

DENTAL HYGIENE

As is the case for all programs within the Pacific Dugoni School of Dentistry, the Dental Hygiene Program strives to be a global leader in our field, focusing on evidence-based practice while creating an environment of innovation, dynamism, and diversity. Similarly, the Program shares the School of Dentistry's commitment to values that reflect distinguishing features of our program, most notably:

Mission

THE MISSION OF THE DENTAL HYGIENE PROGRAM is to:

- Educate individuals who will be professionally competent to provide quality preventive oral health care in an evolving profession;
- Provide culturally aware, patient-centered, quality care within the context of an efficient clinical model that demonstrates the highest standards of service achievable;
- Provide opportunities for inter-professional and community-based oral health education and health promotion in a variety of settings.
- Apply principles of critical thinking and evidence-based decision making to all aspects of dental hygiene practice.
- Articulate the value of continued competence, lifelong learning and pursuit of advanced degrees.

PURPOSE

Our purpose is to help people lead healthy lives.

We grow and inspire a diverse community of learners through our humanistic culture. Building on a distinguished tradition, we provide exceptional education; offer personalized quality patient care; support collaborative research; and foster commitment to service.

The Study of Dental Hygiene

The dental hygiene course of study is a professional program where students learn to provide preventive clinical care for patients with emphasis on recognition, treatment, and prevention of oral diseases. In addition to performing a variety of preventive and therapeutic functions, the dental hygienist also has a major role in counseling and educating patients, community groups, and other health professionals. The curriculum helps students build the educational, communication, and clinical skills necessary to work in co-therapy with the dental team.

Admission Requirements

Admission to the Dental Hygiene Program is competitive and based on merit. Students may apply either as a freshman student, doing prerequisite coursework at Pacific, or as a transfer student, completing prerequisites at another institution. After review of the completed application, the Office of Admissions will invite qualified candidates to participate in interviews on campus. In addition to a personal interview, applicants are invited to take part in orientation and financial aid seminars, meet informally with current students, and tour the campus. Admission will be based on the combination of application information and interview.

Please click here (<http://www.pacific.edu/Admission/Undergraduate/Applying/Dental-Hygiene.html>) to see detailed admissions information.

GPA: Special emphasis is placed on coursework selected, the grades achieved in those courses, and the cumulative grade point average. Students must maintain at least a 2.7 GPA in lower division coursework at Pacific, or transfer students must maintain at least a 2.7 GPA in lower division transfer coursework at a transfer institution to be considered for the professional portion of the program in San Francisco. All prerequisite courses must be completed prior to the start of the program.

Grades: The student must maintain a C or higher in all science courses to be considered for the professional portion of the program. All prerequisite courses must be completed prior to the start of the program.

SAT or ACT Exams: The Admissions Committee reviews the results of the student's SAT or ACT scores only for freshman admission.

Essay: An essay may be required of University applicants.

Recommendation: Two letters of recommendation are required. They may be from a faculty member, counselor or advisor or from health care or job related professionals.

Job Shadowing: Job shadowing of a registered dental hygienist for (20 hours) is expected so that the applicant is familiar with the role of the practicing dental hygienist.

Extracurricular Activities: Other factors considered (but not required) in selecting the class include community service and involvement and volunteer activities.

Transfer Student Application:

The transfer application deadline for entry into the program is August 15 for the following winter quarter. Applicants are notified by December 1. SAT or ACT exam scores are NOT required.

Sixty-four semester units or the quarter unit equivalent of lower division college courses that are Pacific transferable and include the prerequisites or equivalents listed under the General Education Curriculum for Transfer Students on the Major tab (<https://catalog.pacific.edu/sanfrancisco/arthuradugonischoolofdentistry/dentalhygiene/#majortext>) are required.

For applicants with a baccalaureate degree, the GE course requirement is waived.

Health Requirements:

Prior to entry into the professional portion of the program (final 6 quarters), health requirements must be met and documentation submitted to the University's Cowell Wellness Center as follows:

- **Medical Examination:** Following acceptance for admission, students submit the University's "Entrance History and Physical," form signed by a physician which confirms that a medical examination was completed within 3 months of the date of matriculation into the professional portion of the Dental Hygiene program. Current Pacific students who submitted a physical exam form upon matriculation, do not require another physical.
- **Measles, Rubella (German Measles), and Mumps:** Students provide documentation of presence of positive titers. Documented vaccination with two dose series MMR given one month apart with live attenuated measles and rubella virus is adequate. A history of measles and rubella as childhood diseases is not sufficient.
- **Tuberculosis:** ALL Students must submit the report of a two-step PPD tuberculosis skin test done within 3 months of entering professional

program. With a history of tuberculosis OR a positive skin test, students submit the physician's report of a chest X-ray taken within the year prior to matriculation. Chest X-rays may be required at intervals, and suppressive medication may be recommended.

