Dental Hygiene (DH)

Courses numbered 100 to 299 = lower-division; 300 to 499 = upper-division; 500 to 799 = undergraduate/graduate.

DH 311. Preclinical Dental Hygiene  5 credit hours
3 Classroom hours; 7 Lab hours. Presents the basic skills involved in the delivery of dental hygiene patient care, including infection control, disease prevention and instrumentation skills. Considers measures that can be employed to prevent oral disease and promote dental health. Laboratory instruction in instrumentation for removal of deposits from the teeth is included. Prerequisite: program consent.

DH 314. Introduction to Periodontics  3 credit hours
Covers the supporting structures of the teeth and an overview of both the biological and clinical aspects of periodontology. Enables dental hygiene students to recognize and differentiate periodontal health from disease, formulate appropriate treatment plans, select appropriate adjunctive therapies and recognize the role of the dental hygienist as a periodontal co-therapist in initial periodontal therapy and maintenance. Also includes periodontal surgery, antibiotics and antimicrobial agents, periodontal dressing, and sutures. Emphasizes the evaluation of a periodontal case study resulting in the development of a periodontal treatment plan. Prerequisite: program consent.

DH 317. Clinical Radiology  4 credit hours
3 Classroom hours; 3 Lab hours. Presentation of the theory of radiation production, usage and radiation safety. Development of skills in exposing, processing, mounting, evaluating and interpreting radiographs. Uses laboratory periods to gain proficiency in radiographic techniques.

DH 318. Oral Anatomy, Histology & Embryology  3 credit hours
Studies tooth morphology, arrangement, function and characteristics. Studies the development and microscopic anatomy of the oral cavity including hard and soft tissues. Emphasizes the role of morphology and embryology in the practice of dental hygiene.

DH 319. Dental Materials  3 credit hours
2 Classroom hours; 2 Lab hours. Covers the properties, uses, management and manipulation of dental materials. Includes laboratory experience with commonly used materials and procedures that are within the scope of dental hygiene practice. Prerequisite: program consent.

DH 331. Dental Hygiene Concepts I  3 credit hours
Prepares students to assess, plan, implement and evaluate the clinical care of patients. Emphasizes oral health promotion, dental hygiene diagnosis, emergency preparation, patient communication and motivation. Explores the development of professional behaviors and skills and further development of clinical skills. Prerequisite: program consent.

DH 332. Dental Hygiene Clinic I  3 credit hours
12 Lab hours. Providing patient care in a clinical setting. Stresses patient assessment, oral disease prevention and basic instrumentation techniques. Develops patient evaluation and treatment planning skills. Prerequisite: program consent.

DH 333. Dental Hygiene Clinic II  2 credit hours
Continued development of proficiency of clinical techniques emphasizing advanced periodontal instrumentation techniques. Class meets during summer pre-session. Prerequisite: program consent.

DH 334. Introduction to Evidence-Based Practice  2 credit hours
Cross-listed as NURS 325. Overview of the process of evidence based practice for health care. Emphasizes the discovery and analysis of evidence to support clinical practice. Open to nonmajors. Prerequisite: program consent.

DH 335. General and Oral Pathology  3 credit hours
Surveys general pathology of tissues and organs of human anatomy. Discusses dental pathology of the teeth, dental pulp and oral tissues with emphasis on clinical and radiographic recognition of those pathologies. Prerequisite: program consent.

DH 348. Clinical Skills Update  1-3 credit hours
Provides clinical remediation to graduate dental hygienists who wish to review and enhance clinical skills. Students develop a self-study plan to enrich their knowledge and skill above that offered in the dental hygiene core curriculum. Emphasizes identification of clinical skill level, development of remediation schedule, and self-evaluation skills. Student negotiates with dental hygiene program as to the hours of lecture and clinical practice needed to reach student’s goals. Graded Cr/ NCr. Prerequisite: must be a graduate of an accredited dental hygiene program.

DH 350. Pain Management  2 credit hours
Updates the practicing dental hygienist in the didactic and clinical administration of infiltration and block anesthesia and the use of nitrous oxide. Emphasizes the mechanisms of pain, a thorough understanding of the pharmacology of dental drugs and their interactions with the client’s current conditions and medications, and clinical experience in the administration of infiltration and block anesthesia. Prerequisites: must be licensed dental hygienist and graduate of an accredited dental hygiene program.

