



## PRE-DENTISTRY

To pursue graduate study in dental school, or in any of the health professions, you must have a strong undergraduate background in science. At Illinois Wesleyan, we'll provide you with this background, along with challenging course work in the liberal arts; close, personal instruction from a well-qualified faculty; and hands-on experience with state-of-the-art equipment. In addition, our Pre-Dental Advisory Committee will give you the help and support you need to enter the professional program of your choice. Our students have recently been accepted by institutions such as the University of Michigan, Southern Illinois, and the University of Illinois at Chicago.

### A COMPREHENSIVE CURRICULUM

As is the case at most universities, you cannot major in dentistry at Illinois Wesleyan. You should major in the field you are most interested in while working to complete the courses required by the pre-dental program. These include the following laboratory courses: one year of biology, one year of physics, and two years of chemistry. Although most of our pre-dentistry students major in the sciences (either biology, chemistry, or psychology), any liberal arts major will suffice.

We stress active involvement in every aspect of your education: you will join frequent in-class discussions, work with top-quality scientific equipment in the labs, and may pursue independent research projects under the supervision of Ph.D. professors. Your curriculum will also include courses in liberal arts disciplines outside your major field, including ethics, literature, foreign language, and fine arts. Exposure to a breadth of disciplines outside the sciences will enable you to grasp the different ethical and moral perspectives a scientist needs.

For a practical introduction to the duties and demands of a dental career, you may take part in a variety of job shadowing experiences. You'll be paired with a local dentist, orthodontist, oral surgeon, or other specialist, often an IWU alum. You'll follow your mentor throughout his or her workday and have the opportunity to observe everything from patient examinations to surgery.

### THE PRE-DENTAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE

As a student interested in the health sciences, you'll benefit from the services provided by Illinois Wesleyan's Pre-Dental Advisory Committee and from the Hart Career Center. In the Hart Career Center you'll find materials describing a range of programs and careers in the dental sciences; you will also find information on the registration dates for the DAT. When applying to dental school, the Pre-Dental Advisory Committee, composed of professors in the liberal arts as well as the sciences, will prepare for you a comprehensive letter of evaluation to be sent to the admissions committees of your intended dental schools. As part of this process, you will be interviewed by the committee, and the committee's letter of evaluation will incorporate interviewer comments and those of three professors who have agreed to contribute letters to your file. Dental school admissions committees know and trust the letters that come from Illinois Wesleyan.

### FOR FURTHER INFORMATION

For more information about the academic program and the faculty visit our Web site at:

<http://www2.iwu.edu/academics/departments>