

# DENTAL HYGIENE

Dental hygienists are licensed health care professionals that specialize in preventing oral health problems and diseases. To become a licensed, registered dental hygienist requires successful completion of an ADA accredited dental hygiene program, The National Dental Hygiene Board Examination, and a state or regional examination. The primary responsibility of a dental hygienist is to treat and educate patients in the control and prevention of oral diseases. Typical functions of the clinical dental hygienist include assessment of health histories, evaluating and charting oral conditions, removing deposits (plaque, tartar, and stain) from the teeth, exposing and processing dental x-rays, applying preventive agents to the tooth surfaces such as fluoride and sealants, and providing individualized oral hygiene instruction services.

This growing career field is projected to be one of the 30 fastest growing occupations. The population growth combined with the increasing rate of retention of natural teeth will continue to stimulate the need for dental hygienist. For additional information on the profession of dental hygiene, contact the American Dental Hygienists' Association (<http://www.adha.org>).

## Program Policies

### Academic Advising

The division director and faculty serve as student advisors. The advisor can assist the student to recognize and acknowledge that he or she is in academic difficulty and can provide appropriate guidance. At all times, the faculty member can act to reassure, counsel, advise and refer students to appropriate individuals for help with their particular problem. Topics that may be addressed through faculty advising include academic issues, program policies, study problems, time management, and clinical progress, as well as the advisor's referral to other support systems in the university or community.

### Academic Warning

The Academic Performance Committee meets twice per semester to review students' academic progress in the program. At the mid-semester meeting, students identified as performing at an unsatisfactory level in any course are sent a letter from the program director requesting that they meet with their course instructor and academic advisor. An academic warning, unto itself, does not require prescribed action on the part of the student. It is expected that the student who has received an academic warning will correct mid-semester academic deficiencies by the end of that particular semester.

An academic warning is an official communication between the program director and the "at risk" student. Academic warning is offered at mid-semester. Academic warning is a courtesy to the student, allowing for supportive dialog between the student and the dental hygiene administration.

### Advancement, Probation and Dismissal

A satisfactory rate of progress toward the degree is determined by the Academic Performance Committee (APC) for the bachelor's degree according to the following standards. A student can be considered for dismissal from the School of Dentistry for academic deficiencies or violation of University regulations. The Academic Performance Committee is responsible for considering students for academic dismissal. Students may be suspended, dismissed, and/or refused readmission at any time if circumstances of an ethical, legal, moral,

health, social, psychomotor skill development, or academic nature are considered to justify such an action.

**Academic Dismissal:** An option to appear before the Academic Performance Committee will be extended to the student before a vote is taken to recommend academic dismissal. The purpose of the appearance is to inform the Committee of extenuating circumstances which may have contributed to the student's performance. The student may request that other appropriate verbal and/or written testimony regarding these circumstances be presented at this meeting. Only members of the Committee will be present when the vote for dismissal is taken.

**Performance Review:** Each student's performance is reviewed at the middle and end of every term by the APC. At mid-term the APC determines whether the student is progressing satisfactorily or whether a warning letter is indicated. Warning letters specify each course in which the student is performing unsatisfactorily and suggest that the student meet with the course director to assist in remediation strategies. Students are responsible for arranging instructor counseling and assistance in remedying any academic deficiencies.

**Promotion Recommendations:** At semester's end, the APC determines the student's promotion status. The APC evaluates other aspects of the student's performance: (1) course grade(s), (2) attendance record, (3) professionalism, (4) and psychomotor skill development. The APC also may assess extenuating circumstances that might have affected student progress on an individual basis. Recommendations are forwarded to the program director for final approval. A student performing at an unsatisfactory level will receive written notification of her/his status from the Associate Dean of Academic Affairs.

The policies below apply to students in the bachelor's degree programs (entry-level and degree completion).

**Unconditional Advancement** – A student may be considered for Unconditional Advancement if the student:

- Achieves a minimum grade point average of 2.0 each semester,
- Successfully completes all prescribed courses and semester requirements, and
- Earns a satisfactory grade in each course taken.

In addition, the faculty will consider all areas listed above under Promotion Recommendations.

**Probationary Advancement** – A student may be considered for Probationary Advancement if the student:

- Withdraws from a prescribed course with the approval of the department chair but meets all other conditions for Unconditional Advancement (bachelor completion only),
- Receives an unsatisfactory grade in a single course; or
- Receives an I (Incomplete) grade in any course(s).

A student who receives an unsatisfactory grade in any course may be required to repeat all or part of the academic year. When repeating any portion of the academic year the student must earn a satisfactory grade in each course or be subject to dismissal from the program.

**Dismissal** – Dismissal from the program may be recommended if a student receives an unsatisfactory grade(s) in:

- One or more courses in one semester,
- A course being repeated,

- A course being remediated,
- Any course taken while repeating any portion of the academic year, or
- Any course taken while on probation
- Receiving an unsatisfactory or failing grade in professionalism

## Appeal Procedures

1. A student may appeal an Academic Performance Committee decision that recommends: a) remediation, b) repetition of the year or c) academic dismissal. The student submits written notification of his/her desire to appeal to the Dean's office. This written request must be received by the Dean's office within 5 days following the student's receipt of the written notification of the Academic Performance Committee's recommendation.