- **Hepatitis B:** Every student is required to submit documented proof of presence of antibodies to the Hepatitis B virus or to complete the Hepatitis B three-dose vaccination series and Hepatitis B antigen test at least one month after completion of series. It is recommended that this be done prior to matriculation; in all cases, however, it must be done before a student is allowed to treat patients which occurs in the first month of the program. If a student does not have documented proof of having antibodies to this virus, the vaccination series is available at the school for a fee.
- **Tetanus Diphtheria (Tdap)** Vaccination is required within past 10 years.
- **Varivax** (Chicken Pox) Students provide documentation of 2 dose vaccination series or presence of titer if history of having chicken pox.
- **Influenza vaccine** is required each year of enrollment
- **Covid-19** Students are required to submit documentation of 1 dose of the most recent COVID-19 vaccine. (Moderna, Novavax or Prizer)

Inquiries about health requirements and supporting documentation are handled through the University's Cowell Wellness Center (209) 946-2315.

Program Description

The bachelor of science degree in dental hygiene is presented in an accelerated year-round format of four semesters including summer sessions (general education coursework), and six quarters (professional coursework). Students accepted into the program as freshmen complete all sessions with the University. Transfer level program entrants, with prerequisites fulfilled, complete the final six quarters of professional coursework only.

Program applicants must complete prerequisite general education courses either at Pacific or another institution to provide a strong science background, and a broad base in the humanities. The prerequisites are designed to strengthen dental hygiene science and clinical practice. Students undertake this portion of their course work, in the College of the Pacific, with the general undergraduate student population on the main campus. Students must maintain at least a 2.7 GPA in lower division coursework at Pacific, or transfer students must maintain at least a 2.7 GPA in lower division transfer coursework at a transfer institution to be considered for the professional portion of the program in San Francisco. All prerequisite courses must be completed prior to the start of the program.

The professional portion of the program is a highly structured six consecutive quarters of upper division coursework that includes both didactic and clinical experience. This portion of the program is presented by the Arthur A. Dugoni School of Dentistry, Dental Hygiene Program on the San Francisco campus. Students are required to maintain a 2.0 GPA throughout the professional portion of the program and pass the National Board Dental Hygiene Examination (NBDHE) (<https://jcnde.ada.org/en/nbdhe/>) to meet the requirements for graduation.

Course Loads

Full Time: 12 or more units a quarter

Half Time: 6-11.9 units a quarter

Less than Half Time: 5.9 or less a quarter

Twelve units constitute a minimum full-time program of studies during a quarter for Dental Hygiene students. If a student registers for fewer than 12 units or drops below 12 units financial aid may be reduced. (Students who are less than half-time are not eligible for financial aid.)

Academic Standing Grades

Grades represent passing or failing performance. Grades of A, B, C, and D represent passing performance, and the grade of F represents failure. Grades of A, excellent; B, good; and C, acceptable, represent unconditional passing performance; the grade D indicates conditional passing performance. D grades require additional work supervised by faculty that may include additional instruction or evaluation before advancement to clinical practice or eligibility for board examinations. Conditions placed on D grades must be specified in writing and provided to the Dental Hygiene Program Director when grades are submitted. If stated conditions are not met, the student may be required to repeat the course. A failing grade of F must be repeated. On repeat of the course, the new final grade will be reported. Course directors are required to provide a grade for every enrolled student at the end of each semester of instruction.

I (Incomplete)

An incomplete grade (I) is given temporarily when a student is progressing satisfactorily, but the course director has insufficient information because the student has not completed all assigned coursework for reasons beyond the student's control. The course director determines the conditions under which and the date by which the deficiency that caused the Incomplete must be removed. If no completion date is stipulated, by default the end date of the subsequent term is the completion date. Failure to comply with stated conditions by the stipulated date will result in the Incomplete reverting to the grade F, failure. This information is in accordance with both the university and the dental school policies.

Grade Point Average

In computing a grade point average (GPA) numerical values are: A, 4 points; B, 3 points; C, 2 points; D, one point; and F, zero points. The dental hygiene program does not award "+" or "-" modifications to grades.

Change of Grades

Final passing grades (A, B, C, D) are not subject to change on the basis of second examination or additional work completed after grades are submitted. Passing grades may be changed to correct an error in computation or in transcribing a report or where some part of a student's work has been overlooked following award of the final grade. Course directors must also notify the Dental Hygiene Program Director in writing of conditions and assignments for removing incompletes.

Academic Good Standing

Academic good standing requires a grade point average (GPA) of at least 2.0 and no permanent F grades or conditional D grades.

Academic Probation

Academic probation is accorded to a student upon receipt of a GPA below 2.0 for all courses attempted or to a student with a permanent F or conditional D grade. Normally, the standard for academic good standing must be met within one term of being placed on academic probation. In circumstances where this time constraint cannot be met, a reasonable time period will be specified.

An Academic Probation Contract is delivered when:

- The GPA is below 2.0, or
- For any permanent F or conditional D grade.
- Examples of contract conditions include:
 - Required meetings with faculty member or advisor
 - Tutors
 - Assignment to scheduled supplemental courses
 - Meetings with therapist or other health care provider as warranted
- No student on contract is eligible to take the National Board Dental Hygiene Examination (NBDHE) (<https://jcnde.ada.org/en/nbdhe/>).

Academic Disqualification

Academic disqualification may be recommended to the Dean by the Student Academic Performance and Promotions Committee (SAPPC) for a student who has failed to meet any of the conditions of their contract or any grade of F. A dental hygiene student may be considered for dismissal and/or repeat at the end of the quarter if they receive a grade of F or if they were on contract and fail to reach good academic standing. Any action regarding dismissal or repeat takes the form of a recommendation to the SAPPC, which in turn makes a recommendation to the Dean.

