

DENTAL HYGIENE

Sylvania Campus
Health Technology Building (HT), Room 206
971-722-4909

Health Admissions Office
Health Technology Building (HT), Room 205
971-722-4795

www.pcc.edu/programs/dental-hygiene/

CAREER AND PROGRAM DESCRIPTION

The dental hygienist is a licensed dental health care professional who specializes in periodontal therapy and oral health education. A broad-based education in biological sciences and humanities as well as dental sciences and clinical techniques prepares the graduate for work in private practice and community settings. In the dental office, the hygienist assesses the patient's oral health, treats periodontal (gum) disease and provides follow-up care. In addition, the hygienist provides a variety of preventive services including the application of fluoride and sealants, tobacco and nutritional counseling and oral health education to individuals and community groups.

The Dental Hygiene Program offers a two-year curriculum that is accredited by the Commission on Dental Accreditation without reporting requirements. The program of study prepares students for the National Board written examination and regional licensure examinations.

Computer skills: Students must have acquired basic computer skills in word processing and the Internet. It is recommended that this preparation be taken prior to entry. The Dental Hygiene program requires one course of nutrition, speech, sociology and psychology.

Applications are accepted each year from January 1 to April 15 only. Twenty students and twelve alternates will be selected based upon specific admissions criteria. Further information can be obtained from the Dental Sciences Department or the Health Admissions Office:

Health Admissions Office

Sylvania Campus, (HT) Room 205
Portland Community College
P.O. Box 19000
Portland, Oregon 97280-0990

For additional help call 971-722-4795 or check the web site www.pcc.edu/programs/dental-hygiene/.

DEGREES AND CERTIFICATES OFFERED

Associate of Applied Science Degree

Dental Hygiene

PREREQUISITES AND REQUIREMENTS

1. High school diploma or GED
2. Completion of the following courses or their equivalents with a C or higher are required to be considered for application to the Dental Hygiene Program:
 - a. WR 121 English Composition
 - b. MTH 65 or higher
 - c. BI 231 and BI 232 Human Anatomy and Physiology sequence with lab*

d. BI 234 Microbiology with lab must be completed within the last seven years

e. CH 102 or 106, Organic Chemistry Principles *

**Students planning to transfer dental hygiene course work to a university baccalaureate degree should take BI 231, 232, 233 and CH 104, 105, 106.*

All prerequisite course must be complete by the end of winter term prior to the application deadline. Courses planned for spring term will not be considered. Pass/No Pass evaluation is not acceptable in the prerequisite courses. The Dental Hygiene Program is a limited entry program with restricted enrollment. The admissions process is competitive and based on a point system. Applicants with the highest point totals will be accepted. Completing admission requirements and applying to the programs does not guarantee admission. For our current point evaluation sheet please visit www.pcc.edu/dh. Candidates will be notified of their admissions status by the beginning of June.

3. All students are required to be immunized against Hepatitis B as well as evidence of immunity to measles. Tetanus immunization and current tuberculin skin test (TST). Positive TST will require evidence of normal chest x-ray (supply upon acceptance).

4. Valid CPR for the Healthcare Provider Card

Students enrolled in the Dental Hygiene Program will be performing exposure prone procedures and will be required to wear safety glasses, gloves, face masks and protective clothing during all laboratory and clinic activities that produce airborne particulate matter, or expose students to patients during dental procedures. An exposure prone procedure is one in which there is an increased opportunity for the exchange of blood borne pathogens between the patient and the dental health care provider because of the kind of procedure being performed.

Safety policies, procedures and protocols are taught and followed according to OSHA regulations and CDC standards to provide a safe learning and patient care environment. The program policies on Bloodborne Pathogens and Infectious Disease are available to applicants upon request. Upon acceptance to the program, extensive training in this area will occur.

Applicants who have an infectious disease or who are carriers of an infectious disease should seek counsel from their physician and the program director prior to application. The college will follow CDC suggested work restrictions for health-care personnel infected with or exposed to major infectious diseases in health care settings, from the CDC's Guidelines for Infection Control in Dental Health-Care Settings-2003, available at www.cdc.gov/mmwr/preview/mmwrhtml/rr5217a1.htm Table 1, attached to and incorporated by this reference to this policy.

All PCC students enrolled in a health care or child care program, including dental hygiene, with requirements for practical experience of field training may have to pass a Criminal History Check (CHC) as a condition of their acceptance into a medical or other facility for training.

Students who do not pass the CHC may not be eligible to complete training at affiliated practicum sites, to sit for licensure or certification exams, or be hired for some professional positions. If you believe that your past history may interfere with your ability to complete the program of study or to obtaining licensure, or certification in your chosen field, you should contact the appropriate state board or program director.

