Dental Hygiene

College of Allied Health & Nursing
Department of Dental Hygiene
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Chair: Lynnette Engeswick

The dental hygiene curriculum is designed to provide opportunities for the student to develop a sound clinical and theoretical foundation for the practice of dental hygiene. The graduate is prepared to fulfill the dental hygiene roles as clinician, change agent, educator, researcher and consumer advocate as put forth by the American Dental Hygienists’ Association.

The program is designed to meet the American Dental Association’s Commission on Dental Accreditation Standards for Dental Hygiene, and offers a Bachelor of Science degree upon completion.

Admission to Major. Application for admission to the Dental Hygiene program is a separate process in addition to being admitted to the University. Requirements for application for admission to the dental hygiene major are:

1. Completion of at least 36 semester credits.
2. A minimum career grade-point average of 2.5.
3. Successful completion of prerequisites of SPEE 100 or 102, ENG 101, PSYC 101, SOC 100 or 101, BIOL 220, MATH 112 and two of these three courses: BIOL 270, BIOL 230, or CHEM 111.

The application form may be obtained from the Dental Hygiene Department secretary or a Dental Hygiene faculty member. The number of students admitted to the Dental Hygiene major is limited to 24 students admitted each fall semester. Applications are accepted primarily based on academic achievement in prerequisite courses with an emphasis placed on the science courses.

DENTAL HYGIENE BS

Required General Education (40 credits):

ENG 101 Composition (4)#
SPEE 100 Fundamentals of Speech Communication (3)# OR SPEE 102 Public Speaking (3)#
CHEM 111 Chemistry of Life Processes (5)^
BIOL 270 Microbiology (4)^
PSYC 101 Psychology (4)#
SOC 100 Social Problems (3)# OR SOC 101 Introduction to Sociology (3)#
HLTH 101 Health and the Environment (3)~
REHB 110 Sensitivity to Disability (3)
PHIL 222 Medical Ethics (3) OR PHIL 120 Introduction to Ethics (3)
MATH 112 College Algebra (4)#
COMS 100 Introduction to Comp Science (4)~

Required for Major (23-25 credits):

BIOL 220 Human Anatomy (4)#
BIOL 230 Human Physiology (4)^
FCS 240 Nutrition I (3)~
HLTH 321 Medical Terminology (3)

Choose one course from the following:

HLTH 455 Health and Aging (3)
BIOL 417 Biology of Aging and Chronic Diseases (3)
SOC 404 Sociology of Aging (3)

Choose one course from the following:

HLTH 475 Biostatistics (3)
PSYC 201 Statistics for Psychology (4)
SOC 202 Introduction to Social Statistics (3)
ECON 207 Business Statistics (4)

Choose one course from the following:

HLTH 361 Health Communications (3)
ENG 271 Technical Communication (4)

#Prerequisites must be successfully completed before applying.
^Two of these three courses must be successfully completed prior to submitting an application to the Dental Hygiene Program. The third course must be successfully completed prior to enrolling in dental hygiene courses.
~ Must be successfully completed prior to enrolling in dental hygiene courses.

Required Electives:
Electives to yield a total of 128 semester credits are required.

POLICIES/INFORMATION

P/N Grading Policy. All courses required for Dental Hygiene must be taken for a letter grade and a letter grade of C or higher must be achieved. A grade of D or F in a Dental Hygiene course will result in academic suspension from the program. Completion of course numbers 326 forward requires successful completion of previous Dental Hygiene courses obtaining a "C" or better in order to continue in the Dental Hygiene program.

Costs. A student in the dental hygiene program should be prepared to spend about $300 each semester for books and supplies. An additional $2,200+ will be spent for instruments, gloves, uniforms, etc. Approximately 50 percent is paid before beginning the program. Upon acceptance to the program a deposit of $100 is required. The remainder is due in July of the same year.

Dental hygienists are at risk for exposure to blood borne pathogens (BBP). Accepted students will be required to be vaccinated against hepatitis B and will also be required to have their blood tested following any exposures to BBP through needle sticks, cuts or splashes that occur at the MSU Dental Clinic or any off-site clinical sites. Currently the vaccine series costs approximately $150. Students must successfully complete a CPR course prior to enrolling fall semester.

