Dental Hygiene

Web Site: http://www.odu.edu/dental

Susan Daniel, Chair

The Gene W. Hirschfeld School of Dental Hygiene offers programs leading to the degrees of Bachelor of Science in Dental Hygiene (entry level and post-licensure) and Master of Science with a major in dental hygiene. The entry-level dental hygiene program is accredited by the Commission on Dental Accreditation.

Bachelor of Science in Dental Hygiene

The baccalaureate program in dental hygiene is designed to prepare men and women as professional dental hygienists qualified for positions in a variety of health-care settings and/or for graduate study in dental hygiene. A dental hygienist is a licensed professional and member of the oral health care team who provides services to promote optimal oral health. Dental hygienists serve as clinical practitioners, educators, researchers, administrators, managers, program developers, consultants, and/or dental product sales representatives, depending on the individual’s employment setting and educational background. In addition, dental hygienists with a bachelor’s degree may pursue careers in elementary and secondary schools, community and public health settings, institutional and industrial dental hygiene, professional education, and research. Other career opportunities exist in health maintenance organizations, community health agencies, private industry, and abroad with the Peace Corps, World Health Organization, and foreign governments.

Students successfully completing the Bachelor of Science in Dental Hygiene program (entry level) are eligible to take the national, state, and regional board examinations in dental hygiene to become a licensed dental hygienist.

The baccalaureate post-licensure curriculum is designed for the licensed dental hygienist who graduated from an accredited dental hygiene program with an associate degree or certificate in dental hygiene.

The School of Dental Hygiene reserves the right to require remedial work of any student who does not perform at a level satisfactory for patient care. Annually, students are required to submit documentation of a current background check, CPR certification and certain prescribed immunizations and diagnostic procedures. Students are strongly advised to obtain the hepatitis vaccine. The University maintains liability insurance on the students while enrolled in the School of Dental Hygiene.

Admission to Bachelor of Science in Dental Hygiene (Entry-level)

Applicants for admission to the baccalaureate program in dental hygiene should apply first to the Old Dominion University Office of Admissions by December 1 and to the School of Dental Hygiene through the American Dental Education Association’s Dental Hygiene Centralized Application Service (DHCA) by February 1. Students cannot be accepted into the dental hygiene program without first being admitted to the University. Admission to the University does not constitute admission to the dental hygiene program.

Students are admitted to the school after completion of lower-level General Education courses and department prerequisite courses. Transfer students may complete prerequisite courses at another college or university but are responsible for having a transfer credit evaluation completed by Transfer Evaluation Services to be used as documentation that transfer courses are acceptable. Applicants for admission to the School of Dental Hygiene should indicate on the application to the University their intention to enter the dental hygiene program.

Admission to the program is competitive. Admission decisions are determined by the BS Entry-level Admissions Committee of the School of Dental Hygiene on the basis of academic qualifications. Basic requirements and credentials for the Bachelor of Science program application are as follows.

1. Submit application to Old Dominion University with official high school and college transcripts, and required credentials to the Office of Admissions by December 1 prior to the anticipated entry year.
2. Submit all materials (official high school and college transcripts, two professional letters of recommendation forms, dental experience background information, and dental facility observation verification form) to the DHCA by February 1. All materials must be posted to the DHCA by February 1 to be compiled and transmitted to the School of Dental Hygiene Admissions Committee for review and decision. A list of all needed materials will reside on the DHCA website (http://www.dea.org/dhca.aspx).
3. Prerequisite courses for program entry must be completed with a minimum grade of C or better prior to starting the dental hygiene major. (A grade of C- in prerequisites will not transfer to the School of Dental Hygiene). Completion of lower-level General Education requirements will make the applicant more competitive in the application process.
4. A minimum overall grade point average (GPA) of 3.00 and a Science GPA of 3.00 will make the applicant competitive.
5. Applicants must complete at least 12 hours of documented observation in a dental facility to familiarize themselves with oral health delivery.