DENTAL HYGIENE AAS DEGREE

Minimum 108 credits. Students must also meet Associate Degree Comprehensive Requirements and Associate of Applied Science Requirements. Students must complete a total of sixteen credits of General Education. Some courses specified within the program may be used as General Education. Students should consult with program advisors for course planning.

Dental Hygiene Degree Credit Summary

DH	88
General Education	16
FN	4
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	Credit Total 108

COURSE OF STUDY

The following is a general example of a course of study. Students should consult with a program advisor for course planning.

First Term

DH 101	Dental Hygiene Theory I	4
DH 104	Dental Hygiene Practice I	3
DH 113	Dental Anatomy	2
DH 113L	Dental Anatomy Lab	1
DH 121	Oral Health Education and Promotion	1
DH 127	Medical Emergencies	2
General Education ¹		4

Second Term

DH 102	Dental Hygiene Theory II	2
DH 105	Dental Hygiene Practice II	3
DH 110	Cariology	2
DH 128	Oral Histology	1
DH 228	Head and Neck Anatomy	2
DH 236	Ethics & Jurisprudence	1
DH 230	Dental Materials	2
General Education ¹		4

Third Term

DH 103	Dental Hygiene Theory III	2
DH 106	Dental Hygiene Practice III	3
DH 109	Dental Radiology I	2
DH 109L	Dental Radiology I Lab	1
DH 129	Oral Pathology	3
DH 240	Intro to Dental Hygiene Restorative	2
DH 246	Pharmacology	3
General Education ¹		4

Fourth Term²

DH 210	Dental Radiology Lab II	1
DH 241	Dental Hygiene Restorative Dentistry I	4
DH 242	Dental Hygiene Restorative Dentistry II	4
FN 225	Nutrition	4
or		
FN 270	Normal and Applied Nutrition	(4)
General Education ¹		4

Fifth Term

DH 201	Dental Hygiene Theory IV	2
DH 204	Dental Hygiene Practice IV ²	5
or		
DH 204A	Dental Hygiene Practice IV ²	(1)
and		
DH 204B	Dental Hygiene Practice IV	(4)
DH 208	Community Oral Health I	2
DH 229	Local Anesthesia	2
DH 243	Dental Hygiene Restorative Dentistry III	1
DH 260	Periodontology I	2

Sixth Term

DH 202	Dental Hygiene Theory V	3
DH 205	Dental Hygiene Practice V	5
DH 244	Dental Hygiene Restorative Dentistry IV	1
DH 250	Research Methods and Issues in Oral Health	1
DH 252	Community Oral Health II	2

Seventh Term

DH 203	Dental Hygiene Theory VI	3
DH 206	Dental Hygiene Practice VI	5
DH 245	Dental Hygiene Restorative Dentistry V	1
DH 253	Community Oral Health III	2

^{*}Could be used as General Education

¹Recommended General Education: SP 111, PSY 101, SOC 204

²DH 204A is only offered in the summer (fourth) term.

Optional Dental Hygiene Courses

Students should consult with program advisor for assistance with planning electives.

DH 100	Special Dental Hygiene Practice I or II	1-5
DH 232	Nitrous Oxide Sedation (Elective)	2

COURSE DESCRIPTIONS

DH 100 Special Dental Hygiene Practice Clinic experience for dental hygiene students or graduates needing to maintain or enhance clinic skills outside the regularly scheduled clinic sequence, especially in preparation for Board examinations. Instructor permission required.

DH 101 Dental Hygiene Theory I 4.00 Studies basic dental hygiene procedures, theory and philosophy as applied to direct patient services.

DH 102 Dental Hygiene Theory II 2.00 Continues on the study of dental hygiene theory and practices, including oral prophylaxis classifications, current non-surgical periodontal therapy, alternative oral physiotherapy aids, dental hygiene process of care and school clinic policies and procedures. Co-requisite: DH 105

DH 103 Dental Hygiene Theory III 2.00 Expansion of the concepts of dental hygiene theory to include the more difficult oral conditions and special needs.

DH 104 Dental Hygiene Practice I 3.00 Applies dental hygiene theory and techniques in a laboratory setting on dental manikins. Work with patients will begin when specified skill levels are reached.

DH 105 Dental Hygiene Practice II 3.00 Students apply dental hygiene preventive and therapeutic principles while providing patient care in a clinical environment. Patient care includes oral prophylaxis and oral hygiene. Co-requisite: DH 102

DH 106 Dental Hygiene Practice III 3.00 Continued clinical activities with increased difficulty in the type and number of cases.

DH 109 Dental Radiology I 2.00 Instruction covers basic theory of dental radiography. Students practice intra-oral techniques on manikins with emphasis on radiation safety practices and techniques.