When a student's academic record meets published criteria for academic disqualification, the committee will provide an opportunity for the student to appear before the committee to ensure that all pertinent information has been considered. A faculty advocate will be assigned to the student to help prepare a statement to the committee. Dental hygiene students have the right to appeal to the dental school Appeals Committee, although the composition of that committee could be modified at the discretion of its chair in the case of an appeal from the dental hygiene program.

If, in the judgement of the committee, the student has the capacity and commitment to overcome his or her documented academic deficiencies and reach an acceptable level of patient care, the committee may recommend:

- Continuation on academic contract,
- Extension of the program,
- Reenrollment in the subsequent class, or
- Reenrollment only through the normal admission process, as appropriate to the student's educational needs.

Promotion

Students who are in academic good standing automatically are recommended for promotion by the Student Academic Performance and Promotions Committee. The committee may recommend that a student who is not in academic good standing be promoted on academic probation with conditions of the probation clearly outlined.

Repeat

When a student repeats an academic year, a grade will be awarded for completion of each course in that year. A student must audit a course for which a passing grade was previously assigned. A written agreement or plan will be filed in the Dental School Office of Academic Affairs and students are responsible for meeting all requirements of repeated courses to the standards in place for the repeated course.

Withdrawal

A student who wishes to withdraw or take a leave of absence from school must file a written request in the Dental School Office of Academic Affairs, the San Francisco Registrar's Office and meet with the Dental Hygiene Program Director. The professional leave of absence policy in the catalog applies to Dental Hygiene students.

Graduation

In addition to all other graduation requirements, the candidate must demonstrate competence in the discharge of duties required of a dental hygiene practitioner. In addition to the skills, understanding and values expected of a beginning dental hygienist, meeting graduation requirements shall include:

- Evidence of moral character compatible with the public interest and with the practice of the healing arts.
- Discharge of all financial obligations to the community and the school.
- Completion of all technical and clinical requirements prescribed in the curriculum.
- Academic good standing.
- Conformance with policies of the school.
 - A passing score on the National Board Dental Hygiene Examination (NBDHE) (<https://jcnde.ada.org/en/nbdhe/>).

If, in the opinion of the Student Academic Performance and Promotion Committee, the candidate for the Bachelor of Science in Dental Hygiene degree has met all requirements, it is authorized to recommend to the Dean the graduation and conferral of the degree. The committee may also recommend delay in the individual's graduation date with conditions necessary to bring the student to a competent level.

Student Partners

A large part of dental hygiene education relies upon students practicing new skills first on typodonts, then on student partners prior to delivering patient care. Learning of this nature will take place in Pre-clinic, Pain Management, and any other course where the faculty deems it necessary. All dental hygiene students are expected to participate as patients for their classmates unless there is a documented medical reason for them not to do so. Any waiver of sitting as a patient must be approved by the Program Director and must be accompanied by signed forms from the students' MD.

Policy on Accommodations for Students with Disabilities

The school grants otherwise qualified students, residents, and applicants all the rights, privileges, programs, and activities generally accorded or made available to students at the school and does not discriminate on the grounds listed in the Policy Prohibiting Unlawful Discrimination in the administration of its educational programs, admissions, scholarships and loans, or other school activities.

The school will reasonably accommodate individuals with disabilities when the individual so presents a request in accordance with this policy and the individual is qualified to safely and effectively perform all essential functions of the position unless there is undue hardship in doing so. Reasonable accommodations do not include a modification of the fundamental requirements and elements of the program (e.g., behavior and conduct standards, attendance and grading policies, academic and patient-care standards, etc.).

If the individual student, resident, or applicant is otherwise qualified, in response to a request for accommodation, the school will offer to make an accommodation if the accommodation is reasonable, effective, does not alter a fundamental aspect of the program, will not otherwise impose an undue hardship on the school, and/or there are no equivalent alternatives. If appropriate, the school may choose to consult with such individuals, internal or external to the school, to provide further assistance needed to evaluate the request for accommodation.

For purposes of reasonable accommodation, a student, resident, or applicant with a disability is a person who: (a) has a physical or mental impairment which limits one or more major life activities (such as walking, seeing, speaking, learning, or working); or (b) has a record with the school by which the school has officially recognized such impairment. To be eligible to continue at the school, the student, resident, or applicant must meet the qualifications and requirements expected generally of its students, and must also be able to perform the requirements of the individual major or program in which s/he is enrolled, with or without reasonable accommodation.

Note: in the event that a request for reasonable accommodation is denied, the school may occasionally choose to afford the student some temporary measure or flexibility, which is not based on the asserted disability issue, but which otherwise is considered appropriate, if it does not alter a fundamental element of the program and is not viewed by the School as inequitable toward other students. In such few cases, such temporary measure or flexibility will not be a precedent, nor will be a reasonable accommodation, and the student thereby will not be regarded as an individual with a disability.

Procedure for Seeking Accommodations

A student or applicant who requires an accommodation aid or assistance ("accommodations"), whether for academic or other uses, and who believes s/he is qualified under the school's policy, should contact the Director of Academic Affairs, who serves as coordinator of disability accommodations and services. Individuals who may apply for admission are also encouraged to contact this office to request general information.

