Who is the course for?

A MOOC in implant dentistry will be engineered to serve multiple groups of learners. Dental students and recent graduates will be able to gain a thorough understanding of implant dentistry through attending the whole sequence of the learning experience. Moreover, advanced learners and even specialists will benefit from accessing selectively specific parts of the course, depending on their needs. Consequently, our MOOC will serve as a sequential interactive learning experience helping workers to gradually develop understanding and competence, but also as a 21st century “live” resource which experienced users will be able to navigate at will.

What is a MOOC?

MOOC stands for Massive Open Online Course, MASSIVE, as it caters to thousands of students from all over the world, OPEN, as it is fully accessible on-line, for free, to everyone! INNOVATIVE, as it is one of the latest developments in university education, supported by some of the leading global institutions through two large on-line platforms edX and Coursera.

The Faculty of Dentistry of the University of Hong Kong, being recently ranked as number 1 dental school in the world, combines well-established postgraduate and undergraduate curricula in implant dentistry, world-class multidisciplinary research, as well as significant expertise with e-learning and on-line pedagogies.

Our aspiration is to develop a massive, quality assured and unbridled open course in Implant Dentistry, to benefit thousands of dental students and dentists all over the world. Furthermore, our course will be available in both English and Chinese, which will help to reach a more global audience.

Highlights of the course

Our recipe to success includes two main ingredients:

- High quality content from the best experts worldwide
- A sound and well documented e-learning pedagogical structure

First, the course faculty includes more than 20 experts from 10 countries. Among others, you will learn from Prof. KF Lye (Switzerland/Hong Kong), Prof. Christoph Hannen (Switzerland), Dr. Paul Weijl (Germany), Prof. Sano Honma (Japan), Prof. Voletta Chongpat (USA/Geneva), Dr. Martin Janda (Sweden), Dr. Richard Chai (Australia), and more.

Second, for the second of we can certainly make good use of the experience our team has accumulated over more than 15 years of research and development of e-learning for dentistry.

Our MOOC will include 5 modules and run over a period of five weeks in three pathways:

- Learn the fundamentals of science
- UNDERSTAND the procedures
- APEX: competence through interactive peer and case based learning

Why a MOOC in Implant Dentistry?

Implant dentistry is one of the most dynamic areas within Oral Healthcare. Despite its rapidly increasing impact, implant dentistry is scarcely taught in the undergraduate curricula and universities still have many difficulties to adequately implement it. As a result, millions of dental graduates in Asia worldwide start their careers with a very limited understanding of dental implants as part of comprehensive care. Many long practicing dentists who wish to offer implant services to their patients have little opportunity to reach flexible, quality-assured and unbiased education in this discipline.

We believe that a comprehensive, quality assured and unbiased open course could offer the necessary basic concepts of implant dentistry to the dental students and the general practitioners, while also benefit intermediate and advanced clinicians.

Who are we?

Associate Professor Moses Matthews is the course director, supported by a team of experts in implant dentistry and pedagogy. Having organized two international consensus workshops in the teaching of implant dentistry and having worked with e-learning since his student times, this is an exciting opportunity to “bring it all pieces together”.

The course is fully and exclusively supported by The University of Hong Kong and no sponsorship or other support has been received at any point.

How can you join?

This course will be open and free for everyone who is interested. Starting this fall on Coursera (https://www.coursera.org/).

Follow us

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... So, will you join us?

We hope you have managed to share some of our enthusiasm with you on this project, or at least show up your curiosity! If you share the enthusiasm and passion for learning and want to be a part of a historic first for implant dentistry, stay in touch through our Facebook page and join the course!

Looking forward to meeting you online!

The HKU Team