



# STUDENT CHARTER

# 2019

**FACULTY OF DENTAL SCIENCES**

**UNIVERSITY OF PERADENIYA**

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# STUDENT CHARTER FACULTY OF DENTAL SCIENCES, UNIVERSITY OF PERADENIYA.

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## **Vision of the Faculty of Dental Sciences**

*The **Vision** of the Faculty of Dental Sciences in University of Peradeniya is to be a Centre of Excellence in Dental Education, Research, Scholarship and Oral Health Care.*

## **Mission of the Faculty of Dental Sciences**

*The **Mission** of the Faculty of Dental Sciences is to promote oral health in Sri Lanka. It hopes to do so by being a Centre of high standards of quality in the provision of dental undergraduate and postgraduate training, research in basic and applied sciences in Dentistry and training of Dental Auxiliary Personnel.*

## **1. PURPOSE**

The Student Charter is a statement of the Faculty of Dental Sciences' aspirations and mutual expectations of staff and students, as they work together to achieve the Mission of the Faculty of Dental Sciences (FDS).

The Student Charter details the partnership between the FDS and its students. The achievement of the Mission of the FDS is only possible through the respectful interactions of all members (Staff/Supportive staff, Students) of the FDS, fair student representation and active student participation in FDS life and community. The Student Charter applies to all students (undergraduate, postgraduate and research if any). The Charter was developed in consultation with students, through their representative bodies, and staff.

The student charter is categorized under the areas of;

- Great student experience
- Quality learning, employability
- global citizenship

## **A GREAT STUDENT EXPERIENCE**

*Our partnership aims to deliver*

*An inspirational and supportive experience –fostering high student satisfaction; enabling you to excel academically and to thrive at Faculty of Dental Sciences and beyond.*

### **You can expect the Faculty of Dental Sciences to:**

- ✓ Provide high quality, safe facilities for studying and socializing
- ✓ Give friendly, professional and helpful support with your studies and any personal, financial or welfare issues
- ✓ Respect your right to appropriate and effective study, social and living space
- ✓ Resolve problems through open and transparent communication, informally wherever possible
- ✓ Offer clear information about registration & Examination fees, payment options, payment deadlines and an estimate of any additional costs (if required)
- ✓ Provide you with a virtual learning environment, IT facilities (WiFi), E Learning, account giving access to email
- ✓ Inform you of, and consult with you on, important plans and proposals of FDS
- ✓ Provide clear information about procedures relating to complaints, appeals and disciplinary matters
- ✓ Value and act on the comments you give relating to your experience and use such feedback to make improvements
- ✓ Provide you with feedback about changes that student comments on every matters

### **We Faculty of dental Sciences expect you to:**

- ✓ Take part in induction & carrier guidance including orientation programmes conducted by the FDS
- ✓ Take advantage of sporting, cultural, community and social activities of the FDS and UOP
- ✓ Ask for help to resolve issues affecting your day to day life at FDS
- ✓ Give feedback on your experience when requested, including teaching and learning process
- ✓ Consider volunteering to become a student representative on FDS or University committees
- ✓ Support your student representatives and actively communicate with them
- ✓ Engage with the Students' Union

**You can expect the Students' Union to:**

- ✓ Ensure you receive equal treatment and are aware of your rights and responsibilities
- ✓ Encourage you to join student societies
- ✓ Promote wellbeing including through sport, and other social opportunities
- ✓ Support student participation by encouraging you to take part in their elections and decision making
- ✓ Invite you to give comments on your experiences and use student feedback to create improvements
- ✓ Campaign actively for constructive development of the student welfare

## QUALITY LEARNING

*Our partnership aims to deliver*

*Independent critical thinkers developed through high-caliber teaching and excellent learning environments within the framework of research informed, professionally focused courses*

### **You can expect the Faculty of Dental Sciences to:**

- ✓ Draw on FDS cutting-edge research, and our professional expertise to deliver exciting and inspiring learning experiences
- ✓ Provide teaching staff who take advantage of active support from the FDS to develop and enhance their teaching skills
- ✓ Through our web we provide you with details of learning and assessment, contact hours, exam arrangements, academic guidance and support, to recommended reading, and professional requirements (if appropriate)
- ✓ Offer access to a wide range of learning materials, including lectures where appropriate to complement the learning experience; Library resources; and relevant IT facilities
- ✓ Provide a clear up-to-date timetable for teaching and assessment and as much notice as possible of any unavoidable timetable/session changes
- ✓ Provide clear assessment criteria and meaningful feedback
- ✓ Offer support via your mentors throughout your studies
- ✓ Offer counseling support through senior student counsels
- ✓ Support and include student involvement in developing and managing our programmes
- ✓ Be active partners, with student representation in FDS and University level committees which will influence strategic decisions and will shape the academic programmes

