

Dental Hygiene DHYG

Associate in Science Degree

Division of Science and Allied Health

Dr. Mary Turner, Dean

Mohr Hall 18

916-558-2271

D

Dental Hygiene

Program Information

The Dental Hygiene Program consists of 35-39.5 units of prerequisite courses in addition to 43.5 units of dental hygiene courses. The student must obtain an Associate in Science Degree in Dental Hygiene, and therefore, must satisfy any additional requirements for that degree. The program is accredited by the Commission on Dental Accreditation of the American Dental Association. The Commission is a specialized accrediting body recognized by the United States Department of Education and can be contacted at 211 East Chicago Avenue, Chicago, Illinois 60611. Program graduates are eligible to take the National Board Dental Hygiene Examination, which is administered by the Joint Commission on National Dental Examinations, the California RDH Examination, and other state and regional licensing examinations.

In addition to normal student expenses (tuition, books, etc.), the Dental Hygiene Program requires an expenditure of over \$4,900 during the two-year program for uniforms, instruments, and special supplies. More than \$3,500 will be needed at the beginning of the first semester. If this creates a financial burden, students should consult the Financial Aid Office for possible assistance several months before entering the program.

Career Opportunities

This program prepares the student for employment as a dental hygienist. The registered dental hygienist is a licensed, professional, oral health educator and clinician who works under the direction and supervision of a licensed dentist to provide preventive and therapeutic services for the control of oral diseases. Dental hygienists aid individuals and groups in attaining and maintaining optimum oral and general health through provision of services such as assessment of medical and dental conditions, oral hygiene education, oral prophylaxis - the removal of plaque, calculus, and stains from the teeth, and application of preventive agents such as fluoride and sealants. The dental hygienist may be employed in dental offices, schools, health care facilities, public health agencies, industry, and educational institutions.

Recommended Preparation

High school and college preparatory courses including algebra, biology, chemistry, and physiology are recommended.

Enrollment Requirements

Enrollment in the Dental Hygiene program is based on satisfactory completion of prerequisite courses with grades of "C" or better and submission of an application and official transcripts to the Dental Health Office. Prerequisite courses include:

BIOL 430 and 431, Anatomy & Physiology; BIOL 440, General Microbiology; CHEM 305 & CHEM 306, Introduction to Chemistry, with a cumulative minimum GPA of 3.0.

FCS 340, Nutrition or NUTRI 300, Nutrition; PSYC 300, General Principles; SOC 300, Introductory Sociology; COMM 301, Introduction to Public Speaking; ENGWR 300, College Composition and DHYG 100, Introduction to Dental Hygiene, with a cumulative minimum GPA of 2.5.

Completion of ENGRD 110, Efficient Reading, with a grade of "C" or better, or eligibility for ENGRD 310, College Analytical and Speed Reading, as determined by the Sacramento City College reading assessment process for all applicants who do not have an AA degree or higher. Courses taken for Credit/No Credit (C/NC) will be calculated into GPAs as a "C" grade.

Enrollment Process

Applications for enrollment and official transcripts supporting completion of prerequisite courses must be submitted to the Science and Allied Health Division by the posted due date. Enrollment applications and deadlines are available from the Science & Allied Health Division Office (Mohr Hall, Room 18 or 558-2271) or the SCC website at <http://www.scc.losrios.edu/~dental/>.

Completion of the enrollment eligibility requirements places the applicant in the random selection pool. Eligible students who are not selected for program enrollment will be considered alternates.

High school and college preparatory courses including algebra, biology, chemistry, and physiology are recommended.

Dental Hygiene

Associate in Science Degree

Required Program

Prerequisite Courses	Units
BIOL 430, Anatomy and Physiology	5
BIOL 431, Anatomy and Physiology	5
CHEM 305, Introduction to Chemistry	5
CHEM 306, Introduction to Chemistry	5
BIOL 440, General Microbiology	4
FCS 340, Nutrition (3)	3
or NUTRI 300, Nutrition (3)	
PSYC 300, General Principles.....	3
COMM 301, Introduction to Public Speaking.....	3
SOC 300, Introductory Sociology	3
ENGWR 300, College Composition	3
DHYG 100, Introduction to Dental Hygiene.....	0.5

First Semester (Fall)	Units
DHYG 101, Introduction to Clinical Dental Hygiene	4
DHYG 107, Dental Morphology	1.5
DHYG 104, Patient Education and Nutrition.....	2
DHYG 103, Oral Histology and Embryology.....	1
DHYG 109, Infection Control and Hazardous Materials.....	0.5