Applicants accepted into the dental hygiene program will be formally notified in April or sooner by the chair of the School of Dental Hygiene and will be advised for registration purposes by the BS Entry-level Program Director. Those applicants who are not accepted will receive notice and should pursue general academic and science courses prior to reconsideration for admission. Qualified high school seniors may apply for admission to the University with guaranteed entry into the dental hygiene program. For criteria and additional information, contact the Old Dominion University Office of Admissions.

Guaranteed Entry Program

The guaranteed entry program is designed for highly qualified high school students who are committed to completing a Bachelor of Science in Dental Hygiene at Old Dominion University. Students accepted into this program will be guaranteed a position upon completion of the prerequisites and candidacy requirements as outlined by Old Dominion University School of Dental Hygiene.

Advanced Placement Policy and Procedure

The School of Dental Hygiene at Old Dominion University has the option of awarding advanced placement for didactic and clinical experience taken at other institutions of higher education. Students accepted into the entry-level dental hygiene program with coursework from dental assisting, dental hygiene, or dental programs may apply for advanced placement within the program. The decision to award advanced placement is dependent on the length of time since the course was taken, grade received, course content, and whether the program is accredited by the American Dental Association (ADA) Commission on Dental Accreditation.

I. Students who have completed dental assisting, dental hygiene, or dental coursework within the past five years at a program that is accredited by the ADA:

A. Requirements

1. Receive at least a “C” in the course being requested.
2. Provide transcripts from the institution awarding course credit to the Admission Chair of the School of Dental Hygiene.
3. At the option of the Dental Hygiene Admission Chair, provide available course materials for evaluation including course syllabus and course description.

B. Procedure

1. Following acceptance into the entry-level dental hygiene program, the student will request consideration for advanced placement in writing. Requests for advanced
placement should be provided to the Admission Chair in the month of May of the year of application.

2. Students will be notified in writing of the decision for advanced placement credit from the Admission Committee. One of the following recommendations will be made:
   a. Award course credit.
   b. Require course(s) be taken for pass/fail.
   c. Require course(s) be taken for credit.

3. A copy of the evaluation and the recommendation from the Admission Committee will be placed in the student’s academic folder. The decision of the Admission Committee is final.

II. Students who have completed dental assisting, dental hygiene, or dental coursework beyond the five-year period at a program that is accredited by the ADA are invited to challenge individual courses by passing a test for the desired courses. Successful completion (75% or higher) will exempt the students from the challenged course(s).

Bachelor of Science Requirements for Entry-level Program

Students must complete the entire curriculum of 120-126 credit hours (depending upon foreign language exemption) to meet degree requirements. All Dental Hygiene courses with the prefix DNTH are to be completed in a prescribed sequence within two academic years due to scheduling and space limitations. A minimum grade of C (2.00) must be obtained in all DNTH courses.

Students desiring to enroll in the BSDH Entry-level Dental Hygiene program should complete the following courses prior to beginning the dental hygiene major.

ENGL 110C English Composition * 3
ENGL 211C English Composition * 3
STAT 130M Elementary Statistics * 3
PSYC 201S Introduction to Psychology * 3
SOC 201S Introduction to Sociology * 3
CHEM 105N Introductory Chemistry * 3
CHEM 106N Introductory Chemistry Laboratory * 1
BIOL 103 Basic Bacteriology * 4
BIOL 240 Fundamentals of Anatomy and Physiology I * 4

or

BIOL 250 Human Anatomy and Physiology I * 4

BIOL 241 Fundamentals of Anatomy and Physiology II * 4

or

BIOL 251 Human Anatomy and Physiology II * 4

CHP 318 Principles of Nutrition 3
Foreign Language 0-6
Literature 3
Human Creativity 3
Interpreting the Past 3
Information Literacy and Research ** 0
Oral Communications/Public Speaking ** 0
Philosophy and Ethics ** 0
Upper Division General Education*** 3
Upper Division "T" Course 3