Faculty and staff members who receive student-initiated inquiries or requests regarding accommodations should promptly refer those students to the Director of Academic Affairs. Accommodation determinations should not be made without consultation and written determination of the Director.

Students who seek academic accommodations are expected to contact the Director of Academic Affairs well in advance of the commencement of the activity course(s), and to provide all requested supporting information at least three weeks in advance of the requested implementation date.

The program and its graduates will be distinguished by the following attributes:

- Continuous enhancement through professional development
- Humanistic values that respect the dignity of each individual and foster the potential for growth in all of us
- Application of theory and data for continuous improvement
- Leadership in addressing the challenges facing the profession of dental hygiene, education and our communities

Core Competencies (C)

- C.1 Apply a professional code of ethics in all endeavors.
- C.2 Adhere to state and federal laws, recommendations, and regulations in the provision of oral health care.
- C.3 Use critical thinking skills and comprehensive problem-solving to identify oral health care strategies that promote patient health and wellness.
- C.4 Use evidence-based decision making to evaluate emerging technology and treatment modalities to integrate into patient dental hygiene care plans to achieve high-quality, cost-effective care.
- C.5 Assume responsibility for professional actions and care based on accepted scientific theories, research, and the accepted standard of care.
- C.6 Continuously perform self-assessment for lifelong learning and professional growth.

- C.7 Integrate accepted scientific theories and research into educational, preventive, and therapeutic oral health services.
- C.8 Promote the values of the dental hygiene profession through service-based activities, positive community affiliations, and active involvement in local organizations.
- C.9 Apply quality assurance mechanisms to ensure continuous commitment to accepted standards of care.
- C.10 Communicate effectively with diverse individuals and groups, serving all persons without discrimination by acknowledging and appreciating diversity.
- C.11 Record accurate, consistent, and complete documentation of oral health services provided.
- C.12 Initiate a collaborative approach with all patients when developing individualized care plans that are specialized, comprehensive, culturally sensitive, and acceptable to all parties involved in care planning.
- C.13 Initiate consultations and collaborations with all relevant health care providers to facilitate optimal treatments.
- C.14 Manage medical emergencies by using professional judgment, providing life support, and utilizing required CPR and any specialized training or knowledge.

Health Promotion and Disease Prevention (HP)

- HP.1 Promote positive values of overall health and wellness to the public and organizations within and outside the profession.
- HP.2 Respect the goals, values, beliefs, and preferences of all patients.
- HP.3 Refer patients who may have physiological, psychological, or social problems for comprehensive evaluation.
- HP.4 Identify individual and population risk factors, and develop strategies that promote health-related quality of life.
- HP.5 Evaluate factors that can be used to promote patient adherence to disease prevention or health maintenance strategies.
- HP.6 Utilize methods that ensure the health and safety of the patient and the oral health professional in the delivery of care.

Community Involvement (CM)

- CM.1 Assess the oral health needs and services of the community to determine action plans and availability of resources to meet the health care needs.
- CM.2 Provide screening, referral, and educational services that allow patients to access the re-sources of the health care system.
- CM.3 Provide community oral health services in a variety of settings.
- CM.4 Facilitate patient access to oral health services by influencing individuals or organizations for the provision of oral health care.
- CM.5 Evaluate reimbursement mechanisms and their impact on the patient's access to oral health care.
- CM.6 Evaluate the outcomes of community-based programs, and plan for future activities.
- CM.7 Advocate for effective oral health care for underserved populations.

Patient Care (PC)

Assessment

- PC.1 Systematically collect, analyze, and record diagnostic data on the general, oral, and psychosocial health status of a variety of patients using methods consistent with medicolegal principles.
- PC.2 Recognize predisposing and etiologic risk factors that require intervention to prevent disease.
- PC.3 Recognize the relationships among systemic disease, medications, and oral health that impact overall patient care and treatment outcomes.
- PC.4 Identify patients at risk for a medical emergency, and manage the patient care in a manner that prevents an emergency.

Dental Hygiene

Diagnosis

- PC.5 Use patient assessment data, diagnostic technologies, and critical decision making skills to determine a dental hygiene diagnosis,

a component of the dental diagnosis, to reach conclusions about the patient's dental hygiene care needs.

Planning

PC.6 Utilize reflective judgment in developing a comprehensive patient dental hygiene care plan.

PC.7 Collaborate with the patient and other health professionals as indicated to formulate a comprehensive dental hygiene care plan that is patient-centered and based on the best scientific evidence and professional judgment.

PC.8 Make referrals to professional colleagues and other health care professionals as indicated in the patient care plan.

PC.9 Obtain the patient's informed consent based on a thorough case presentation.

Implementation

PC.10 Provide specialized treatment that includes educational, preventive, and therapeutic services designed to achieve and maintain oral health. Partner with the patient in achieving oral health goals.

Evaluation

PC.11 Evaluate the effectiveness of the provided services, and modify care plans as needed.

PC.12 Determine the outcomes of dental hygiene interventions using indices, instruments, examination techniques, and patient self-reports as specified in patient goals.

PC.13 Compare actual outcomes to expected outcomes, reevaluating goals, diagnoses, and services when expected outcomes are not achieved.

Professional Growth and Development (PGD)

PGD.1 Pursue career opportunities within health care, industry, education, research, and other roles as they evolve for the dental hygienist.