DH 360. Fundamentals of Advanced Professional Roles  2 credit hours
Enhances the knowledge base of the degree completion student in fundamental competencies for advanced professional roles in dental hygiene. Topics include electronic and written communication, professional writing, interprofessional education, and evidence-based practice concepts. Prerequisite: admission to the degree completion Bachelor of Science.

DH 407. Ethics and Jurisprudence  3 credit hours
The study of laws governing the practice of dentistry and dental hygiene as well as the economics and the ethics of the profession. Includes application of ethical principles to real-life situations as well as practice management guidelines and practice philosophies.

DH 410. Community Oral Health Management I  3 credit hours
Covers dental public health and community dental hygiene, focusing on education and prevention. Covers the professional philosophy and foundations of dental health education in a community health context, as well as in-depth study of certain aspects of dental public health such as fluoridation, epidemiology and program development. Students develop dental health education materials. Prerequisite: program consent.

DH 416. Pain Management  2 credit hours
Provides the theoretical and practical knowledge necessary for management of dental pain. Focuses on mechanisms of pain, control of dental pain through the administration of topical anesthetics, infiltration and block anesthesia; use of nitrous oxide and recognition of local anesthesia-related complications and emergencies. Prerequisite: HS 301.

DH 420. Educational Methodology in Dental Hygiene  3 credit hours
Introduces learning theory and methodology related to clinical, laboratory and didactic instruction in dental hygiene. Students gain experience using best practices in course design to develop and evaluate
teaching units and a course of instruction. Prerequisite: admission to the
degree completion Bachelor of Science.

DH 430. Curriculum Design, Evaluation and Management in Dental Hygiene Education 3 credit hours
Explores the theoretical and practical aspects of curriculum development, design, implementation and evaluation. Role of accreditation, classroom management, and faculty development and support are examined. Students develop a curriculum plan for a hypothetical dental hygiene program. Prerequisite: admission to the degree completion Bachelor of Science.

DH 431. Dental Hygiene Concepts II 3 credit hours
Emphasizes developing problem solving abilities, managing patients with special needs and diverse backgrounds, and managing emergencies in the dental office. Seminar discussion of current and advanced clinical concepts as well as other topics related to the treatment of special needs patients. Prerequisite: program consent.

DH 432. Dental Hygiene Concepts III 2 credit hours
Includes discussion of dental specialties and rationale for treatment prescribed by the dentist, principles of care for mentally and physically challenged and geriatric patients. Prerequisite: program consent.

DH 434. Dental Hygiene Clinic III 4 credit hours
16 Lab hours. Students continue to develop competency in intermediate dental hygiene skills. Principles of periodontal techniques, such as root planing/debridement and supportive techniques are stressed. Comprehensive treatment planning and implementation of comprehensive care focuses on the special needs patient along with a diverse patient population. Continued development of professionalism, management and critical thinking skills are emphasized.

DH 435. Dental Hygiene Clinic IV 4 credit hours
16 Lab hours. Opportunity to reach competency in all clinical skills focusing on the periodontal patient and pain management. Emphasis is on decision making, problem solving, critical thinking, providing treatment for an increased number of patients, and appointment and time management. Focuses on comprehensive dental hygiene care to a diverse population. Prerequisite: admission to program.

DH 440. Community Oral Health Management II 3 credit hours
Includes examination of dental health delivery systems in community settings, with a focus on management of oral health care in alternative practice settings. Students evaluate dental health delivery in various community settings and identify oral health problems in a group or community. Students give presentations on dental health education. Prerequisite: program consent.

DH 451. Issues in Dental Hygiene 2 credit hours
Analyzes various issues in clinical or community dental hygiene focusing on issues ranging from concerns within the local practice setting to national policy issues. Examines theories and applications uniquely suited to the oral health care delivery system. Prerequisite: admission to the degree completion Bachelor of Science.

DH 452. Population Health Management in Dental Hygiene 3 credit hours
Addresses the dental hygienists role in management of oral health for populations with limited access to care. Students focus on oral health program development through evaluation and oral health promotion and communication strategies specific to the population. Prerequisite: admission to Degree Completion of Bachelor of Science.

DH 456. Special Care Populations 3 credit hours
Integrates concepts associated with providing oral health care to special needs populations. Emphasis is on assessment, planning, implementation, and evaluation of care for individuals with developmental, physical, mental or medically compromised health