### **We Faculty of dental Sciences expect you to:**

- ✓ Engage proactively and ethically in all aspects of the learning process, attend and participate in contact time such as classes, group and laboratory work and regularly spend sufficient time in self learning study, or engage online
- ✓ Take responsibility for submitting assessments on time and use feedback to enhance your learning
- ✓ Take the initiative to keep in contact with your mentors, including during any placement, and seek advice when you need it

- ✓ Use the FDS & MOODLE systems regularly to keep yourself and us informed
- ✓ Inform your teacher or Office as soon as possible of anything which might affect your studies such as absence and obtain advance agreement for any expected essential absence\*
- ✓ Seek help quickly - from Deans' Office (FDS), and the Students welfare and advisory committee (SWAC), if you encounter difficulties
- ✓ Take appropriate steps to familiarize yourself with processes, regulations and codes of conduct
- ✓ Show your professionalism and ethical behavior when you dealing with patients
- ✓ Follow infection control and safety methods laid down by the FDS when you work in the clinics and laboratories

**You can expect the Students' Union to:**

- ✓ Inform you of University, faculty plans and proposals with which the Students' Union is involved
- ✓ Represent the views of the student community to the University and the faculty
- ✓ Advise you on any issues you may have with the FDS, and on following procedures and regulations
- ✓ Represent you at committees and boards and disciplinary hearings



## EMPLOYABILITY

*Our partnership aims to deliver*

*Sought-after graduates –world leading employability combined with confidence, drive and passion in our graduates*

### **You can expect the Faculty of Dental Sciences to:**

- ✓ Enhance your employability skills by preparing you for life beyond FDS
- ✓ Support your search for employment or further study with advice and information on careers, qualifications, and courses, through carrier guidance unit of FDS
- ✓ Provide access to vacancies, advice on application procedures and trainings
- ✓ seeking skills, including support after you graduate (CPD)
- ✓ Foster and encourage social responsibility and intercultural awareness
- ✓ Secure appropriate professional accreditation for our programmes

### **We Faculty of dental Sciences expect you to:**

- ✓ Take advantage of resources (Human & Physical) and opportunities relevant to your course
- ✓ Engage with Careers+Placements and participate in employability activities relevant to your programme and/or related to your career aspirations and interests by attending carrier guidance unit seminars of the FDS.
- ✓ Seek contacts and opportunities with people and organisations, including the Dental Faculty alumni Association
- ✓ Utilise opportunities available from relevant organisations, such as professional bodies and learned societies, to broaden your skills and experience
- ✓ Comply with the requirements of the professional bodies appropriate to your degree, including standards of conduct and behaviour and fitness to practise
- ✓ Undertake extra-curricular activities that enhance your skill set such as participating in sports clubs and societies and/or through volunteering, & work experience etc...

**You can expect the Students' Union to:**

- ✓ Provide opportunities for personal development through clubs and societies, volunteering, and work experience
- ✓ Allocate available resources for clubs and societies that will encourage student involvement
- ✓ Support student proposals that positively benefit the larger student body
- ✓ Host or support careers events, creating face to face contact with placement and graduate employers

## GLOBAL CITIZENSHIP

*Our partnership aims to deliver*

*An innovative, international and ethical outlook –developing global citizens and improving the integration of sustainability and social responsibility by embedding such activities into all aspects of FDS & University life*

### **You can expect the Faculty of Dental Sciences to:**

- ✓ Create an environment which encourages personal development, freedom of expression/speech, mutual understanding and academic freedom
- ✓ Show respect, courtesy and professionalism to all
- ✓ Provide equality of treatment for all regardless of gender, age, race, disability, sexual orientation, religion or belief
- ✓ Offer opportunities for you to develop their cultural intelligence through inter-cultural activities and language learning\*
- ✓ Offer you language classes (Sinhala, Tamil, English) for undergraduates
- ✓ Support undergraduates in finding a accommodation in university hostels' and outside the University
- ✓ Encourage and support your participation in elections for student representatives

### **We Faculty of dental Sciences expect you to:**

- ✓ Create and take opportunities to work with and learn from people with different cultures
- ✓ Treat everyone equally regardless of gender, age, race, disability, sexual orientation, religion or belief
- ✓ Develop your awareness of the perspectives and needs of others and your skills in working successfully with them
- ✓ Show respect, courtesy and professionalism to all other members of FDS and the wider community in all interactions, including those via social media
- ✓ Develop critical awareness and respect the world around you
- ✓ Protect the physical environment by active participation in recycling schemes and other environment-friendly initiatives

- ✓ Take opportunities to engage with, and develop awareness of, sustainability issues
- ✓ Support the Faculty in delivering its services by ensuring timely payment of your registration and other charges

**You can expect the Students' Union to:**

- ✓ Support societies that provide opportunities for inter-cultural development
- ✓ Host or support events aimed at building intercultural understanding
- ✓ Support active student community engagement
- ✓ Develop networks with other Students' Unions in order to create increased opportunities for knowledge sharing