PGD.2 Develop practice management and marketing strategies to be used in the delivery of oral health care.

PGD.3 Access professional and social opportunities to foster career growth and development.

Dental Hygiene Licensure

Students must maintain at least a 2.7 GPA in lower division coursework at Pacific, or transfer students must maintain at least a 2.7 GPA in lower division transfer coursework at a transfer institution to be considered for the professional portion of the program in San Francisco. The student must also have a C or higher in all science courses to be considered for the professional portion of the program. All prerequisite courses must be completed prior to the start of the program. Students are required to maintain a 2.0 GPA throughout the professional portion of the program and pass the National Dental Hygiene Board Examination to meet the requirements for graduation. Completion of the program enables graduates to take regional or state licensure examinations. For California examination information contact:

Dental Hygiene Board of California
2005 Evergreen Street, Suite 2050
Sacramento, CA 95815
<https://www.dhbc.ca.gov/>
(916) 263-1978

Degree Requirements

General Education Curriculum for Non-Transfer Students

Minimum 64 semester units or the quarter unit equivalent that include:

CORE 001	Problem Solving & Oral Comm	3
CORE 002	Writing and Critical Thinking	4
General Education: Artistic Proc & Creation		4

General Education: General Education Worldviews & Ethics or Artistic Proc & Creation		4
Electives		4
BIOL 061	Principles of Biology	5
BIOL 145	Microbiology	5
BIOL 170	Human Anatomy	5
BIOL 180	Human Physiology	5
CHEM 025	General Chemistry	5
CHEM 027	General Chemistry	5
COMM 027	Public Speaking	3
MATH 035	Elementary Statistical Inference	3-4
or MATH 037	Introduction to Statistics and Probability	
PSYC 031	Introduction to Psychology	4
SOCI 051	Introduction to Sociology	4

General Education Curriculum for Transfer Students

Minimum 64 semester units or the quarter unit equivalent that include:

General Education: Artistic Proc & Creation		4
General Education: World Perspectives & Ethics or Artistic Process & Creation		4
Written Communication & Critical Thinking		4
Electives		8
BIOL 061	Principles of Biology	5
BIOL 145	Microbiology	5
BIOL 170	Human Anatomy	5
BIOL 180	Human Physiology	5
CHEM 025	General Chemistry	5
CHEM 027	General Chemistry	5
COMM 027	Public Speaking	3
MATH 035	Elementary Statistical Inference	3
SOCI 041	Social Problems	4
PSYC 031	Introduction to Psychology	4

Dental Hygiene Curriculum

DH 110	Oral Health Education	2
DH 111	Head and Neck Anatomy I	2
DH 112	Head and Neck Anatomy II	2
DH 113	Dental Anatomy I	2
DH 114	Dental Anatomy II	2
DH 115	Oral Radiology Lecture	2
DH 116	Embryology and Histology I	2
DH 117	Embryology and Histology II	2
DH 118	Dental Hygiene Practice	2
DH 119A	Pre-Clinical Dental Hygiene	5
DH 119B	Pre-Clinical Dental Hygiene	2
DH 120	Oral Radiology Laboratory I	2
DH 121	Oral Radiology Laboratory II	2
DH 122	Pharmacology I	2
DH 123	Pharmacology II	2
DH 124	Medical and Dental Emergencies I	2
DH 125	Medical and Dental Emergencies II	2
DH 126	Medical and Dental Emergencies III	2
DH 127	Local Anesthesia/Pain Management I	2
DH 128	Local Anesthesia/Pain Management II	2

DH 129A	Dental Hygiene Practice I Lecture/Lab	2
DH 129B	Dental Hygiene Practice I Lecture/Lab	2
DH 130	Dental Hygiene Practice II Lecture/Lab	2
DH 131A	Dental Hygiene Practice III Lecture/Lab	2
DH 131B	Dental Hygiene Practice III Lecture/Lab	2
DH 132A	Dental Hygiene Clinic I	4
DH 132B	Dental Hygiene Clinic I	5
DH 133	Dental Hygiene Clinic II	11
DH 134	Dental Hygiene Clinic III	11
DH 135	Dental Hygiene Clinic IV	12
DH 136	Periodontics I	2
DH 137	Periodontics II	2
DH 138	Periodontics III	2
DH 139	Pathology I	2
DH 140	Pathology II	2
DH 141	Community Oral Health and Research I	3
DH 142	Community Oral Health and Research II	3
DH 143	Patient Management/Special Needs	3
DH 144	Biochemistry and Nutrition I	2
DH 145	Biochemistry and Nutrition II	2
DH 146	Dental Materials Lecture/Lab I	2
DH 147	Dental Materials Lecture/Lab II	2
DH 148	Ethics and Jurisprudence	3
DH 149	Senior Project	5
Total Hours		131

Course Descriptions

DH 110. Oral Health Education. 2 Units.

Students are introduced to principles and practices of prevention and control of dental disease. The course emphasizes oral health promotion, to include plaque control, patient education and behavior modification.

DH 111. Head and Neck Anatomy I. 2 Units.

This course is designed to expand student knowledge of the anatomical structures of the head and neck. Students examine clinical correlations relevant for dental professionals.

DH 112. Head and Neck Anatomy II. 2 Units.