Total Hours 49-55

** Information Literacy/Research, Oral Communications and Philosophy/Ethics will be met in the major.

*** Upper Division General Education courses must be outside of the College of Health Sciences.

Major Requirements

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Total credit hours: 71-77

* Grade of C or better is required in all DNTH courses

Upper Division General Education

- Option A. Approved Disciplinary Minor, 12 hours minimum; also second degree or second major.
- Option B. Interdisciplinary Minor (specifically 12 hours, 3 of which may be in the major)
- Option C. International Business and Regional Courses or an approved Certification Program such as teaching licensure
- Option D. Two Upper-Division Courses from outside the College of Health Sciences and not required by the major (6 hours)

Requirements for Graduation

Requirements for graduation include a minimum cumulative grade point average of 2.00 overall and in the major, 120 credit hours, which must include both a minimum of 30 credit hours overall and 12 credit hours in upper-level courses in the major program from Old Dominion University, completion of ENGL 110C, ENGL 211C or ENGL 221C or ENGL 231C, and the writing intensive (W) course in the major with a grade of C or better, and completion of Senior Assessment.

Continuance Policy

In addition to the Old Dominion University continuance policies in this Catalog, the following policies are specific to all declared majors in the Gene W. Hirschfeld School of Dental Hygiene. A grade of D (1.00) in any dental hygiene course will result in academic dismissal from the program. Inability
to attend clinical practice or community rotations due to an agency refusal or infraction in a background check will be cause for dismissal from the B.S.D.H. program.

Policy on Readmission
1. A student who must repeat one or more courses in dental hygiene must first be readmitted to the dental hygiene program.
2. A student can be readmitted to the program only once.
3. Readmitted students must maintain a minimum grade of C (2.00) in all DNTH courses taken with a passing grade in courses taken for remediation.
4. Procedure for readmission:
   a. The student must submit a letter to the chair of the School of Dental Hygiene outlining his or her intent for readmission.
   b. The chair, in consultation with the faculty, will make a decision on the readmission request.
   c. Readmission will be granted on a space-available basis only after regular admission has been filled. Cumulative and science course grade point averages are used for readmission criteria.

Bachelor of Science in Dental Hygiene Post-licensure Online Program (for Registered Dental Hygienist)
The Bachelor of Science in Dental Hygiene (B.S.D.H.) Post-licensure Online program is designed for students who have completed a certificate or associate degree from an accredited dental hygiene program and desire to continue their education toward a Bachelor of Science in Dental Hygiene. The program provides an opportunity for the licensed dental hygienist to gain knowledge, skills, and attitudes necessary for expanded career opportunities in education, oral health promotion, research, community and public health, management, and marketing. This program also provides a strong foundation for graduate study. A minimum of 120 credit hours is necessary to obtain the baccalaureate degree. The length of time required to complete the program and University requirements is determined by the number of acceptable college transfer credits; at least 30 credit hours must be taken at Old Dominion University. Students can expect to complete the program in three to four academic semesters of full-time study. The B.S.D.H. post-licensure online program is available on-line or as a hybrid of on-line and on-campus courses.

Admission to the Bachelor of Science Post-licensure Online Program
A licensed dental hygienist educated at another institution who desires to pursue the Bachelor of Science in Dental Hygiene should apply and be accepted by Old Dominion University as an upper-level dental hygiene transfer student. Formal acceptance as a dental hygiene major will be determined by the Admissions Committee for the B.S.D.H. Post-licensure Online Program. Transfer applicants must meet the following requirements:
1. Graduation from an accredited dental hygiene program.
2. Successful completion of all 100-200 level general education and department requirements.
3. Submission of application to the Old Dominion University Office of Admissions including official high school and college transcripts.
4. Acceptance to Old Dominion University.
5. Submission of School of Dental Hygiene B.S.D.H. Post-licensure application with the following items:
   a. Official transcripts from high school and college academic institutions attended.
   b. Copy of National Board Dental Hygiene Examination.
   c. Two professional letters of recommendation.
   d. Current healthcare provider CPR/AED certificate/biennially requested.
   e. Current resume
6. Applicants who hold an associate of applied science degree rather than an associate of science degree must meet the University’s lower-level General Education requirements.