2. The Dean will consult with appropriate individuals and render a decision to uphold or overturn the Academic Performance Committee decision. The student will receive written notification of the Dean's decision.

Student appeals and grievances are handled through established policies and procedures for the School of Dentistry, outlined in the Academic Grievance Policies (<http://catalog.uthscsa.edu/generalinformation/generalacademicpolicies/grievances>) section of the Catalog.

## Grades

The standing of students in their work is expressed by the following grades:

A = Excellent

B = Above Average

C = Average

F = Failure

Grades in courses in which performance is graded an S (Satisfactory) or U (Unsatisfactory) are not used in computing grades point average.

A = 4 points

B = 3 points

C = 2 points

F = 0 points

The symbol I (Incomplete) may be recorded for a student who has not completed course assignments at the conclusion of the course.

## Grades in Clinical Rotation and Practicums

Clinical rotations and Practicums may be graded S (Satisfactory) or U (Unsatisfactory), or may be assigned a letter grade, depending on the department policy.

A grade of S or other designations of an acceptance grade is assigned if the student successfully satisfies the criteria for clinical courses. Failure to successfully satisfy the course criteria may result in a n I (Incomplete) or a U (Unsatisfactory) or a letter grade considered unsatisfactory based on departmental policy.

Criteria and time frame for removal of an I or U or other Unsatisfactory grade in clinical courses are determined based on clinical documentation and consultation with the Clinical Supervisor/Clinical Instructor. An I or U or other unsatisfactory grade may require that the student complete

an additional affiliation or other remediation that could extend the professional curriculum beyond the expected graduation date. More than one unsatisfactory grade is not allowed within the total clinical course sequence.

## Incomplete

A grade of I (Incomplete) may be assigned when a student has not satisfactorily completed all course requirements by the conclusion of the course. Unless the student has been granted a Leave of Absence, all incomplete work must be completed within one year, at which time the grade will be changed to the appropriate letter grade. When an I is issued pending a grade in a course that is a prerequisite for another course, the I must be removed before the student will be allowed to enroll in the next sequential course.

## Academic Grievance Policies

### Due Process Grade Assignment Disagreement

A student wishing to appeal the assignment of a grade must submit her/his grievance to the Course Director within seven (7) days of the grade assignment. The appeal mechanism for challenging a grade is limited to: (1) possible clerical errors in calculating or recording a grade, or (2) allegation of mistakes or unfairness in application of the published academic standards in the assignment of a grade. It is the responsibility of the student to substantiate her/his assertion that an incorrect grade has been assigned.

If the student's concerns are not resolved after a meeting with the Course Director, the student may submit a written appeal to the Division Director. The written appeal must be made within seven days of the student's meeting with the Course Director and must contain information to substantiate the assertion that an incorrect grade has been assigned.

If the disagreement is not resolved after meeting with the Course Director, the student may submit a written appeal to the Division Director within seven days of the Course Director decision. The written appeal must be made within seven days of the student's meeting with the Course Director and must contain information to substantiate the assertion that an incorrect grade has been assigned.

If the disagreement is not resolved at the division level, the student may submit a written appeal to the Department Chair within seven days of the Division Director's decision. The written appeal must be made within seven days of the student's meeting with the Division Director and must contain information to substantiate the assertion that an incorrect grade has been assigned.

If the disagreement is not resolved at the departmental level, the student may submit a written appeal to the Dean of the School of Dentistry within seven days of the departmental decision. If the Dean agrees to review the matter, he/she will review only that the appeal process was conducted appropriately. This School of Dentistry policy supersedes any other grievance policies, and decisions made in this process are final.

## Dropping a Course

There is a six course drop limit established by the Texas Senate (SB 1231). This legislation is applicable to all Texas public colleges and universities.

## Withdrawal from a Course

From the beginning of the third week to the end of the eleventh week of classes (or first week to the seventh week for summer term), a student may withdraw from a course and receive a W (Withdrawal) on her or his

transcript. Students who wish to withdraw must meet with their faculty advisor and the course instructor, fill out the course withdrawal form, and obtain necessary signatures.

Between the end of the eleventh week (or the end of the seventh week for summer term) and the last day of class before finals, students who wish to withdraw from a course must petition the faculty through a written request to the course instructor. The petition must state why the student is unable to continue in the course. Acceptance reasons for the withdrawal do not include dissatisfaction with the instructor or course or with the expected grade or performance. The faculty will approve or deny the request. If approved, the student will receive a W on her or his transcript. If the request is denied, the instructor will assign a final grade in accordance with the criteria that is applied to other student in the course.

The instructor may recommend to the Department Chair that a student be administratively dropped from a course when the instructor can show that circumstances warrant such action. The Dean must approve this request. If approved a grade of W will be assigned.

Also see policies on withdrawal from all classes, leaves of absence, and dismissals.

## Dean's Honor List

Students in the dental hygiene bachelor's degree program in the School of Dentistry with a grade point average (GPA) of 3.5 or greater for an academic semester may qualify for inclusion on the Dean's Honor List. In addition to the minimum GPA, Dean's Honor students must not have Incomplete (I) grades for an academic semester. Students must have completed at least 30 hours or 2 full academic years to earn honors.

