



40th Annual Symposium on General Dentistry

JULY 1-5, 2026

8:00 AM DAILY

***Westin Jekyll Island Beach Resort
110 Ocean Way
Jekyll Island, GA 31527***

***Presented by
The Dental College of Georgia
Office of Continuing Education
at Augusta University***

***1430 John Wesley Gilbert Dr
Augusta, Georgia 30912***

WHERE TO FIND US



706-721-1420



dcgce@augusta.edu



www.augusta.edu/dentalmedicine/cde/



OUR MISSION

The mission of the Dental College of Georgia Continuing Education Program is to advance the knowledge, clinical skills, and professional development of dental practitioners and allied dental professionals. Through evidence-based instruction, innovative technologies, and ethical practice guidance, we aim to promote lifelong learning, improve patient care, and support the highest standards of oral health within our community and beyond.

COURSE OVERVIEW

This intensive five-day dental education program is designed to provide dental professionals with evidence-based clinical education and practical strategies to enhance patient care and practice efficiency. Through lectures, case-based discussions, and interactive learning experiences, participants will strengthen their knowledge of contemporary dentistry while building confidence in everyday clinical decision-making. Participants will gain practical tools and updated techniques that can be immediately implemented in clinical practice to improve patient outcomes, clinical competence, and team productivity.

TARGET AUDIENCE

This course is ideal for dentists, dental hygienists, dental assistants, and other oral healthcare professionals seeking continuing education and professional growth in a collaborative learning environment.

EDUCATION METHODS

This course will be delivered through a dynamic combination of engaging lectures and interactive case-based discussions designed to encourage critical thinking, clinical application, and collaborative learning. Participants will have the opportunity to explore real-world scenarios, enhance clinical decision-making skills, and engage in meaningful dialogue with faculty and peers throughout the program.

CREDIT HOURS

This course provides up to **20** hours of continuing dental education credit. The total number of hours awarded will be based on actual participation and instructional time, in accordance with ADA CERP standards. Certificates of completion will be issued upon verification of attendance and submission of the course evaluation form.

Course Director



Kevin B. Frazier, DMD, EdS; Course Director, Vice Dean and Professor of Restorative Sciences with the Dental College of Georgia (DCG), Augusta University. He received his DMD and General Practice Residency training at the University of Florida. He teaches clinical restorative dentistry, has an intramural general dental practice, and conducts research in restorative materials, dental education and dental practice trends. He has held national leadership roles with the Consortium of Operative Dentistry Educators, the Academy of Operative Dentistry, and the ADA Council on Scientific Affairs.

Meet the Speakers



John Comisi, DDS, MAGD, D'ASBA, is a Northwestern University Dental School graduate who has successfully practiced general dentistry in Ithaca, NY, for nearly 35 years. In August 2017, he was recruited to join the Medical University of South Carolina's faculty at James B. Edwards College of Dental Medicine in Charleston, SC. There, he served as an Associate Professor of Restorative Dentistry until December 2024. He was recruited and appointed as a Professor in the Department of General Dentistry at the Dental College of Georgia, Augusta University. Currently, he serves as the Course Director for Bioclinical Seminar VI—Oral Biology & Diagnostic Sciences and is collaboratively establishing a Sleep Services Committee to integrate dentistry and medicine, aiming to better serve the people of Georgia and South Carolina. He has published over 40 articles with over 480 citations since 2020 and has authored four textbook chapters. Dr. Comisi is an Emeritus Member and Master of the Academy of General Dentistry and a Diplomate of the American Sleep and Breathing Academy. He is recognized as a Fellow of several prestigious organizations, including the Academy of Dentistry International, the American College of Dentists, the Pierre Fauchard Academy, and the International College of Dentists. Additionally, Dr. Comisi served with distinction as President of the South Carolina Dental Association in 2023 and currently holds positions on the American Dental Association's Council on Scientific Affairs and its SEAL Subcommittee.



