including the rules governing the use of artificial intelligence.

The course focuses on the proper organization, logical structure, referencing standards, and formal presentation of academically rigorous theses.

Students will be required to utilize both foundational and the most recent national and international literature relevant to their chosen topic.

The course will also introduce the technical and methodological principles of using domestic and international scientific literature.

In addition, students will learn the ethical principles and regulatory framework governing the use of artificial intelligence during the thesis preparation process.

- Semester 9

The current criterion requirement course “Thesis Preparation” will be replaced by the compulsory course “Thesis III - Consultations and Thesis Writing”, worth 3 credits.

- Following the selection and approval of the thesis topic and the completion of the content and formal requirements training, this course supports students in preparing and developing their thesis in accordance with academic standards.

Through consultations, students will become familiar with the methods and approaches necessary for successful thesis writing.

The preparatory consultations are intended to ensure continuous progress and professional supervision according to a schedule established by the supervisor or consultant.

- Semester 10

A compulsory course entitled “Thesis IV - Thesis Defence” will be introduced with 5 credits.

- During the thesis defence, students will defend their submitted thesis prepared in accordance with the Faculty Thesis Regulations.

The defence includes a presentation of at least eight minutes, supported by presentation slides (PowerPoint), summarizing the most important content and findings of the thesis, followed by answers to questions raised by the reviewers and members of the examination committee.

- The thesis defence will also include an assessment of the student's performance in a foreign language (English for students enrolled in the Hungarian-language programme; Hungarian for students enrolled in the English- or German-language programmes).

➤ **Restructuring of the Summer Practice System**

The curriculum revision also includes making the summer practice system more flexible.

Under the new curriculum, the Dental Laboratory Summer Practice will be discontinued, while the duration of the Dental Assistance Summer Practice will be reduced to one week.

At the same time, a new Nursing Summer Practice will be introduced with a duration of three weeks.

During the Nursing Summer Practice, students will acquire bedside patient care experience and practical clinical skills. This experience is expected to have a lasting impact on their future professional activities, contributing to a broader perspective on patient care and fostering an empathetic approach to healthcare.

➤ **Alternative Completion of the Semmelweis Symposium Requirement through the “FOK Winter University” Course.** Starting from the next academic year, the Semmelweis Symposium criterion requirement may be completed during the 5th, 7th, or 9th semester of studies.

In addition, the requirement may be fulfilled by successfully completing the “Faculty of Dentistry Winter University” (FOK Winter University) elective course, which was organized for the first time this year and received highly positive feedback.

➤ **Rationale for the Changes**

The Faculty decided to introduce the above changes following careful consideration and with students' interests as its primary concern. In each case, the Faculty has sought to incorporate solutions that provide the greatest benefit to students, support their academic progress, and contribute positively to the successful completion of their studies.

➤ **Application of the New Curriculum**

Pursuant to Section 7 of the Study and Examination Regulations, new or amended curricula, as well as other academic and examination requirements, may also be applied to students who commenced their studies before the introduction of such requirements, provided that they request the application of the new or amended requirements.

Students may choose to adopt the new curriculum by submitting a declaration.

The Faculty intends to proceed as follows regarding this declaration process: Acceptance of the new curriculum effective from the 2026/2027 academic year requires a declaration from students who are currently in their 1st, 2nd, or 3rd year during the 2025/2026 academic year.

The mandatory declaration may be submitted during registration for the autumn semester of the 2026/2027 academic year through the NEPTUN system. Submission of the declaration is mandatory. Failure to submit the declaration will prevent students from registering for courses in the following semester.

Closing Remarks

I trust that the changes introduced by the new curriculum will provide meaningful support for your studies at the Faculty of Dentistry, Semmelweis University, helping to facilitate your daily academic work and contribute to the successful completion of your degree.

Yours sincerely,

Dr. Gábor Gerber
Dean