## Student Mistreatment

Mistreatment of students will not be tolerated. Mistreatment, intentional or unintentional, occurs when behavior shows disrespect for the dignity of others and interferes with the learning process. Student mistreatment may take many forms all of which impact student performance. For more information click here. (<http://catalog.uthscsa.edu/generalinformation/institutionalpolices/studentmistreatmentpolicy>)

## Courses

### DENH 3004. Oral Anatomy. 2 Credit Hours.

The oral anatomy course is designed to provide the dental hygiene student with instruction in dental terminology and the anatomy of the teeth. Emphasis is placed on clinical considerations of oral anatomy relevant to dental hygiene practice. Includes one (1) lecture hour and three (3) laboratory hours per week. Course fees: Materials fee \$50.

### DENH 3006. Preclinical Dental Hygiene. 2 Credit Hours.

This course is an introduction to instrumentation techniques and basic clinical procedures. The course offers an opportunity to develop competency in fundamental clinical skills necessary to engage in patient treatment. Includes eight (8) clinical hours per week. Course fees: Lab fee \$10 Corequisites: DENH 3023.

### DENH 3007. Preclinical Teaching Practicum. 4 Credit Hours.

This course will provide students with an introduction to concepts of preclinical instruction. Instruction will include seminar and laboratory application sessions emphasizing theories of psychomotor skill development; diagnosis of performance problems; provision of feedback; identification of cognitive, psychomotor, and affective behaviors; and faculty calibration. This course requires formal agreement with a participating dental hygiene program prior to the beginning of class. (The didactic portion of this course is delivered through Canvas, Learning Management System) Course Fees: Practicum fee \$10 per hour.

### DENH 3015. Public Health Practicum. 4 Credit Hours.

This course is an opportunity to gain experience with oral health care delivery or promotion in a public health area. The course will include planning and execution of a project in the student's individual area of interest. One full day per week requires the Bachelor of Science Completion student to work in a public health setting in San Antonio or in their community. A formal agreement must be established with the participating public health clinic prior to the beginning of class. Course Fees: Lab fee \$10 per hour.

### DENH 3017. Clinical Teaching Practicum. 4 Credit Hours.

This course is an opportunity to gain experience with oral health care delivery or promotion in a public health area. The course will include planning and execution of a project in the student's individual area of interest. One full day per week requires the Bachelor of Science Completion student to work in a public health setting in San Antonio or in their community. A formal agreement must be established with the participating public health clinic prior to the beginning of class. Course fees: Practicum fee \$10 per hour.

### DENH 3018. Dental Radiography. 3 Credit Hours.

This course is an introduction to scientific principles of oral radiography including essential terminology, the production and absorption of radiation, X-ray unit function, imaging systems, processing, quality assurance, radiation biology, and protection. This course is designed to emphasize radiation health and protection principles and techniques of intraoral and extraoral radiography, exposing, processing, mounting, and critical evaluation of dental radiographs. Laboratory experience and clinical applications are emphasized. Includes two (2) lecture hours and three (3) clinical hours per week. Course fees: Materials fee \$50.

### DENH 3019. Preventive Dental Hygiene Theory. 3 Credit Hours.

This course is an introduction to concepts used in oral health instruction and patient education. Included in the course is the etiology of dental disease, plaque control, oral physiotherapy, methodology of oral health instruction, nutritional counseling, and patient motivational techniques. This course is designed to give the student an opportunity to develop skills which are necessary for teaching patients how to achieve optimal oral health and to offer experience in communication skills for interpersonal, professional and patient education interaction. The course will also provide an overview of current counseling recommendations to prevent dental and periodontal disease. Includes two (2) lecture hours and three (3) hours of lab per week.

### DENH 3020. Clinic 1 Seminar. 2 Credit Hours.

This course presents current theoretical perspectives in which to interpret and expand dental hygiene care. Topics included within the course are cultural diversity, instrument sharpening, communication skills, ultrasonic scalers, and air abrasive polishers. Other topics related to beginning clinical practice are also incorporated. Includes two (2) lecture hours per week. Corequisites: DENH 3021.

**DENH 3021. Clinic 1 Practicum. 3 Credit Hours.**

This course is a clinical experience in the practical application of patient education and oral prophylaxis techniques. Emphasis will be placed on comprehensive care for the simple patient classifications, including patient assessment, dental hygiene treatment planning, patient education, instrumentation, preventive therapies, and radiographic skills. Includes twelve (12) clinic hours per week. Course fees: Practicum fee \$10 per hour Lab fee \$30. Corequisites: DENH 3020.

**DENH 3022. Dental Materials. 3 Credit Hours.**

This course is a study of the materials and adjunct materials used in restorative dentistry and in various other specialty areas of dentistry to fabricate dental appliances and tooth restorations. This course includes lecture and laboratory components designed to help students develop an understanding of the composition, properties, structure, and manipulative variables of dental materials historically used in dentistry as well as the most current materials available. Emphasis is placed on practical, clinical applications of materials; the dental hygienist's role in educating patients regarding these materials; and the techniques for placement of the materials in the oral cavity. Also included is a discussion of the various categories of dental specialties and the materials used by each specialty. Includes two (2) lecture hours and three (3) lab hours per week. Course fees: Materials fee \$50.