Karen Comisi, CDA, RDA, FADAA, DISIPC, Over the past 39 years, Karen Comisi has held nearly every staff role in a dental office, except dentist and dental hygienist. Her extensive experience includes positions as orthodontic and oral surgery dental assistant, general dentistry assistant, front desk and insurance coordinator, Infection Control Officer, OSHA and HIPAA Officer, Office Manager, CFO, and Co-Founder of both Dental Care with a Difference PC and Sleep Focused Solutions. Karen retired in October 2024 from the Medical University of South Carolina, James B. Edwards College of Dental Medicine, Department of Reconstructive and Rehabilitation Sciences. Karen was one of the first licensed, registered dental assistants in New York State and a founding member and Treasurer of the Southern Tier Dental Assistants Society. She is a DANB Certified Dental Assistant, a member of the Association for Dental Safety (formerly OSAP), and earned her Dental Industry Specialist in Infection Prevention and Control (DISIPC) National Certification in 2022.



Theresa S. Gonzales, DMD, MS, MSS, is the Associate Dean for Extramural Clinics and Professor of Oral Biology and Diagnostic Sciences, Dental College of Georgia at Augusta University. She earned her DMD from the Medical University of South Carolina, her MS in Oral Biology, Advanced Education Certificates in Oral & Maxillofacial Pathology and in Orofacial Pain Management from the Walter Reed Army Medical Center; the Bureau of Medicine and Surgery, National Naval Postgraduate Dental School; and George Washington University. Prior to her retirement from the United States Army Dental Corps, she completed a MSS in Strategic Studies from the US Army War College and is nationally recognized as a Federal Healthcare Executive. Theresa has published more than seventy-five articles in peer-reviewed journals, eleven book chapters, and served as a reviewer for seminal publications in her areas of expertise. She has presented more than one thousand hours of continuing education lectures both nationally and internationally. She is the recipient of the 2024 Distinguished Service Award from the American Dental Association and the 2022 Pierre Fauchard Gold Medal Award.



Gabriela Magalhaes, D.D.S., M.Sc., Ph.D., is an Assistant Professor of Restorative Sciences at Dental College of Georgia at Augusta University. She earned both her M.Sc. in Dental Materials and her Ph.D. in Dentistry with a focus in Pediatric Dentistry from University of Campinas. Dr. Magalhaes teaches preclinical courses in restorative sciences, including complete denture, removable prosthodontics, dental materials, and introductory dental sciences. Her academic and research interests include dental materials, minimally invasive dentistry, and the development of bioactive and biomimetic restorative materials. Her recent research in these areas has been published in leading journals, including Journal of the American Dental Association and Dental Materials.



Rafael Rocha Pacheco, DDS, MSc, PhD; Associate Dean for Digital Technologies and Associate Professor of Restorative Sciences of the Dental College of Georgia at Augusta University. He is the Section Director of Dental Materials and course director of dental materials to dental students, graduate, and dental hygiene students, and teaches operative dentistry, fixed prosthodontics, and digital dentistry. Dr. Pacheco holds a D.D.S., a M.Sc. (Dental Materials), and a Ph.D. (Dental Materials). He is currently the Vice Chair of the Department of Restorative Sciences at the Dental College of Georgia. He was previously an Associate Professor with tenure and Department Chair at the University of Detroit Mercy, School of Dentistry (since 2015). He is the author/co-author of multiple peer reviewed journal articles, five book chapters and his research is focused on Dental materials used in Restorative Dentistry (Polymerization, Dental Ceramics, Resin Composites, and Adhesive Systems).

Subject Codes

250 - Operative (Restorative) Dentistry - 5
550 - Practice Management and Human Relations - 1
010 - Basic Science - 2
780 - Esthetics/Cosmetic Dentistry - 2
730 - Oral Medicine, Oral Diagnosis, Oral Pathology - 4
148 - Infection Control - 2
346 - Opioids, Controlled Substances, and Pain Management - 2
145 - Forensic Dentistry - 2

Credit Total: 20 hours

Letter of Participation

A Letter of Participation will be awarded upon verification of attendance and completion of the course evaluation form.

