

Tawana Nowak
ASDH Program

Instructional length of program with justification

The program is a two-year rigorous program with a heavy concentration on science, which is why classes are divided by a cohort of students learning together. It is highly recommended that all of the required prerequisites are taken prior to being accepted into the program, in order to decrease class load per semester. The program is designed to provide students with the knowledge and skills needed to become a valuable asset to the dental hygiene community.

Courses offered each semester and credits per course

- **YEAR ONE**

Semester 1 SUMMER

FUNDAMENTALS OF ANATOMY AND PHYSIOLOGY 1	3
DENTAL AND MEDICAL EMERGENCIES	2
TOTAL	5

Semester 2 Fall

CHEMISTRY/LAB	4
PRE-CLINICAL DENTAL HYGIENE	4
DENTAL HEAD AND NECK ANATOMY	3
DENTAL RADIOLOGY	3
TOTAL	14

Semester 3 Spring

ANATOMY & PHYSIOLOGY 2/LAB	4
ELEMENTS OF MICROBIOLOGY/LAB	4
ORAL EMBRYOLOGY & HISTOLOGY	2
CLINICAL SERVICES 1	4
PERIODONTOLOGY	2
TOTAL	16

Semester 4 Summer

*ENGLISH COMPOSITION	3
GENERAL PSYCHOLOGY	3
DENTAL PHARMACOLOGY & PAIN CONTROL	2
LOCAL ANESTHESIA	1
TOTAL	9

- **YEAR TWO**

- **Semester 5 Summer (2)**

INTRODUCTION TO STATISTICS	3
NUTRITION	3
TOTAL	6

- **Semester 6 Fall**

CLINICAL SERVICES 2	4
PERIODONTOLOGY 2	2
ORAL PATHOLOGY	3
SUPPORTIVE THERAPIES	3
TOTAL	12

- **Semester 7 Spring**

*PUBLIC SPEAKING	3
DENTAL PUBLIC HEALTH	3
CLINICAL SERVICES 3	4
* INTRODUCTION TO SOCIOLOGY	3
TOTAL	13
PROGRAM TOTAL	75

- **Verification of the four types of courses**

In keeping in accordance with the Accreditation Standards for Dental Hygiene Education, the curriculum incorporates the following four areas: general education, biomedical sciences, dental sciences, and dental hygiene sciences.

- **Justification of course sequencing**

The ability for the students to maintain recommended 2.75 per class was taken into consideration when developing the course load. To ensure that students are not overwhelmed an extra semester was added in the summer in order to lighten the amount of courses per semester.

- **Clinical hours to meet clinical competencies**

The program is in line with the required number of clinical hours, as well as hours of curriculum in accordance with the American Dental Hygiene Education. Time has been allotted for students to complete 2,932 clock hours of curriculum, and 659 hours of supervised clinic.

- **Placement of critical thinking and decision making skills**

The courses in which students will engage in critical thinking and require decision making skills have been coupled with the courses that will enhance their ability to do so. Students will be graded on their ability to develop treatment plans and provide nutritional counseling for patients, which will help them in determining the best course of action for their patients. Students will be able to utilize what is learned to further their career in the dental profession.

- **Identify barriers to curriculum development**

It is highly recommended that all prerequisites are taken prior to entering the program however, it is not required making this a possible barrier for some students. The addition of courses to the cohort program could place the students at a disadvantage to other cohorts, by making their course load too stressful. This will also help students to complete the program within the two years with their Associates Degree.