**DENH 3023. Intro To Clinical Theory. 3 Credit Hours.**

This course is an introduction to the theory associated with clinical procedures and patient care. Topics include prevention of disease transmission in the dental setting and patient assessment skills such as vital signs, health history, and oral inspection. An introduction to ethics related to the dental setting is incorporated. Includes three (3) lecture hours per week. Corequisites: DENH 3006.

**DENH 3033. Structures Of The Head And Neck. 2 Credit Hours.**

The purpose of this course is to give dental hygiene students an appreciation of the anatomical structure of the head and neck region of the human body, which will serve as a foundation of anatomical knowledge that is essential for patient care and useful in understanding function, local pain, anesthesia, and oral pathology. Includes one (1) lecture hour and three (3) lab hours per week.

**DENH 3034. Periodontics. 3 Credit Hours.**

This course presents an in-depth study of the basics of periodontics. This course will include, but is not limited to, the following: the tissues of the periodontium, clinical assessment of the periodontium, classifications of periodontal diseases, identification of etiologic factors, the relationship of the immune response to the inflammatory process and pathogenesis of periodontal diseases, clinical indices used in periodontics, and systemic factors involved in periodontal diseases. Emphasis is placed on the clinical application of current theory. Includes three (3) lecture hours. Corequisites: DENH 3021.

**DENH 3035. Pharmacotherapeutics. 4 Credit Hours.**

This course integrates elements of dental hygiene care as they relate to the treatment planning for special patients, understanding pharmacological agents used in dentistry, and management of medical emergencies in the dental office to include: concepts and practice related to the prevention, recognition, and management of medical emergencies that occur in the dental office with specific emphasis on systemic disease processes; understanding drug groups, their mechanism of action, dosage, indication of use, adverse effects, drug interactions, oral side effects in the treatment of human disease process, and its application in the dental hygiene clinical setting. Includes three (3) lecture hours and three (3) laboratory hours per week. Course Fees: Materials fee \$ 50.

**DENH 3040. Histology/Embryology. 2 Credit Hours.**

This course continues the study of the oral cavity from a histological perspective. It includes the development and microscopic organization of the four basic body tissues in the formation of the oral cavity (i.e., development of the face, oral cavity, and teeth). This information is basic to the understanding of the histological changes arising from pathological alterations in the oral cavity. Includes two (2) lecture hours per week.

**DENH 4007. Clinical Administration Practicum. 4 Credit Hours.**

The purpose of this course is to present Bachelor of Science Degree Completion students with an opportunity to hone administrative skills in a clinical environment. There will be interactions with second-year dental hygiene students as well as with the second-year clinic coordinator. The course includes conference and clinical application sessions to expand and refine teaching and evaluation skills and clinic administration issues including outcomes assessment, quality assurance, and information technology. This course requires a formal agreement with a participating dental hygiene program at least six weeks to the beginning of class. To begin the process, contact the UTHSCSA program director. Completion of DENH 3007 Pre-Clinic Teaching Practicum is required or previous clinical teaching experience. The course instructor may waive the prerequisites course requirement based on previous clinical teaching experience. Course Fees: Practicum fee: \$10 per hour Open for Cross Enrollment on Space Available basis.

**DENH 4012. Oral Pathology. 3 Credit Hours.**

This course introduces the principles of human disease including pathogenesis, clinical appearance, and treatment. In certain instances, microscopic features will be discussed if they enhance the understanding of the disease process. A portion of the course is devoted to basic principles of general pathology. The majority of the course is an overview of oral pathology with an emphasis on the dental hygienist's role in the recognition of oral disease. Includes three (3) lecture hours per week. Prerequisites: DENH 3033.

**DENH 4015. Clinic 3 Practicum. 3 Credit Hours.**

A continuation of DENH 4022 Clinic 2, this course provides students the opportunity to incorporate all learning in providing comprehensive dental hygiene care for patients with simple to complex needs with emphasis on more complex cases, gain experience in the practical application of dental hygiene diagnosis, utilize preventive techniques in patient education skills, practice oral prophylaxis techniques including advanced scaling, implement various management techniques for the difficult patient, and improve efficiency and effectiveness in patient care. Includes twelve (12) clinic hours per week. Course fees: Practicum fee \$10 Lab fee \$30 Prerequisites: DENH 4012, DENH 4020, and DENH 4022 Corequisites: DENH 4016.

**DENH 4016. Clinic 3 Seminar. 2 Credit Hours.**

This course will provide the dental hygiene student with current theoretical perspectives in which to interpret and expand dental hygiene care. Advanced and adjunctive procedures for clients of special populations are presented in seminar format and build upon the basic concepts and skills learned during Preclinic, Clinic I, and Clinic II. Knowledge gained will be applied in clinical practice through new skill acquisition and expanded client care options. Professional ethical codes and major contemporary health issues facing the dental hygienist will be presented as well as legal aspects of health care and state Dental Practice Act requirements. Includes two (2) lecture hours per week. Prerequisites: DENH 4012, DENH 4020 and DENH 4022. Corequisites: DENH 4015.