Course Registration Fees

General Session for DMD, DDS: 5-days	\$975
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General Session for RDH: 5-days	\$575
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Refund/Cancellation Policy

A registration refund, less a **\$100** administrative fee, will be issued for cancellations. Cancellations must be in writing and emailed to dcgce@augusta.edu no later than **June 22, 2026**.

The Dental College of Georgia Office of Continuing Education Program cannot be responsible for the refund of any part outside of the registration fee as a result of emergencies, unforeseen circumstances, or events beyond its control after the cancellation date.

The Dental College of Georgia reserves the right to cancel or postpone any course due to unforeseen circumstances or insufficient enrollment. In the event of cancellation or postponement, the Dental College of Georgia will fully refund registration fees but is not responsible for any related costs or expenses to participants.

Accreditation Info

The Dental College of Georgia at Augusta University is an ADA CERP Recognized Provider. ADA CERP is a service of the American Dental Association to assist dental professionals in identifying quality providers of continuing dental education. ADA

CERP does not approve or endorse individual courses or instructors, nor does it imply acceptance of credit hours by boards of dentistry.

Augusta University Dental College of Georgia current term of approval extends from 5/1/2026 - 6/30/2030.

Concerns or complaints about CE provider may be directed to the provider or to the ADA CERP at www.ada.org/cerp.



Accessibility Needs

We are committed to ensuring an inclusive and accessible experience for all. If you require any special accommodation to fully participate in the event, please don't hesitate to let us know. Kindly inform us of any disability or specific requirements by contacting the Dental College of Georgia Office of Continuing Education at 706-721-1420 at least five (5) business days in advance.

Hotel Rates

Island View (No Balcony)	\$359.00
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Partial Ocean View W/Balcony	\$389.00
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Ocean View	\$409.00
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For your comfort and convenience we have made the following hotel arrangements. Rooms are available at a special rate for this occasion. A resort charge of \$35 + state taxes/fees. These rates are available until **May 29, 2026** by mentioning the Dental College of GA Conference. To register online for lodging, please visit:

You can call the Westin Hotel directly at 912-635-4545

Course Schedule

Day 1		Wednesday, July 1		Day 3		Friday, July 3	
7:30 am	Breakfast & Registration			7:30 am	Breakfast & Registration		
8 am	Update on Finishing & Polishing Composite Resins Dr. Kevin Frazier			8 am	Update on Dental Materials and Light-Curing Units Dr. John Comisi		
9 am	The Five Practices of Exemplary Leadership Dr. Kevin Frazier			10:00 am	Break		
10:00 am	Break			10:15 am	Oral Disease (Caries & Perio) Assessment and Management Dr. John Comisi		
10:15 am	From File to Restoration: Understanding 3D Printing & Milling Dentistry Dr. Rafael Pacheco			12:15 pm	Adjourn		
12:15 pm	Adjourn						
Day 2		Thursday, July 2		Day4		Saturday, July 4	
7:30 am	Breakfast & Registration			7:30 am	Breakfast & Registration		
8 am	Bioactivity in Restorative Dentistry Dr. Gabriela Magalhaes			8 am	OSHA Compliance: Best Practices for Infection Control and Waterline Management Karen Comisi		
9:00 am	Mastering the Bond to Modern Ceramics Dr. Rafael Pacheco			10:00 am	Break		
10:00 am	Break			10:15 am	Airway Assessment & Management Dr. John Comisi		
10:15 am	From Stains to Esthetics: Bleaching, Microabrasion & Resin Infiltration Dr. Rafael Pacheco			12:15 pm	Adjourn		
12:15 pm	Adjourn						