Continuation of Head and Neck Anatomy I. This course is designed to expand student knowledge of the anatomical structures of the head and neck. Students examine clinical correlations relevant for dental professionals. Prerequisites: DH 111.

DH 113. Dental Anatomy I. 2 Units.

Students study dental terminology, tooth morphology and the relationship of teeth in form and function to each other and to supporting structures. Root morphology, hard tissue charting, occlusion and dental anomalies correlated to basic clinical applications.

DH 114. Dental Anatomy II. 2 Units.

Continuation of DH 113. Students study dental terminology, tooth morphology and the relationship of teeth in form and function to each other and to supporting structures. Root morphology, hard tissue charting, occlusion and dental anomalies correlated to basic clinical applications. Prerequisites: DH 113.

DH 115. Oral Radiology Lecture. 2 Units.

This course is designed to examine the fundamentals of dental radiography. Topics include history, principles, legal considerations, and radiation safety. Clinical applications include exposure technique, film processing, preparing and interpreting dental radiographs. Students learn how to correct technical errors.

DH 116. Embryology and Histology I. 2 Units.

This course offers lectures, clinical examples, classroom discussions and slide materials designed to help students develop a knowledge of oral histology and embryology that is applied to the clinical practice of dental hygiene.

DH 117. Embryology and Histology II. 2 Units.

Continuation of DH 116. This course offers lectures, clinical examples, classroom discussions and slide materials designed to help students develop a knowledge of oral histology and embryology that is applied to the clinical practice of dental hygiene. Prerequisites: DH 116.

DH 118. Dental Hygiene Practice. 2 Units.

Students are introduced to the contemporary role of the dental hygienist, the evolving profession of dental hygiene, and procedures and techniques that are utilized in the dental hygiene process of care. Emphasis is placed on development of a comprehensive medical and dental database and history, diagnostic tools, oral cancer examination, clinical systems and protocol, infection control, basic instrumentation and polishing, and patient communication.

DH 119B. Pre-Clinical Dental Hygiene. 2 Units.

Continuation of DH 119A. This course provides the opportunity for application of the information presented in DHYG 118. Students practice infection control, vital signs, oral cancer examination, instrumentation and other clinical skills using manikins and student partners.

DH 119A. Pre-Clinical Dental Hygiene. 5 Units.

This course provides the opportunity for application of the information presented concurrently in DH 118. Students practice infection control, vital signs, oral cancer examination, instrumentation and other clinical skills using manikins and student partners. Corequisites: DH 118.

DH 120. Oral Radiology Laboratory I. 2 Units.

Clinical applications of the concepts delivered in DH 115 take place during the laboratory experience. Content includes radiographic exposure technique, film processing, preparing and interpreting film and digital radiographs, and correcting of technical errors. Corequisites: DH 115.

DH 121. Oral Radiology Laboratory II. 2 Units.

Clinical applications of the concepts delivered in DHYG 115 take place during the laboratory experience. Content includes radiographic exposure technique, film processing, preparing and interpreting film and digital radiographs, and correcting of technical errors. Prerequisites: DH 120.

DH 122. Pharmacology I. 2 Units.

This course is designed to classify and study therapeutic agents commonly encountered and/or utilized in the practice of dentistry. Students learn chemical and physical properties, therapeutic effects, methods of administration, dosage, contraindications and side effects of these agents.

DH 123. Pharmacology II. 2 Units.

This course is designed to classify and study therapeutic agents commonly encountered and/or utilized in the practice of dentistry. Students learn chemical and physical properties, therapeutic effects, methods of administration, dosage, contraindications and side effects of these agents. Continuation of DH 122. Prerequisites: DH 122.

DH 124. Medical and Dental Emergencies I. 2 Units.

Students learn basic methods of medical and dental emergency prevention and management in the dental office. Emphasis is on recognizing signs, symptoms, and treatment of the more common emergencies which may occur in the dental setting. Drugs and equipment that are utilized in the management of medical emergencies are outlined. Students are trained in Basic Life Support Systems (BLS).

DH 125. Medical and Dental Emergencies II. 2 Units.

This course provides a continuation of DH 124, Medical and Dental Emergencies I. Students review methods of medical and dental emergency prevention and management in the dental office. Emphasis is on recognizing signs, symptoms, and treatment of the more common emergencies which may occur in the dental setting. Drugs and equipment are utilized in the management of medical emergencies are outlined. Prerequisites: DH 124.

DH 126. Medical and Dental Emergencies III. 2 Units.

This course builds on knowledge from DH 124 and DH 125. Students review methods of medical and dental emergency prevention and management in the dental office through case studies of previously studied conditions. Emphasis is on recognizing signs, symptoms, and treatment of the more common emergencies that may occur in the dental setting. Prerequisites: DH 125.

DH 127. Local Anesthesia/Pain Management I. 2 Units.

Students examine comprehensive information and skills that provide comfortable dental treatment. Local anesthesia and nitrous oxide-oxygen administration are explained and practiced.

DH 128. Local Anesthesia/Pain Management II. 2 Units.

Students examine comprehensive information and skills that provide comfortable dental treatment. Local anesthesia and nitrous oxide-oxygen administration are explained and practiced. Continuation of DH 127. Prerequisites: DH 127.

DH 129B. Dental Hygiene Practice I Lecture/Lab. 2 Units.