Second Semester (Spring)	Units
DHYG 117, Dental Radiology.....	3
DHYG 111, Clinical Dental Hygiene I.....	4
DHYG 112, Periodontics I	2
DHYG 113, Embryology- Head and Neck Anatomy	2

Summer Session	Units
DHYG 121, Clinical Dental Hygiene II.....	2
DHYG 127, Dental Materials	2

Third Semester (Fall)	Units
DHYG 134, Community Dental Health.....	2
DHYG 139, Pharmacology	2
DHYG 131, Clinical Dental Hygiene III	4
DHYG 132, Periodontics II	1
DHYG 138, Oral Pathology.....	2
DHYG 135, Clinical Seminar	1

Fourth Semester (Spring)	Units
DHYG 149, Ethics, Jurisprudence and Dental Hygiene Practice... 2	
DHYG 145, Clinical Seminar II.....	1
DHYG 141, Clinical Dental Hygiene IV	4
AH 104, Aging and its Implications for Health Care	0.5
Total Units Required	83

Associate in Science (A.S.) Degree

The Associate in Science Degree in Dental Hygiene must be obtained for graduation from the program.

NOTE: A grade of "C" or better in all Dental Hygiene courses is required for progression in the Dental Hygiene program and for recommendation to apply for the Dental Hygiene licensing examination.

Graduation Requirements

Additional courses are necessary to meet Graduation Requirements. These may include Social Sciences, Ethnic Multicultural Studies, Humanities, Language/Rationality-Communication and Analytical Thinking; Living Skills, and Competency Requirements.

Students must consult with a counselor to determine their individual educational plan.

Dental Hygiene (DHYG)

DHYG 100 Introduction to Dental Hygiene .5 Unit

Prerequisite: None
9 hours LEC

This course is an introduction to the practice of Dental Hygiene. Topics include vital signs, dental terminology, infection control, study strategies, and the expectations and concerns of the dental hygiene professional.

DHYG 101 Introduction to Clinical Dental Hygiene 4 Units

Prerequisite: See enrollment limitations.

Enrollment Limitation: Acceptance into the dental hygiene program and completion of BIOL 430, 431, and 440; CHEM 305 and 306 with grades of "C" or better, and with a cumulative GPA of 3.0 or better; completion of DHYG 100, FCS 340, ENGWR 300, COMM 301, PSYC 300, and SOC 300 with grades of "C" or better and a cumulative GPA of 2.5 or better; completion of ENGRD 110 or eligibility for ENGRD 310 as determined by the reading assessment process for all applicants who do not have an AA degree or higher.

36 hours LEC; 108 hours LAB

This course provides an introduction to dental hygiene concepts and procedures. Emphasis is placed on the assessment phase of patient care as well as on the theory and performance of basic dental hygiene instrumentation procedures.

DHYG 103 Oral Histology and Embryology 1 Unit

Prerequisite: See enrollment limitations.

Enrollment Limitation: Acceptance into the dental hygiene program and completion of BIOL 430, 431, and 440; CHEM 305 and 306 with grades of "C" or better, and with a cumulative GPA of 3.0 or better; completion of DHYG 100, FCS 340, ENGWR 300, COMM 301, PSYC 300, and SOC 300 with grades of "C" or better and a cumulative GPA of 2.5 or better; completion of ENGRD 110 or eligibility for ENGRD 310 as determined by the reading assessment process for all applicants who do not have an AA degree or higher.

18 hours LEC

Oral Histology and Embryology is the study of microscopic tissues and structures of the teeth, periodontium, and oral cavity as related to the clinical practice of dental hygiene. Extra time outside the normal school schedule may be required for professional meetings.

DHYG 104 Patient Education and Nutrition 2 Units

Prerequisite: See enrollment limitations

Enrollment Limitation: Acceptance into the dental hygiene program and completion of BIOL 430, 431, and 440; CHEM 305 and 306 with grades of "C" or better, and with a cumulative GPA of 3.0 or better; completion of DHYG 100, FCS 340, ENGWR 300, COMM 301, PSYC 300, and SOC 300 with grades of "C" or better and a cumulative GPA of 2.5 or better; completion of ENGRD 110 or eligibility for ENGRD 310 as determined by the reading assessment process for all applicants who do not have an AA degree or higher.