**DENH 4017. Community Oral Health Practicum 2. 2 Credit Hours.**

This course is the continuation of the fall Community Oral Health Course Practicum 1 in which students apply public health/health education principles through implementing individual community oral health education projects, and through participating in service-learning activities outside the Dental School setting. Opportunities include rotations in public schools and in public health dental clinics. Emphasis is placed on students interacting with a variety of patients, including the physically and mentally challenged, indigent populations, and geriatric groups. Students gain experience in health education, as well as additional experience in providing clinical preventive services out in the community. Includes eight (8) clinic hours per week in off-campus rotations or community projects. Course fees: Practicum fee \$10 per hour. Prerequisites: DENH 4021.

**DENH 4018. Introduction to Research. 3 Credit Hours.**

This course is designed to provide the student with an opportunity to expand research knowledge in two dimensions; principles and applications. The course will consist of an in depth study of the research process, its contexts, design, data collection and communication techniques to provide learners with the analytical skills to interpret professional and scientific literature. Topics include: basic research terminology, critical evaluation of research design, methodology and sampling techniques, basic statistical calculations, data collection, and the application of evidenced based research to dental hygiene best practice. The course will also develop reading and writing skills within the context of face-to-face and/or virtual environments.

**DENH 4019. Practice Management. 2 Credit Hours.**

This course presents the fundamentals of dental practice for the transition from dental hygiene student to practitioner, including basic OSHA regulations and procedures necessary to be an OSHA compliance manager in private practice, maintaining a recall system, interpersonal relationships among members of the dental health team, resumé writing and interviewing skills, and computer applications to patient records. Emphasis will be on current issues in dental hygiene practice and on practical approaches to preparing students to enter the private practice setting as a member of the oral health team. Includes two (2) lecture hours per week.

**DENH 4020. Clinic 2 Seminar. 2 Credit Hours.**

This course is designed to provide the dental hygiene student with current theoretical perspectives in which to interpret and expand dental hygiene care. Advanced and specialized adjunctive procedures are presented in seminar format and build upon the basic concepts and skills learned during Preclinic and Clinic 1. Knowledge gained will be applied in clinical practice through new skill acquisition and expanded client care options. Case studies will be presented related to ethical issues encountered in clinical settings. Includes two (2) lecture hours per week. Prerequisites: DENH 3022, DENH 3035, DENH 3021, DENH 3034. Corequisites: DENH 4022.

**DENH 4021. Community Oral Health Practicum 1. 4 Credit Hours.**

Community Oral Health Practicum 1, offered in the fall semester, is the prerequisite course to Community Oral Health Practicum II offered in the spring semester. The purpose of this course is to instill in students the important role of the dental hygienist in the community, and to provide an understanding of the relationship of community oral health to public health. Students will have an opportunity to learn how to promote oral health and prevent oral disease in the community. Students will have an opportunity to learn concepts such as assessment, planning, implementation, and evaluation phases of community-based programs. During this course, the students will plan a community oral health education program that is implemented and evaluated during Community Oral Health Practicum II. Cultural differences, socioeconomic factors and barriers to health care are discussed in relation to developing preventive programs. In addition, students will have an opportunity to learn about federal and state public health programs and current public health issues. Community oral health programs for vulnerable populations such as indigent, geriatric, and special-needs patients are included. Also, students will have an opportunity to participate in community service learning activities that will allow them to provide clinical and educational services to underserved populations. The course includes three lecture hours and four clinical hours per week. Course fees: Practicum fee \$10 per hour.

**DENH 4022. Clinic 2 Practicum. 3 Credit Hours.**

A continuation of DENH 3021 Clinic 1, this course provides further opportunity to incorporate all learning in providing comprehensive dental hygiene care for patients with simple to complex needs with an emphasis on moderate cases. In addition, this course provides an opportunity for the student to gain experience in the practical application of dental hygiene diagnosis, utilize preventive techniques in patient education skills, practice oral prophylaxis techniques including advanced scaling, and implement various management techniques for the difficult patient. Includes twelve (12) clinic hours per week. Course Fees: Practicum fee \$10 per hour Lab fee: \$30. Prerequisites: DENH 3021, DENH 3022, DENH 3034, and DENH 3035 Corequisites: DENH 4020.

**DENH 4023. Special Topics. 1-3 Credit Hours.**

Students will be given an opportunity to gain an in-depth understanding of selected topics through seminars, conferences, projects, or other appropriate learning methods.

**DENH 4024. Concepts And Practice In Teaching. 3 Credit Hours.**

This course offered to Bachelor of Science Degree Completion students, introduces basic principles and techniques used in health care education. Topics include: issues and trends in professional education, principles of adult education, learning styles and motivation, case-based learning, competency-based education, patient and community education, clinical and laboratory instruction, course design, development of lesson plans and learning activities, guidelines for presentation skills, evaluating student performance, and using educational media and software. Open for Cross Enrollment on Space Available basis.