This lecture/lab course is designed to provide students lecture and lab experience in the dental hygiene process of care for child, adolescent, adult and geriatric patients. Promotion of oral health and wellness is stressed through lecture and case studies. The principles, rationale and application of sealants and glass ionomers, area specific cures, advanced fulcrums, piezo and magnetostrictive ultrasonic scaling, air-powder polishing and desensitizing products are discussed as well as cariology and fluoride delivery options. Students integrate knowledge and skills developed in DH 110, DH 118, and DH 129A. Prerequisites: DH 110, DH 118, DH 129A. Corequisites: DH 132B.

DH 129A. Dental Hygiene Practice I Lecture/Lab. 2 Units.

This lecture/lab course is designed to provide students lecture and lab experience in the dental hygiene process of care for child, adolescent, adult and geriatric patients. Promotion of oral health and wellness is stressed through lecture and case studies. The principles, rationale and application of sealants and glass ionomers, area specific cures, advanced fulcrums, piezo and magnetostrictive ultrasonic scaling, air-powder polishing and desensitizing products are discussed as well as cariology and fluoride delivery options. Students integrate knowledge and skills developed in DH 110, DH 118, DH 119A and concurrent course DH 119B and DH 132A. Prerequisites: DH 110, DH 118, DH 119A. Corequisites: DH 119B, DH 132A.

DH 130. Dental Hygiene Practice II Lecture/Lab. 2 Units.

This lecture/ labcourse is designed to enable students to expand their experience in treatment of the periodontally involved patient. Students refine techniques for patient assessment, treatment planning, patient communication, full mouth scaling, and non-surgical periodontal treatment. Desensitization techniques, and pit and fissure sealants, are introduced. Utilization of radiographs, local anesthesia and nitrous oxide sedation in patient care is further developed. Students integrate knowledge and skills developed in DH 129B , DHYG 143, and all previous course work to date. Prerequisites: DH 133. Corequisites: DH 143.

DH 131B. Dental Hygiene Practice III Lecture/Lab. 2 Units.

This course offers advanced didactic and laboratory instruction in performing treatment for a variety of clinical patient cases. State Board Examination requirements and protocol, are reviewed and simulated through practical exercises. Students integrate knowledge and skills developed in all previous coursework to date. Prerequisites: DH 131A. Corequisites: DH 135.

DH 131A. Dental Hygiene Practice III Lecture/Lab. 2 Units.

This course offers advanced didactic and lab experience in performing treatment for a variety of clinical patient cases. Students learn oral antimicrobials and diet analysis. State Board Examination requirements and protocol, are reviewed and simulated through practical exercises. Students integrate knowledge and skills developed in all previous coursework work to date. Prerequisites: DH 129B. Corequisites: DH 134.

DH 132B. Dental Hygiene Clinic I. 5 Units.

This clinic course is designed to provide students beginning clinical experience in the treatment of child, adolescent, adult, and geriatric patients. Promotion of oral health and wellness is stressed through clinical experiences in: patient assessment, dental hygiene care treatment planning, case presentation and implementation and evaluation of treatment outcomes. The principles, rationale and application of sealants and glass ionomers, the use of ultrasonic scaling, area specific cures, advanced fulcrums, desensitizing products and other treatment modalities are implemented. Cariology considerations and additional fluoride delivery options are also discussed and implemented for patient care. Students integrate knowledge and skills developed in previous courses. Implements the information learned in the concurrent courses: DH 129B, 125A and DH 128. Prerequisites: DH 129A, DH 132A. Corequisites: DH 129B.

DH 132A. Dental Hygiene Clinic I. 4 Units.

This clinic course is designed to provide students beginning clinical experience in the treatment of child, adolescent, adult, and geriatric patients. Promotion of oral health and wellness is stressed through clinical experiences in: patient assessment, dental hygiene care treatment planning, case presentation and implementation and evaluation of treatment outcomes. The principles, rationale and application of sealants and glass ionomers, the use of ultrasonic scaling, area specific cures, advanced fulcrums, desensitizing products and other treatment modalities are implemented. Cariology considerations and additional fluoride delivery options are also discussed and implemented for patient care. Students integrate knowledge and skills developed in previous courses DH 119A and DH 119B. Prerequisites: DH 119A, DH 119B. Corequisites: DH 129A.

DH 133. Dental Hygiene Clinic II. 11 Units.

This lecture/ lab/ clinic course is designed to enable students to expand their experience in treatment of the periodontally involved patient. Students refine techniques for treatment planning, root planing, and non-surgical periodontal treatment. Desensitization techniques, and pit and tissue sealants, are introduced. Utilization of radiographs, local anesthesia and nitrous oxide sedation in patient care is further developed. Students integrate knowledge and skills developed in DH 129B, DH 143, and all previous coursework to date. Prerequisites: DH 129B. Corequisites: DH 130.

DH 134. Dental Hygiene Clinic III. 11 Units.

This course is designed to provide advanced clinical experience in performing treatment for a variety of clinical patient cases. Students use local anesthesia, nitrous oxide, oral antimicrobials, and diet analysis. State Board Examination requirements and protocol, are reviewed and simulated through practical exercises. Prerequisites: DH 133. Corequisites: DH 131A.

DH 135. Dental Hygiene Clinic IV. 12 Units.