Course Schedule

Day 5	Sunday, July 5
7:30 am	Breakfast & Registration
8 am	Opioids: The Reaction, Reality, and Ramifications Dr. Theresa Gonzales
10:00 am	Break
10:15 am	Overcoming the CSI Effect: The Dentist's Role in 21 st Century Forensic Applications Dr. Theresa Gonzales
12:15 pm	Adjourn

Disclosure

In accordance with ADA CERP Standard V, everyone involved in planning or presenting this educational course is required to disclose any relevant financial relationships with commercial interests. This information will be made available to participants at the start of the course. As a continuing education provider, The Dental College of Georgia is responsible for ensuring the content, quality, and scientific integrity of all continuing dental education activities for which credit is provided. The College is also responsible for taking appropriate steps to identify, disclose, and resolve any conflicts of interest involving faculty or instructors presenting these courses. Disclosure: All faculty and staff members report no actual or potential conflicts of interest in relation to this program or presentation.

Commerical Free Education

Our continuing education programs are delivered independently of any commercial influence. All product promotions and advertisements are fully separated from CE activities to ensure that the content remains unbiased, evidence based, and focused solely on enhancing professional knowledge. This program is free from commercial bias and has not received financial or in-kind support from any commercial entity.

Clinical Advisory

Participants are cautioned that, while this program provides educational training, successful integration of the concepts into clinical practice requires independent professional judgment and, in some cases, additional experience or education.

Course Schedule

Phil Hanes Periodontal Lecture June 12 Augusta, GA
Mark Stevens OMFS June 13 Augusta, GA
Symposium on General Dentistry July 1-5 Jekyll Island, GA
Dental Hygiene Symposium July 10-12 Savannah, GA
AAID MaxiCourse August 13 Augusta, GA
Pediatric Dentistry October 2-4 Hilton Head, SC
CBCT November 3 Augusta, GA
Update for the Dental Practitioner November 13-15 Young Harris, GA
Last Chance Dental CE December 10-11 Augusta, GA

Course Schedule

Day 5

Sunday, July 5

7:30 am Breakfast & Registration

8 am

Implant Prosthodontics: Aesthetics, Complications, Innovations, and Rescue Treatment Part 2 | Dr. Todd Schoenbaum

This presentation will present the challenges and limitations unique to the treatment of partially edentulous implant patients. Focus will be on clinical techniques for restoration of implants in the aesthetic zone, complications in the restoration of implants with fixed options, and a case series of rescue treatment in compromised implant scenarios. Clinically relevant scientific information will be integrated into the discussion for decision making and techniques.

10:00 am Break

Peri-Implantitis; Etiology and Effective Treatment Options Dr. Ahmed El-Awady

Dental implants are widely recognized as a reliable solution for replacing missing teeth, with millions of implant fixtures placed annually in the U.S. Implantology has significantly transformed the scope of dental practice. However, peri-implantitis remains a serious complication, with reported incidence rates ranging from 8% to 30% among osseointegrated implants. The complex etiology and progression of peri-implantitis have made it challenging to establish a universally accepted approach to its prevention and treatment. This presentation will explore the latest evidence-based strategies for managing peri-implantitis, incorporating the most current understanding of its etiology, pathogenesis, and effective treatment options.

10:15 am

12:15 pm Adjourn

Institutional Compliance Statement

The Dental College of Georgia Office of Continuing Education ensures full separation of educational content from commercial interests in compliance with ADA CERP Standards V.2, V.3, V.8, and V.10.

- *The CE Department maintains independent control over topic selection, faculty, and content.*
- *Commercial support, when applicable, is accepted only in the form of unrestricted educational grants and is fully disclosed to participants.*
- *Advertising and exhibits are physically and visually separated from educational sessions.*
- *Course materials and presentations are free from product promotion, and speakers are instructed to use generic names and disclose relevant financial relationships.*

CE courses are developed, reviewed, and approved by the Continuing Education Department independently of any commercial entity.