DH 109L Dental Radiology I (Lab) 1.00

DH 110 Cariology 2.00 Studies the biological basis for the treatment of dental caries as an infectious disease process. Preventive measures and treatment modalities will be discussed.

DH 113 Dental Anatomy 2.00 Studies anatomical characteristics of all permanent and deciduous teeth and their surrounding tissues.

DH 113L Dental Anatomy (Lab) 1.00

DH 121 Oral Health Education and Promotion 1.00 Familiarizes the student with selected teaching techniques having direct application to oral health education concepts.

DH 127 Medical Emergencies 2.00 Study of medical emergencies that occur in the dental office including prevention, recognition and appropriate intervention.

DH 128 Oral Histology 1.00 Studies microscopic anatomy of the oral tissues. Course serves as an introduction to DH 129 Oral Pathology.

DH 129 Oral Pathology 3.00 Studies oral diseases and recognition of conditions that may require consultation and treatment by a dentist prior to, or concurrent with dental hygiene procedures. Prerequisites: DH 128; BI 122 or BI 232.

DH 130 Oral Histology Independent Study 1.00 The continued study of microscopic anatomy, histology and embryology of the oral tissues. Serves as an introduction to the study of oral pathology Prerequisite: BI 122 or BI 232. Prerequisite/concurrent: DH 128.

DH 201 Dental Hygiene Theory IV 2.00 Dental hygiene theory applied to patients having periodontal disease; instruction includes comprehensive patient management. Co-requisites: DH 204

DH 202 Dental Hygiene Theory V 3.00 Advanced dental hygiene theory applied to patients having moderate to severe periodontal disease and provision of a variety of expanded dental hygiene functions. Co-requisite: DH 205

DH 203 Dental Hygiene Theory VI 3.00 Expansion of dental hygiene theory to include dental specialties and the role of the hygienist in specialty offices. Job search skills and stress management included.

DH 204 Dental Hygiene Practice IV 5.00 A continuation of clinical activities to include treating periodontal patients and patients with heavy deposits; activities will correlate to theory lecture course DH 201. Co-requisite: DH 201

DH 204A Dental Hygiene Practice IV 1.00 Continues clinical activities to include treating beginning periodontal disease and moderate deposit patients. Prerequisites: DH 103 and DH 106.

DH 204B Dental Hygiene Practice IV 4.00 Continues clinical activities to include treating moderate periodontal patients and patients with moderate/heavy deposits; activities will correlate to theory lecture course DH 201. Prerequisite: DH 204A. Corequisite: DH 201.

DH 205 Dental Hygiene Practice V 5.00 Continues clinical activities including treatment of patients having moderate to severe periodontal disease and the provision of dental hygiene expanded functions. Activities correlate to DH 202.

DH 206 Dental Hygiene Practice VI 5.00 Advanced dental hygiene clinic activities to include all aspects of previous training at increased skill levels. Nitrous oxide sedation included, plus simulated private practice and mock board activities.

DH 208 Community Oral Health I 2.00 Introduction to national and local public health issues and initiatives for delivering care to varied populations.

DH 210 Dental Radiology Lab II 1.00 A continuation of DH 109, Dental Radiology I. Course will include provision of basic dental radiographic services to clinic patients including more advanced radiographic techniques.

DH 228 Head and Neck Anatomy 2.00 Studies the structures and functions of oral anatomy with emphasis on those structures important in the administration of local anesthesia.

DH 229 Local Anesthesia 2.00 Covers techniques of pain control by the administration of local anesthetics. Prepares student for management of complex clinical clients during advanced dental hygiene procedures.

DH 230 Dental Materials 2.00 Classification, chemistry, physical properties, and uses of dental materials including manipulation techniques.

DH 232 Nitrous Oxide Sedation 2.00 Theory and clinical application of nitrous oxide sedation for dental patients as prescribed by the State Dental Practice Acts of Oregon, Washington and California.

DH 236 Ethics and Jurisprudence 1.00 Studies legal restrictions and ethical responsibilities associated with the practice of dental hygiene and dentistry.

DH 246 Pharmacology 3.00 Introduces various drugs used in the practice of dentistry. Students study nomenclature, classification, dosage, and effects of different pharmacologic compounds.

DH 250 Research: Issues Oral 1.00 Introduction to epidemiological studies and basic statistics in preparation to critically evaluate evidence-based research of oral health.

DH 252 Community Oral Health II 2.00 Students utilize public health program planning models to develop and participate with community oral health programs for various populations.

DH 253 Community Oral Health III 2.00 Development, implementation and evaluation of dental health projects in the community.

DH 260 Periodontology I 2.00 Introduction to the science and management of periodontal diseases. Emphasizes microbial, biochemical and etiological principles. The course will correlate to clinical activities.