Curriculum for B.S.D.H. Post-licensure Online Program
Requirements
Transfer students must satisfy the following:
1. Certificate or associate degree in dental hygiene from an accredited dental hygiene program
2. Students without credit for ENGL 110C must pass the Writing Sample Placement Test (WSPT).
3. Successful completion of the University Lower-Level General Education requirements and/or equivalent. The general education requirement in philosophy and ethics is satisfied in the major for the Post-licensure Online program.
4. Successful completion of department requirements or the equivalent. A grade of (C) or better is required in all courses*:
   - STAT 130M Elementary Statistics 3
   - CHEM 105N & CHEM 106N Introductory Chemistry 4
   - BIOL 103 Basic Bacteriology 4
   - BIOL 240 Fundamentals of Anatomy and Physiology I 4
   - or
   - BIOL 250 Human Anatomy and Physiology I 4
   - BIOL 241 Fundamentals of Anatomy and Physiology II 4
   - or
   - BIOL 251 Human Anatomy and Physiology II 4
   - PSYC 201S Introduction to Psychology 3
   - or
   - PSYC 203S Lifespan Development 3
   - SOC 201S Introduction to Sociology 3
5. Successful completion of 15 credits at the upper division to include a minimum of six credits to meet the Upper-Division General Education requirement.
6. Successful completion of five major courses:
   - DNTH 412W Perspectives on Dental Hygiene Practice 3
   - DNTH 414 Educational Concepts for the Health Professional I 3
   - DNTH 415 Research Methods in the Health Sciences 3
   - DNTH 416 Administrative Leadership and Professional Development 3
   - DNTH 440T Telehealthcare Technology 3
7. Successful completion of ENGL 110C, ENGL 211C or ENGL 221C or ENGL 231C and the writing intensive (W) course in the major with a grade of C or better and the Senior Assessment Survey.

Continuation
In addition to the Old Dominion University continuation policies, the following policy is specific to the B.S.D.H. Post-licensure Online program. A grade of C (2.00) or better is required in all DNTH courses for graduation. A cumulative grade point average of a C (2.00) or better is required to continue in the dental hygiene program. A grade of D (1.00) or F in any dental hygiene course will not be considered in good academic standing in the major and will result in an evaluation of the individual student’s academic progress on a case-to-case basis. Dental hygiene students will be allowed to repeat a failed course only once.
International Dental Hygiene

The School of Dental Hygiene, committed to solving global oral health problems, offers a variety of service learning programs in partnership with non-governmental agencies, academic institutions, and private organizations worldwide. Faculty-led experiences offer unique opportunities for students to travel abroad, develop cross-cultural competence, experience global health challenges, and engage in projects that advance oral health. International locations are determined by the School of Dental Hygiene in conjunction with the Office of Study Abroad. Program participation requires approval from the School of Dental Hygiene and the Office of Study Abroad.

Linked Bachelor of Science to Master of Science Program

Entry-level and B.S.D.H. Post-licensure online dental hygiene students who have a 3.3 grade point average from each institution attended and who have senior standing may apply to the bachelor's to master's linked program. This program allows gifted undergraduate students the opportunity to take up to 12 credit hours of graduate course work and apply them to both degrees. Taking linked coursework does not guarantee admission into the master's program. Students must formally apply and be accepted into the dental hygiene graduate program. Students in the linked program must earn a minimum of 150 credit hours (120 for the undergraduate degree and 30 for the graduate degree). Consult with the graduate program director for more information.

The Dental Hygiene Research Center

The focus of the Dental Hygiene Research Center is to support research through collaboration and partnerships that will provide a foundation for dental hygiene services and practice, advance the practice of dental hygiene, and improve the oral health status of the public. Multidisciplinary and interdisciplinary projects are developed with healthcare facilities, private industry, and other academic institutions. Undergraduate and graduate students are integrated into the research process, which contributes to the understanding between theory and practice.