**DENH 4025. Advanced Periodontics. 3 Credit Hours.**

This course builds on the knowledge base presented in DENH 3034 Periodontics, and gives students the opportunity to expand their understanding of treatment, prevention, and diagnosis of periodontal disease. This course examines, but is not limited to, the following topics: the role of the hygienist in non-surgical soft-tissue management, exposure to surgical techniques, wound healing, new technology in diagnostic tools, and products used in treatment or home care. This course further emphasizes the integration of theory into the practice of clinical dental hygiene. Includes three (3) lecture hours per week. Prerequisites: Completion of first year dental hygiene coursework.

**DENH 4026. Healthcare Ethics. 1 Credit Hour.**

This course is designed to provide students with an overview of professional and ethical issues facing dental hygiene professionals. Topics to be explored include the beliefs, fundamental principles, core values and standards of professional responsibility set forth in the ADHA Code of Ethics for Dental Hygienists. Ethical dilemmas will be discussed and decision making models will be introduced and used to assist students in solving these dilemmas. Additionally, team-based learning activities will serve to support student learning.

**DENH 4027. The Summer Institute In Aging. 3 Credit Hours.**

This course is an intensive interdisciplinary service-learning study of the assessment, health promotion, disease prevention, and treatment of the aging person. The course will examine physical, mental, emotional, legal, cultural, and social aspects of gerontology. The course is also designed to encourage the learner to reflect on the impact of the elderly on society, the impact to the dental hygiene profession, and the learner on a personal level.

**DENH 4028. Public Health Policy. 3 Credit Hours.**

This course will provide the learner with a history and overview of American public health policy. Included in the course is the evolution of health policy in the United States. Various resources will be explored to gain understanding of the process for policy development. By the end of the term the learner will develop a mock public policy analysis, about a topic of their choice that will include elements discussed in the course. When appropriate this course will utilize new and emerging public health policies to supplement course material. Admission to the Bachelor of Science Degree Completion Program is required.

**DENH 4029. Dental Hygienist Role in the Management of Elder Abuse. 3 Credit Hours.**

This course will allow the learner to acquire the skills and knowledge to recognize the mistreatment of elders. First, the various types of elder abuse will be identified followed by discussion of the prevalence of abuse. Next, case study application will direct the learner in recognizing the risk factors and signs of elder abuse. The legal requirement and major ethical dimensions for the dental hygienist to report abuse will be explored, and an explanation of required abuse documentation will be provided. Finally, techniques for the dental hygienist may work effectively with law enforcement will conclude this course.

**DENH 4030. Introduction to Professional Writing. 1 Credit Hour.**

This course was designed to help the online bachelor completion student develop concepts of professional writing skills utilizing state of the art communication resources. This is a required course for BS completion students to be taken in their first semester of the program.

**DENH 4040. Dental Hygiene Honors Program. Credit Hours.**

This course is to introduce dental hygiene students to fundamental principles of teaching and learning with focus on planning courses, analyzing the learning environment, planning and presenting brief, focused mini-lectures, known as Rapid Teach Topics, and completing a Triple T (Tough Teaching Topic) exercise in small groups. Students also analyze their personality in relation to academics as a career.

**DENH 4045. Academic Dental Hygiene Career Mentorship. Credit Hours.**

This course provides dental hygiene students with an opportunity to explore first-hand the academic arm of the dental hygiene profession by learning about faculty members' pathways into academic teaching and eliciting faculty perspectives about working in dental hygiene schools.

**DENH 4050. Dental Hygiene Classroom Teaching Seminar. Credit Hours.**

The course goal is to provide senior dental hygiene students with opportunities to function as a teacher by planning and delivering instruction followed by: self assessment, feedback from the students who received the instruction, and feedback from the THP Director and/or faculty members who observed the students' teaching activities. The focus of this course is classroom teaching.

**DENH 4091. Independent Study. 1-3 Credit Hours.**

This course includes independent reading, research, discussion, project, and/or writing under the direction of a faculty member. The course may be repeated for credit. UTHSCSA graduates are limited to one Independent Study course; non-UTHSCSA grads are limited to two Independent study courses.

**DENH 4103. Health Promotion. 3 Credit Hours.**

This course provides the Bachelor of Science Degree Completion student a theoretical framework for defining health promotions and set the foundation for students to see potential for health promotions in their work. Topics in this course will use evidence-based practice to reflect health promotion theories, prevention, risk assessment, health education, and health policy. Additionally, interventions and strategies will be used to effectively evaluate the determinants of health and the outcomes of individuals, families, groups and communities. In addition this course will help learners understand the impact of media and delivery style for effective health messages.

**DENH 4111. Current Issues In Dental Hygiene. 3 Credit Hours.**

This course investigates trends influencing the practice of dental hygiene. The history and image of dental hygiene, career satisfaction, educational trends and access to care, independent practice and self-regulations are the issues addressed in this course. A closer look at the legal, political and ethical ramifications of these topic areas as they relate to the dental hygiene profession will be explored.