36 hours LEC

This course studies the principles and practices of preventing and controlling dental disease with emphasis on nutrition, plaque control, motivation, and chairside patient education.

DHYG 107 Dental Morphology 1.5 Units

Prerequisite: See enrollment limitations.

Enrollment Limitation: Acceptance into the dental hygiene program and completion of BIOL 430, 431, and 440; CHEM 305 and 306 with grades of "C" or better, and with a cumulative GPA of 3.0 or better; completion of DHYG 100, FCS 340, ENGWR 300, COMM 301, PSYC 300, and SOC 300 with grades of "C" or better and a cumulative GPA of 2.5 or better; completion of ENGRD 110 or eligibility for ENGRD 310 as determined by the reading assessment process for all applicants who do not have an AA degree or higher.

18 hours LEC; 27 hours LAB

Dental Morphology is the study of the formation, function, and structure of the teeth, and their supporting structures.

DHYG 109 Infection Control and Hazardous Materials .5 Unit

Prerequisite: See enrollment limitations.

Enrollment Limitation: Acceptance into the dental hygiene program and completion of BIOL 430, 431, and 440; CHEM 305 and 306 with grades of "C" or better, and with a cumulative GPA of 3.0 or better; completion of DHYG 100, FCS 340, ENGWR 300, COMM 301, PSYC 300, and SOC 300 with grades of "C" or better and a cumulative GPA of 2.5 or better; completion of ENGRD 110 or eligibility for ENGRD 310 as determined by the reading assessment process for all applicants who do not have an AA degree or higher.

9 hours LEC

This course emphasizes the legal and ethical aspects of infectious disease transmission and their prevention. Included is the necessary information to meet OSHA and CDC requirements for education on infection control and hazardous material management.

DHYG 111 Clinical Dental Hygiene I 4 Units

Prerequisite: DHYG 101, 103, 104, 107, and 109 with grades of "C" or better

Enrollment Limitation: Enrollment in the dental hygiene program.
36 hours LEC; 108 hours LAB

This is the clinical practice of oral prophylaxis through practical applications of procedures learned in DHYG 101. In clinic, students demonstrate various procedures on each other before applying them to patients: children over 5 years old and young adults. Techniques in patient education will be practiced. The lecture includes the rationale for more difficult traditional dental hygiene skills.

DHYG 112 Periodontics I 2 Units

Prerequisite: DHYG 101, 103, 104, 107, and 109 with grades of "C" or better

Enrollment Limitation: Enrollment in the dental hygiene program.
36 hours LEC

This is a course in periodontics which includes the identification of the normal periodontium and recognition of deviations from normal. It includes the etiology and principles of periodontal disease, examination procedures, treatment, and preventive measures.

DHYG 113 Embryology- Head and Neck Anatomy 2 Units

Prerequisite: DHYG 101, 103, 104, 107, and 109 with grades of "C" or better

Enrollment Limitation: Enrollment in the dental hygiene program.
36 hours LEC

This is a course of oral anatomy designed for the study of the head and neck structures or group of structures in relation to their function for the clinical practice of dental hygiene especially the areas pertaining to local anesthesia. Extra time outside of class may be required for professional meetings.

DHYG 117 Dental Radiology 3 Units

Prerequisite: DHYG 101, 103, 104, 107, and 109 with grades of "C" or better

Enrollment Limitation: Enrollment in the dental hygiene program.
36 hours LEC; 54 hours LAB

Topics in this course include the principles of dental radiology, including laboratory experience and clinical application of procedures involved in exposing, processing, interpreting, and evaluating dental radiographs. Extra time outside the normal school schedule may be required for field trips, conventions, and community projects.

DHYG 121 Clinical Dental Hygiene II 2 Units

Prerequisite: DHYG 111, 112, 113, and 117 with grades of "C" or better

Enrollment Limitation: Enrollment in the dental hygiene program.
96 hours LAB

This is the continued clinical experience in performing oral prophylaxis with wider variety of clinical cases, as well as case studies with the use of oral roentgenograms. Assignments in clinical X-ray will be provided.

DHYG 127 Dental Materials 2 Units

Prerequisite: DHYG 111, 112, 113, and 117 with grades of "C" or better

Enrollment Limitation: Enrollment in the dental hygiene program.
18 hours LEC; 54 hours LAB

This course is the survey of dental materials and techniques in using these materials in all phases of dentistry. This course is graded on a credit/no credit basis.