DENTAL HYGIENE Courses

DNTH 300. Dental Hygiene Theory I. 4 Credits.
An introduction to the theoretical foundations of preventive and therapeutic oral health services used in the dental hygiene process. Emphasis is on prevention of disease transmission, patient assessment, dental hygiene instrumentation, oral health instruction, treatment planning and ethical decision making. (offered fall) Corequisite: DNTH 301. Prereq: corequisite: DNTH 302 and DNTH 304.

DNTH 301. Dental Hygiene Services I. 3 Credits.
Preclinical experience in the on-campus supervised clinic. Clinical and laboratory application of introductory skills essential to rendering oral health services to patients with emphasis on basic dental hygiene instrumentation and ergonomics. Offered each fall. (Qualifies as a CAP experience.) Pre- or corequisite: DNTH 300 and DNTH 302.

DNTH 302. Oral Anatomy and Histology. 4 Credits.
A study of the anatomical, histological, embryological and morphological features and development of the head, neck and dentition. Emphasis is on nomenclature, nerve and vascular innervation, muscles of mastication, orofacial embryology and histological features of the oral cavity for practice and forensic identification. Prerequisites: BIOL 240 or BIOL 250 and BIOL 241 or BIOL 251 or equivalent.

DNTH 303. Applied Dental Materials. 3 Credits.
An introduction to biomaterials with emphasis on those materials and techniques common in dental hygiene practice and used and maintained by the dental hygienist. (offered fall) Prerequisites: CHEM 105N-CHEM 106N.

DNTH 304. Oral Radiology I. 2 Credits.
Study of the nature and production of x rays and basic principles and procedures in oral radiology. Emphasis is on radiation physics, radiation biology, radiation protection and safety, basic intraoral radiographic techniques and imaging procedures. (offered fall) Prerequisites: permission of the instructor.

DNTH 305. Dental Hygiene Theory II. 3 Credits.
Continuation of study of the theoretical foundation of preventive and therapeutic oral health services used in the dental hygiene process. Emphasis is on preparation for ethical, evidence-based client care. (offered spring). Prerequisites: DNTH 300 and DNTH 301.

DNTH 306. Dental Hygiene Services II. 3 Credits.
Clinical experience in the on-campus supervised clinic. Continued development of clinical proficiency and ethical, evidence-based decision making in rendering comprehensive preventive oral health services using the dental hygiene process. Emphasis is on clinical application and development of competence in maintenance, management and evaluation of the periodontal patient; care planning, disease control strategies; and scaling and oral debridement on periodontally involved patients (offered spring). (qualifies as a CAP experience) Corequisite: DNTH 305. Prerequisites: DNTH 300, DNTH 301 and DNTH 304.

DNTH 307. Pharmacology and Medical Emergencies. 3 Credits.
A study of pharmacologic agents used in oral healthcare and of medications that the patient may be taking, their clinical effects, adverse effects, and dental implications, and the prevention and management of medical emergencies. Emphasis is on agents commonly used by patients which may require the alteration of treatment procedures, therapeutic agents used adjunctively in dental hygiene therapy and agents used in medical emergency procedures. (offered spring) Prerequisites: DNTH 302 and BIOL 240 or BIOL 250 and BIOL 241 or BIOL 251 or equivalent.

DNTH 308. Oral Pathology. 3 Credits.
Principles of the disease process and general pathology including cell injury, infection, inflammation, neoplasia and circulatory disturbances are followed by the study of pathology of the teeth, supporting and associated oral structures. Emphasis is on the clinical and radiological appearance of local and systemic disease processes affecting the oral and facial structures. (offered spring) Prerequisites: DNTH 302.

DNTH 309. Oral Radiology II. 2 Credits.
Continued development of the principles and techniques obtained in Oral Radiology I with emphasis on supplemental intraoral techniques especially for client management; extroral techniques; radiographic interpretation of film-based and digitally acquired images; and use of dental photography in patient care. (offered spring) Prerequisites: DNTH 304.

DNTH 310. Dental Hygiene Therapies and Practice. 3 Credits.
Emphasis is on principles of periodontics, evaluation of periodontal disease, and theoretical and clinical preparation for delivery of dental hygiene interventions. (offered spring) Prerequisites: DNTH 300 and DNTH 301.