**DENH 4415. Advanced Public Health Practicum. 4 Credit Hours.**

This course is a continuation of the Public Health Practicum and will provide the Bachelor of Science Degree Completion students with an opportunity to gain further experience with oral health care delivery projects, development of health promotion and prevention activities, or gain advanced skills in designing community-based and service learning programs. This course will include planning and execution of a project related to the student's individual area of interest. Course fees: Practicum fee \$10 per hour.

**DENH 5003. Current Issues In Dental Hygiene. 3 Credit Hours.**

This course investigates trends influencing the practice of dental hygiene. The history and image of dental hygiene, career satisfaction, educational trends, and access to care, independent practice, and self-regulations are the issues addressed in this course. A closer look at the legal, political and ethical ramifications of these topic areas as they relate to the dental hygiene profession will be explored. Acceptance into the Master of Dental Hygiene Program is required to take this course.

**DENH 5007. Clinical Administration Practicum. 4 Credit Hours.**

The purpose of this course is to present the graduate student with an opportunity to hone administrative skills in a clinical environment. There will be interactions with second-year dental hygiene students as well as with the second-year clinic coordinator. The course includes web based interaction focusing on clinical application to expand and refine teaching and evaluation skills necessary for clinic administration. Specific topics include outcomes assessment, quality assurance, and information technology. Permission from the program director is required. The prerequisite requirement can be waived by the program director. Prerequisite: DENH 5050 Course Fees: Practicum fee \$10 per hour.

**DENH 5010. Teaching Internship. 3 Credit Hours.**

This internship will provide graduate students with the opportunity to teach in various clinics, laboratories, and didactic courses to acquire experience in instructing undergraduate students in a variety of situations. The course is arranged on a contractual basis and tailored to meet the individual goals, needs, and interests of each graduate student, while keeping in mind background experiences. Supervision and evaluation of teaching performance are provided by the graduate faculty. Student must have prerequisite or approval by Program Director. Prerequisite: DENH 5050 Course Fees: Practicum fee \$10 per hour.

**DENH 5015. Public Health Practicum. 4 Credit Hours.**

This course is an opportunity to gain experience with oral health care delivery or promotion in a public health area. The course will include planning and execution of a project in the student's individual area of interest. One full day per week requires the Master of Science student to work in a public health setting in San Antonio or in their community. A formal agreement must be established with the participating public health clinic prior to the beginning of class. Course Fees: Practicum fee \$10 per hour.

**DENH 5017. Clinical Teaching Practicum. 4 Credit Hours.**

This course is an introduction to clinical instruction. The student will have the opportunity to gain experience in identifying and correcting performance problems relating to direct patient care. Instruction will include seminar and a clinical application session emphasizing the instructor's role as facilitator, role model, and evaluator. This course requires formal agreement with a participating dental hygiene program prior to the beginning of class. (The didactic portion of this course is delivered through CANVAS.) Students must have taken DENH 5050 before registering for this course or get a waiver by the Program Director. Course Fees: Practicum fee \$10 per hour.

**DENH 5022. Research Apprenticeship. 3 Credit Hours.**

This course allows a graduate to review the literature and to design a research project under the direction of a faculty advisor that leads toward thesis research. Students are expected to design a research proposal that prepares them to collect and analyze data for their future thesis project. Prior to registering for this course requires approval from the advanced program director. This course must be completed in its entirety prior to enrolling in Thesis (DENH 6098). Successful completion of core studies for the Master of Science in Dental Hygiene program to include Educational Principles and Applications, Research Principles and Applications, Biostatistics, Research Ethics, and Professional Communication is required before taking this course.

**DENH 5024. Professional Communication. 3 Credit Hours.**

This course is designed to help the student develop concepts of professional communication including verbal, visual, and writing skills using state-of-the-art communication resources. Within an interactive topic and computer laboratory format, the students is expected to produce a series of scientific writings, abstracts, annotated bibliographies, and a term paper/research report in the form of a review of the literature. Open for Cross Enrollment on Space Available basis.

**DENH 5025. Dental Hygienist Role in the Management of Elder Abuse. 3 Credit Hours.**

This course will allow the learner to acquire the skills and knowledge to recognize the mistreatment of elders. First, the various types of elder abuse will be identified followed by a discussion of the prevalence of abuse. Next, case study application will direct the learner in recognizing the risk factors and signs of elder abuse. The legal requirement and major ethical dimensions for the dental hygienist to report abuse will be explored, and an explanation of required abuse documentation will be provided. Finally, techniques for the dental hygienist may work effectively with law enforcement will conclude this course.

**DENH 5026. Research Principles & Application. 3 Credit Hours.**

This course is designed to provide the student with an opportunity to expand research knowledge. The course will consist of an in depth study of the research process, its contexts, design, data collection and communication techniques. All students are expected to complete assigned readings and participate in on-line discussions and activities that will complement principles covered in assignments. Students must be accepted into the Master of Science in Dental Hygiene program to take this course.

**DENH 5027. The Summer Institute In Aging. 3 Credit Hours.**

This course is an intensive interdisciplinary service-learning study of the assessment, health promotion, disease prevention, and treatment of the aging person. The course will examine physical, mental, emotional, legal, cultural, and social aspects of gerontology. The course is also designed to encourage the learner to reflect on the impact of the elderly on society, the impact to the dental hygiene profession, and the learner on a personal level. Acceptance into the Master of Science in Dental Hygiene Program is required to take this course.