DHYG 131 Clinical Dental Hygiene III 4 Units

Prerequisite: Completion of DHYG 121 with a grade of "C" or better.

216 hours LAB

This course provides continued clinical experience in the provision of comprehensive dental hygiene services to a wide variety of patients with different medical and dental needs. The course focuses on progressive development of the student's skills in areas of dental hygiene assessment, diagnosis, treatment planning, preventive and therapeutic services, evaluation and time management.

DHYG 132 Periodontics II 1 Unit

Prerequisite: DHYG 121 and 127 with grades of "C" or better

Enrollment Limitation: Enrollment in the dental hygiene program.
54 hours LAB

This course will develop clinical skills applicable in the treatment of patients with advanced periodontal disease. The course includes demonstrations and performance of tasks on appropriate laboratory materials. It also includes working with a periodontist in the clinical setting using expanded functions skills, including administration of local anesthesia and soft tissue curettage.

DHYG 134 Community Dental Health 2 Units

Prerequisite: DHYG 121 and 127 with grades of "C" or better

Enrollment Limitation: Enrollment in the dental hygiene program.
18 hours LEC; 54 hours LAB

Community Dental Health is the study of the philosophy and background of community dental health with emphasis on program planning, implementation, and evaluation. This course includes practical experience implementing programs in various community settings. Extra time outside the normal school schedule may be required for completion of community projects.

DHYG 135 Clinic Seminar 1 Unit

Prerequisite: DHYG 121 and 127 with grades of "C" or better

Enrollment Limitation: Enrollment in the dental hygiene program.
18 hours LEC

This seminar integrates more advanced concepts and skills into the clinical experiences of the third semester dental hygiene student. Emphasis is placed on development and implementation of comprehensive patient treatment plans, identification of resources to support evidence-based patient care, and critical thinking skills.

DHYG 138 Oral Pathology 2 Units

Prerequisite: DHYG 121 and 127 with grades of "C" or better

Enrollment Limitation: Enrollment in the dental hygiene program.
36 hours LEC

This course is the introduction to general pathology with a special emphasis on oral pathology.

DHYG 139 Pharmacology 2 Units

Prerequisite: DHYG 121 and 127 with grades of "C" or better
Enrollment Limitation: Enrollment in the dental hygiene program.
36 hours LEC

Pharmacology is the classification and study of drugs according to origin, physical and chemical properties, therapeutic effect and values, particularly of drugs utilized in dentistry.

DHYG 141 Clinical Dental Hygiene IV 4 Units

Prerequisite: DHYG 131, 132, 134, 135, 138, and 139 with grades of "C" or better
Enrollment Limitation: Enrollment in the dental hygiene program.
216 hours LAB

This course is the continued clinical experience in performing oral prophylaxis, oral roentgenographic surveys, charting cases, and patient education. The clinical experience is related to all aspects of dentistry.

DHYG 145 Clinic Seminar II 1 Unit

Prerequisite: DHYG 131, 132, 134, 135, 138, and 139 with grades of "C" or better
Enrollment Limitation: Enrollment in the dental hygiene program.
54 hours LAB

This course provides instruction in nitrous oxide/oxygen analgesia and caries detection. Students develop their critical thinking skills through the discussion of problems and special interest cases encountered in clinical experience. There will be presentations from outside speakers. Extra time outside the normal school schedule is required for students to participate in such activities as dental health faire screenings.

DHYG 149 Ethics, Jurisprudence and Dental Hygiene Practice 2 Units

Prerequisite: DHYG 131, 132, 143, 135, 138, and 139 with grades of "C" or better.
Enrollment Limitation: Enrollment in the Dental Hygiene Program.
36 hours LEC

This course is the study of the fundamental factors necessary to be employed and practice within the ethical and legal framework of the California State Dental Practice Act and the code of ethics of the American Dental Hygienists' Association. Extra time outside the normal school schedule may be required to complete projects and assignments.

DHYG 295 Independent Studies in Dental Hygiene 1-3 Units

Prerequisite: See enrollment limitations.
Enrollment Limitation: Enrollment in the Dental Hygiene program.
162 hours LAB

This course is designed to provide a mechanism for current dental hygiene students to complete independent studies in dental hygiene education.

DHYG 299 Experimental Offering in Dental Hygiene .5-5 Units

See Experimental Offering