DNTH 316. Dental Hygiene Theory and Services III. 3 Credits.
Clinical experience in the on-campus supervised clinic. Continued development of clinical competency and ethical, evidence-based decision making in rendering comprehensive preventive and therapeutic oral health services using the dental hygiene process of care. (offered summer) (qualifies as a CAP experience) Prerequisites: DNTH 305, DNTH 306, DNTH 307 and DNTH 309.

DNTH 317. Anxiety and Pain Control. 2 Credits.
Clinical experience in the on-campus supervised clinic. Principles and techniques for local anesthesia injections and nitrous oxide-oxygen analgesia administration, neurophysiologic considerations, prevention of anesthesia-associated emergencies and application of techniques in laboratory. Five hours of instruction will be web-based. (Offered summer) (qualifies as a CAP experience) Corequisite: DNTH 316. Prerequisites: DNTH 305, DNTH 306, DNTH 307, and DNTH 309.

DNTH 395. Topics in Dental Hygiene Practice. 1-6 Credits.
Selected topics in dental hygiene vary by semester. (offered fall, spring, summer) Prerequisites: permission of the instructor.

DNTH 397. Independent Study in Dental Hygiene. 1-6 Credits.
Independent reading and study on a topic selected under direction of a faculty member. (offered fall, spring, summer) Prerequisites: permission of the instructor.
DNTH 410. Dental Hygiene Theory IV. 3 Credits.
Study of the psychosocial, physical and oral characteristics of patients with special needs. Emphasis is on the care and clinical management of the following patients: cognitively, developmentally and physically challenged, aged, pregnant, epileptic, diabetic, cancer, AIDS, chemically dependent and the blind and deaf. (offered fall) Prerequisites: DNTH 305, DNTH 306, and DNTH 316.

DNTH 411. Dental Hygiene Services IV. 6 Credits.
Clinical experience in the on-campus supervised clinic. Continued development of clinical proficiency and ethical, evidence-based decision making in providing comprehensive preventive and therapeutic oral health services. Emphasis is on intra/interprofessional clinical application and development of competencies for the treatment of diverse, special needs and periodontally involved patients using the dental hygiene process of care. (offered fall) Prerequisites: DNTH 305, DNTH 306, and DNTH 309.

DNTH 412W/S12. Perspectives on Dental Hygiene Practice. 3 Credits.
Course is designed for the licensed dental hygienist who seeks to maintain an awareness of changing trends, perspectives, evidence-based interventions and technologies in dental hygiene, health, and society that influence the dental hygiene process of care. (Offered summer) (This is a writing intensive course.) Qualifies as a CAP experience. Prerequisites: grade of C or better in ENGL 110C or ENGL 211C or ENGL 221C or ENGL 231C and permission of the instructor.

DNTH 413. Community Oral Health Planning. 3 Credits.
Introduction to the principles of dental public health, health literacy, oral epidemiology, evidenced-based prevention and control of oral disease on a population basis. Emphasis is on program assessment, planning, implementation, and evaluation for the development of community-based dental programs. This course prepares students for the role of oral health educator, client advocate and resource person in community settings. (offered fall) Prerequisites: DNTH 305, DNTH 306 or permission of the instructor.

DNTH 414/514. Educational Concepts for the Health Professional I. 3 Credits.
This course is designed to explore various educational concepts, principles and methods of teaching for adults. Students will learn to present educational information to a diverse client population, in a variety of settings, in an ethical and professional manner. Topics include, but are not limited to, objectives, planning, implementation and evaluation of instruction; instructional strategies; delivery models; presentation skills; and techniques for communicating health information. Prerequisites: permission of the instructor.

DNTH 415/515. Research Methods in the Health Sciences. 3 Credits.
Designed to develop skills in scientific methods, evidence based decision making and critical analysis of research findings. Emphasis on types of research, levels of evidence, problem selection and hypothesis writing, research planning and design, data collection and measuring techniques, analysis and interpretation of data, research proposal writing and computer application. A written research proposal is required for graduate credit. (offered fall) Prerequisites: STAT 130M.

