

DENTAL HYGIENIST



Associate of Applied Science Degree 10-508-1

This associate degree program prepares individuals for a career as a dental hygienist. The dental hygienist is a member of the dental team and helps individuals maintain oral health and prevent oral diseases. Under the supervision of a dentist, the hygienist inspects the mouth, removes stains and deposits from teeth, applies preventative agents, prepares clinical and diagnostic tests, completes dental x-rays, and performs many other services related to oral care. Dental hygienists counsel patients about preventive measures such as nutrition, oral hygiene and dental care.

After graduating from an accredited program, dental hygienist graduates are required to successfully complete comprehensive written and clinical examinations given under the direction of the State Dentistry Examining Board, the American Dental Association's Joint Commission.

Upon successful completion of this program, students will be able to:

- Model dental hygiene professional code of ethics
- Counsel clients/patients to reduce health risks
- Provide community oral health services in a variety of settings
- Manage infection and hazard control
- Assess data on all aspects of patient/client health using methods consistent with dental hygienist scope of practice and legal principles
- Formulate a comprehensive dental hygiene care plan in collaboration with the client and other health professionals
- Provide preventive and therapeutic services that promote oral health according to the needs of the patient/client
- Evaluate the effectiveness of the implemented client/patient dental hygiene care plan

Courses taken before semester 1		Credits
806-177	General Anatomy and Physiology	4
806-186 or 806-199	Introduction to Biochemistry or General, Organic and Biological Chemistry	4
806-197	Microbiology	4
801-136	English Composition 1	1-3
Credits		13-15
Semester 1		
508-103	Dental Radiography	2
508-113	Dental Materials	2
508-102	Oral Anatomy, Embry, Histology	4
508-101	Dental Health Safety	1
508-105	Dental Hygiene Process I	4
Credits		13
Semester 2		
508-106	Dental Hygiene Process 2	4
508-108	Periodontology	3
508-109	Cariology	1
508-110	Nutrition & Dental Health	2
801-198	Speech	1-3
Credits		11-13
Semester 3		
508-111	General & Oral Pathology	3
508-112	Dental Hygiene Process 3	5
508-114	Dental Pharmacology	2
809-198	Introduction to Psychology	3
Credits		13
Semester 4		
809-196	Introduction to Sociology	3

508-107	Dental Hygiene Ethics and Professionalism	1
508-115	Community Dental Health	2
508-117	Dental Hygiene Process 4	4
508-118	Dental Anxiety and Pain Management	2
Credits		12
Total Credits		62-66

General Education Courses

Code	Title	Credits
801-136	English Composition 1	3
801-198	Speech	3
806-186	Introduction to Biochemistry	4
806-177	General Anatomy and Physiology	4
806-197	Microbiology	4
809-196	Introduction to Sociology	3
809-198	Introduction to Psychology	3