COURSE DESCRIPTIONS

DHYG 311 (3) Preclinical Orientation
This course includes an introduction to dental terminology and clinical aspects of dental hygiene treatment including care and use of equipment/instruments, infection control and preparation of patient records.
Pre: Admission into Dental Hygiene and Dental Terminology packet

DHYG 313 (3) Clinical Skills Development
This course will teach the operative techniques needed to perform oral prophylactic procedures and health education through laboratory/clinical practice.
Pre: Admission into Dental Hygiene

DHYG 319 (2) Head and Neck Anatomy
Head and Neck Anatomy is the study of the hard and soft tissues of the head and neck including bones, muscles, nerves, blood supply, and glands, and their function.
Pre: Admission into Dental Hygiene

DHYG 321 (3) Radiography I
This course includes production of dental radiographs, physics of x-radiation, biologic effects, interpretation, processing, mounting, and laboratory practice on mannequins and patients. Special attention is given to infection control, safety precautions, and patient selection.
Pre: Admission into Dental Hygiene

DHYG 325 (2) Dental Anatomy
This course includes the study of the permanent, mixed and primary dentitions including each individual tooth’s morphology, function and occlusion.
Pre: Admission into Dental Hygiene

DHYG 326 (4) Dental Materials
Dental materials is the study of the fundamental elements, purposes and uses of the materials used in the modern dental office.

DHYG 327 (2) Periodontology I
This course will include a study of supporting tooth structures, identification, classification, etiology, progression and treatment of periodontal diseases.

DHYG 328 (1) Radiography Practicum
This course provides practical experience in the production of radiographs on patients in the clinical setting. This course also includes interpretation of radiographs.

DHYG 329 (4) Oral Histology, Embryology and Pathology
Oral Histology and Embryology deals with the development of the face and the hard and soft tissues of the oral cavity. Oral Pathology deals with the causes and mechanisms of disease with special emphasis on common oral lesions and neoplasms stressing their etiology and clinical manifestations.

DHYG 331 (2) Clinical Dental Hygiene I
This course provides an opportunity for dental hygiene students to develop their roles as educators, clinicians, consumer advocates, change agents, researchers, and administrators in a clinical setting.

DHYG 332 (2) Clinical Seminar I
This course includes the study of treatment planning, oral health education, ultrasonic scalers, cardiology, sealants, and new products. Library use and writing a research paper are also included.

DHYG 333 (2) Clinical Dental Hygiene IS
This course offers the student continued practice of dental hygiene treatment procedures in the MSU Dental Clinic.

DHYG 421 (3) Clinical Dental Hygiene II
This course offers the student continued practice of dental hygiene treatment procedures in the MSU Dental Clinic. It includes several mandatory off-campus experiences.

DHYG 422 (2) Clinical Seminar II
This course focuses on clinical procedures, educational techniques and legal and ethical issues as they apply to the patient-dental hygiene provider relationship.

DHYG 423 (3) Pharmacology
Pharmacology is the study of drugs used in dentistry or medicine for the treatment, prevention and diagnosis of disease.

DHYG 425 (3) Community Dental Health
This course introduces second year dental hygiene students to the disciplines and basic principles of community dental health, epidemiologic methods and biostatistical measurement analysis. Preventive oral health measures and program development is included to provide a background for the practical application of dental public health methods to the community.

DHYG 427 (2) Periodontology II
Didactic and clinical study of etiology, diagnosis, preventive and therapeutic procedures involved with periodontal disease.

DHYG 431 (3) Clinical Dental Hygiene III
This course offers the student continued practice of dental hygiene treatment procedures in the MSU Dental Clinic. It includes several mandatory off-campus experiences.

DHYG 432 (2) Clinical Seminar III
This course focuses on the development of a personal sense of responsibility for the well-being and development of one’s workplace from an employee perspective.

DHYG 433 (2) Pain Control
Pain control deals with methods of alleviating or controlling pain and discomfort during dental and dental hygiene services, focusing on local anesthesia and nitrous oxide sedation.

DHYG 435 (2) Community Practicum
This course focuses on the role of dental hygiene practitioners in promoting optimal oral health at the individual level and in the community.

DHYG 437 (1) Medically Compromised/Special Needs Patients
This course addresses the care of patients with major disabling conditions.

DHYG 499 (1–6) Individual Study