This course is designed to provide advanced clinical experience in performing treatment for a variety of clinical patient cases. Students use local anesthesia, nitrous oxide, oral antimicrobials, and diet analysis. State Board Examination requirements and protocol, are reviewed and simulated through practical exercises. Prerequisites: DH 134. Corequisites: DH 131B.

DH 136. Periodontics I. 2 Units.

Students are introduced to periodontology. Emphasis is placed on etiology, histology and epidemiology, diagnosis and classification of periodontal disease. Principles of periodontal disease preventive therapy, treatment planning, reassessment and supportive periodontal therapy are also introduced. Students learn under which circumstances referral to periodontal specialty practices is appropriate.

DH 137. Periodontics II. 2 Units.

Continuation of DH 136. Students are introduced to periodontology. Emphasis is placed on etiology, histology and epidemiology, diagnosis and classification of periodontal disease. Principles of periodontal disease preventive therapy, treatment planning, reassessment and supportive periodontal therapy are also introduced. Students learn under which circumstances referral to periodontal specialty practices is appropriate. Prerequisites: DH 136.

DH 138. Periodontics III. 2 Units.

This course is designed to enable students to enhance and develop knowledge and skills applicable to the treatment of patients with advanced periodontal disease. Concepts and treatment techniques of surgical and non-surgical periodontal therapy are stressed. Prerequisites: DH 137.

DH 139. Pathology I. 2 Units.

Students study the etiology, pathogenesis, and clinical features of diseases. Students learn to recognize basic tissue, reactions and lesions and describe them using professional medical terminology, and through data collection, learn to assist in the preliminary diagnosis of oral conditions. Emphasis is placed on lesions that occur in the oral and maxillofacial regions. However, general pathology introductions necessary to understand the pathologic processes of oral lesions and conditions will be discussed. Common systemic diseases that may manifest in the mouth or impact oral healthcare delivery will also be presented.

DH 140. Pathology II. 2 Units.

Continuation of DH 139. Students study the etiology, pathogenesis, and clinical features of diseases. Students learn to recognize basic tissue, reactions and lesions and describe them using professional medical terminology, and through data collection, learn to assist in the preliminary diagnosis of oral conditions. Emphasis is placed on lesions that occur in the oral and maxillofacial regions. However, general pathology introductions necessary to understand the pathologic processes of oral lesions and conditions will be discussed. Common systemic diseases that may manifest in the mouth or impact oral healthcare delivery will also be presented. Prerequisites: DH 139.

DH 141. Community Oral Health and Research I. 3 Units.

This course is designed to enable students to examine the principles and practices of oral health in diverse public health settings. Emphasis is placed on the role of the dental hygienist as an innovator and educator in community dental health programs with consideration to needs assessment, research study utilization, biostatistic application, program planning, and results evaluation. The social and professional responsibility of the dental professional with regard to public promotion of oral health and access to care is examined. Students design and implement a community-based research project that culminates in a class presentation and may be submitted to the professional association's table clinic competition.

DH 142. Community Oral Health and Research II. 3 Units.

Continuation of DH 141. This course is designed to enable students to examine the principles and practices of oral health in diverse public health settings. Emphasis is placed on the role of the dental hygienist as an innovator and educator in community dental health programs with consideration to needs assessment, research study utilization, biostatistic application, program planning, and results evaluation. The social and professional responsibility of the dental professional with regard to public promotion of oral health and access to care is examined. Students design and implement a community-based research project that culminates in a class presentation and may be submitted to the professional association's table clinic competition. Prerequisites: DH 141.

DH 143. Patient Management/Special Needs. 3 Units.

This course is designed to enlighten the viewer to the world of people with special needs, the issues they face, the programs in place to help them, and dental treatment modalities.

DH 144. Biochemistry and Nutrition I. 2 Units.

Students study basic principles of biochemistry and nutrition related to dentistry. Students complete patient dietary surveys and develop correctional nutritional plans.

DH 145. Biochemistry and Nutrition II. 2 Units.

Continuation of DH 144. Students study basic principles of biochemistry and nutrition related to dentistry. Students complete patient dietary surveys and develop correctional nutritional plans. Prerequisites: DH 144.

DH 146. Dental Materials Lecture/Lab I. 2 Units.

This course is designed to examine structure and physical properties of dental materials utilized in the practice of dental hygiene. Emphasis on concepts and principles of clinical application.

DH 147. Dental Materials Lecture/Lab II. 2 Units.

This course is a continuation of DH 146. This course is designed to examine structure and physical properties of dental materials utilized in the practice of dental hygiene. Emphasis on concepts and principles of clinical application. Emerging technology is introduced. Prerequisites: DH 146.

DH 148. Ethics and Jurisprudence. 3 Units.

Students study ethical theories and issues related to the practice of dental hygiene and professionalism. A personal philosophy of professional conduct, continuous quality assurance and self-assessment is explored. Fundamental factors necessary to practice within existing regulatory frameworks are stressed.

DH 149. Senior Project. 5 Units.

This course offers students the opportunity for supervised practical application of previously studied theory in a variety of settings. Through outside program affiliation, faculty assistance, and mentorship, students choose a specific area of dental hygiene practice to explore in depth. Students will develop a publishable paper on their topic and present on a research presentation day.