Dr. Mitra Simanian is currently an Assistant Professor at UCLA School of Dentistry. She received her Bachelors of Science in Microbiology and Immunology, and her Doctor of Dental Surgery from UCLA. Working as a Private practice owner dentist in several areas of Los Angeles, she learned firsthand the disparities in access to quality and affordable oral healthcare services. Furthermore, upon joining the faculty at UCLA School of Dentistry she observed the need for training and educating the dental students in the field of public health and community health services especially in the underserved sector of our society. In order to be able an efficient and knowledgeable educator, she decided to become a student first and that was the first step toward her interest in UCLA School of public health program for healthcare professionals.