**DENH 5028. Public Health Policy. 3 Credit Hours.**

This course will provide the learner with an overview of American Public health policy, and the changes in policy as a result of international and national initiatives. Included in the course is the evolution of oral health public policy in the United States. Many resources will be explored to gain understanding of the process of policy development. The student will locate current event articles that discuss topics in the reading. Capstone projects vary from researching and submitting a public policy paper or white paper on a topic pertinent to the course work. Acceptance into the Master of Science in Dental Hygiene Program is required before taking this course.

**DENH 5036. Health Promotion. 3 Credit Hours.**

This course is designed to provide learners a theoretical framework for defining health promotion and set the foundation for students to see potential for health promotion in their work. Topics in this course will use evidence based practice to reflect health promotion theories, prevention, risk assessment, health education, and health policy. Additionally, interventions and strategies will be used to effectively evaluate the determinants of health and the outcomes of individuals, families, groups and communities. Student must be accepted into the Master of Science in Dental Hygiene Program to take this course.

**DENH 5050. Educational Principles and Application. 3 Credit Hours.**

This course is designed to promote high standards of teaching excellence by providing the learner with research based methods, policies, and practices for being an effective higher education teacher. The course will focus on all aspects of teaching: learning theories, course design, teaching methods and learning experiences, course management, and assessment. Specific emphasis will be on developing significant learning experiences for students. Gaining a better understanding of the design process will empower teachers to be more creative and effective in providing significant learning opportunities for students. Through this course, students will apply information gained and ultimately develop a personal educational statement. Acceptance into the Master of Science in Dental Hygiene Program is required to take this course.

**DENH 5091. Special Topics in Dental Hygiene. 1-9 Credit Hours.**

Students will be given an opportunity to gain an in-depth understanding of selected topics through seminars, conferences, projects, or other appropriate learning methods.

**DENH 5903. Organizational Leadership. 3 Credit Hours.**

The purpose of this course is to present foundational principles and theory relating to organizational leadership, communication strategies and behaviors, management of change, decision-making, and other essential elements of leadership. The course will provide students with general information relating to organizational theory, principles and styles. Additional topics will include leadership in educational organizations to include external and internal factors affecting leaders, program planning and as an elective and is open to all advanced education students enrolled in either the B.S. or M.S. Dental Hygiene Program and graduate students in other Health Professions Programs.

**DENH 5924. Biostatistics. 3 Credit Hours.**

This course is an introduction to biostatistics. Emphasis is upon application of statistical methods to biological problems. Topics include descriptive statistics, probability, hypothesis testing, and estimation.

**DENH 5926. Preclinical Teaching Practicum. 4 Credit Hours.**

This course is an introduction to concepts of preclinical instruction. Instruction will include seminar and laboratory application sessions emphasizing theories of psychomotor skill development; diagnosis of performance problems; provision of feedback; identification of cognitive, psychomotor, and affective behaviors; and faculty calibration. This course requires formal agreement with a participating dental hygiene program prior to the beginning of class. (The didactic portion of this course is delivered through Canvas.) Prerequisites: DENH 5050 and DENH 5010 Course Fees: Practicum fee \$10 per hour.

**DENH 6001. The Dental Hygienist Role in the Management of Elder Abuse. 3 Credit Hours.**

This course will allow the learner to acquire the skills and knowledge to recognize the mistreatment of elders. First, the various types of elder abuse will be identified followed by discussion of the prevalence of abuse. Next, case study application will direct the learner in recognizing the risk factors and signs of elder abuse. The legal requirement and major ethical dimensions for the dental hygienist to report abuse will be explored, and an explanation of required abuse documentation will be provided. Finally, techniques for the dental hygienist may work effectively with law enforcement will conclude this course. Acceptance in the Master of Science in Dental Hygiene Program is required before taking the class.

**DENH 6091. Independent Study. 1-3 Credit Hours.**

This course includes independent reading, research, discussion, project, and/or writing under the direction of a faculty member. The course may be repeated for credit. Student must be accepted into the Master of Science in Dental Hygiene Program before taking the course.

**DENH 6098. Thesis. 1-9 Credit Hours.**

The first goal of this course is admit the student to candidacy in the Graduate School of Biomedical Sciences (GSBS) in order that they may begin individual research. The research is supervised by the Thesis Committee of selected faculty. The Thesis Chair will have the primary responsibility of supervising student progress. By conducting an individual research project, collecting and analyzing the data, and developing conclusions based on that data the student will understand the research process. Students will be mindful of the ethical issues associated with human subject and conduct the research under the guidelines of the University of Texas Health Science Center's Internal Review Board (IRB) guidelines. Students who successfully complete the research project with an oral presentation of their findings and submission of a manuscript to a peer reviewed journal or write a thesis will conclude their studies and graduate. The student has an option of submission of a manuscript in the form of writing a full thesis. The thesis option must meet the guidelines of the GSBS. Student must have completed 30 hours of core and elective courses, DENH 5022 Research Apprenticeship in the MS in Dental Hygiene program before taking the course.