DNTH 416/S16. Administrative Leadership and Professional Development. 3 Credits.
A study of current trends that influence the profession of dental hygiene including oral health care delivery, manpower, financing mechanisms, quality improvement, third party payers, professional associations, regulatory agencies and legislation. Emphasis is on ethical, political, and legal issues as they relate to the dental hygiene profession. (offered spring) Prerequisites: permission of the instructor.

DNTH 417W. Dental Hygiene Theory V. 3 Credits.
Designed to transition students into diverse employment settings nationally and globally. Emphasis is on written communication skills, practice management, working in multicultural settings, selecting an employment setting, values clarification, resume writing, interviewing techniques, networking, ethical dilemmas and cross-cultural competencies necessary for contemporary healthcare environments. Various national and international career opportunities are explored. (This is a writing intensive course.) Prerequisites: DNTH 410, DNTH 411 and a grade of C or better in ENGL 110C and ENGL 211C or ENGL 221C or ENGL 231C.

DNTH 418. Dental Hygiene Services V. 6 Credits.
Clinical experience in the on-campus supervised clinic. Continued development of proficiency and ethical, evidence-based decision making in providing comprehensive preventive and therapeutic oral health services within the dental hygiene process of care. Emphasis is on intra/interprofessional development of competencies for the treatment of periodontally involved, special needs and diverse patients. (offered spring) Prerequisites: DNTH 305, DNTH 306, and DNTH 309.

DNTH 419. Community Oral Health Practice. 3 Credits.
Interprofessional service-learning experiences designed to prepare students to function as oral health practitioners, educators, client advocates and resource persons in community health settings. Emphasis is on providing evidenced-based educational, preventive and therapeutic services for special needs populations including geriatric, institutionalized and cognitively, developmentally and physically challenged individuals. Participation in planning, implementing and evaluating a community oral health project. Design and delivery of a poster session is required. (offered spring) Prerequisites: DNTH 410 and DNTH 411.

DNTH 440T/540. Telehealthcare Technology. 3 Credits.
This course examines the concept, global impact, and trends in telehealthcare technology on the client/patient, multidisciplinary practitioners, and various healthcare systems. Emphasis is on effective evidence-based decision making to reduce errors in patient care, promote care in remote or underserved geographical areas, and the ability to retrieve and evaluate healthcare information that improves access to quality, cost effective health care. (Offered spring, summer) Prerequisites: permission of the instructor.

DNTH 450. International Dental Hygiene. 1-3 Credits.
International locations are determined by the School of Dental Hygiene in conjunction with the Office of Study Abroad. Program participation requires approval from the School of Dental Hygiene and the Office of Study Abroad. Provides an on-location international experience in oral care delivery, practice and regulation, and dental hygiene education. Students will be required to give presentations, review the dental care delivery system, and explore how the cultural beliefs and practices affect oral health, dental care seeking behaviors, and the oral health status of the population. Orientations will be conducted prior to travel. Prerequisite: DNTH 316.

DNTH 451. Ergonomics and Exercises for Static Posture Occupations. 1 Credit.
This active participation course is designed for persons who work in static posture professions (e.g., dental hygienists, laboratory and computer office personnel) and who seek to practice ergonomic body mechanics and exercise therapies to prevent musculoskeletal disorders and repetitive strain injuries. Topics include biomechanics, types of disorders and injuries, risk management, comprehension and demonstration of full body exercises with emphasis on core strength training and self monitoring. (Offered summer only.) Prerequisites: permission of instructor.

DNTH 495. Topics in Dental Hygiene. 1-3 Credits.
Seminars on selected topics in dental hygiene. Topics vary by semester. (offered fall, spring, summer) Prerequisites: permission of the instructor.

DNTH 497/597. Independent Study in Dental Hygiene. 1-6 Credits.
Independent reading and study on a topic selected under direction of a faculty member. (Offered fall, spring, summer) Prerequisites: permission of instructor.