The Dental Assisting Program prepares students for the high demand field of professional dental assisting. Dental assistants are a significant and valuable member of the dental health care team. Students are trained to perform a wide variety of duties including working chairside as patients are examined and treated, taking and developing dental radiographs, removing sutures, and applying anti-cavity agents to teeth. Dental assisting students are also taught to perform laboratory duties such as taking and pouring impressions and making temporary crowns. Additionally, the Dental Assisting Program offers curriculum on executing office duties like scheduling and confirming patients, filing patient treatment records, billing, and ordering dental supplies.

The Dental Assisting Program at Oxnard College includes patient care practice in a fully-equipped, on-site facility and off-campus externship experiences.

For more information, contact the Dental Assisting Program at (805) 986-5823.

**FACULTY**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Full Time</th>
<th>Part Time</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Armine Derdiarian, DDS</td>
<td>Janice Burke, RDH, RDA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Christina Tafoya, DDS</td>
<td>Dominica Barksdale, RDA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Brenda Casillas-Sanchez, RDH, RDA</td>
<td>Erica Eads, RDH, RDA</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

**DENTAL ASSISTING**

*Associate in Science Degree*

**Certificate of Achievement**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>REQUIRED COURSES:</th>
<th>UNITS</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>DA R101 Introduction to Dental Assisting</td>
<td>9</td>
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<tr>
<td>DA R101L Introduction to Dental Assisting Lab</td>
<td>5</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

**REQUIRED ADDITIONAL COURSES (COMPLETE 3 COURSES FROM THE FOLLOWING):**

| COMM R101 Introduction to Oral Communication | 3 |
| or COMM R110 Small Group Communication | 3 |
| or COMM R111 Interpersonal Communication | 3 |
| or COMM R113 Intercultural Communication | 3 |
| AND DA R009 Office Procedures | 3 |
| or CAOT R122 Microsoft Office | 3 |
| or CIS R020A Introduction to Microcomputers | 3 |

**AND**

| DA R105 First Aid/Personal Safety | 3 |
| or HED R101 Health and Society | 3 |
| or HED R104 Family & Personal Health | 3 |

**TOTAL REQUIRED UNITS**

23

To complete the Certificate of Achievement, students must also meet requirements in scholarship and residency. Refer to Education Pathways - Earn a Certificate of Achievement section in this catalog for specific information.

To complete the Associate Degree, students must also meet requirements in general education, competency, units, scholarship, and residency. Refer to Education Pathways - Earn an Associate Degree and the A.A. or A.S. Degree in Specific Majors sections of this catalog.

**PROGRAM STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOMES**

Upon successful completion of the Dental Assisting program students will be able to:

- Be competent in employing the skills of chairside dental assisting in general practice and be able to compare and contrast those general practice skills to the duties of a dental assistant in specialty practice.
- Effectively practice anti-cariogenic techniques and employ the appropriate anti-cariogenic dental materials (e.g., administer oral hygiene instructions, apply fluoride varnish) under the proper supervision of a dentist.
- Examine the ethical and legal decisions inherent to the dental field and distinguish between unethical and illegal actions.
- Manage their fundamental roles in the dental practice.
- Operate dental radiographic equipment properly and safely.

**COURSE DESCRIPTIONS**

**DA R009—Office Procedures**

*3 units*

Prerequisites: Admittance to Dental Assisting program per application process. Advisory: CAOT R001B or CAOT R002 and CAOT R003C.

3 hours lecture weekly

This course provides instruction and practical applications in current office techniques. Students will learn about the workplace environment, communication skills, technology basics, workforce behaviors, correspondence, meetings and travel, and job search and advancement among other related topics essential for employment in office positions. Field trips may be required. (Same as CAOT R009). Course is offered Pass/No Pass (P/NP) at student’s option.

**DA R010—Introduction to Dental Assisting**

*3 units*

Prerequisites: Admittance to Dental Assisting program per application process.

Limitations: Admission to the dental assisting program and physical/clinical examination (within the last 12 months) with CBC and urinalysis verifying physical fitness: non-reactive VDRL or RPR; negative Tuberculosis Mantoux test or negative chest x-ray; Hepatitis B vaccine & titer showing immunity; Tetanus vaccine; MMR vaccine or titers showing immunity to Rubella and Rubeola; Varicella titer showing immunity; CPR certification.

3 hours lecture weekly

This course is an introduction to dental assisting, dental terminology, basic anatomy of the oral cavity, dental anatomy and physiology, oral embryology, tooth morphology, classifications of restorations, preliminary oral inspection, charting existing conditions of the hard and soft tissues, taking and recording vitals signs and the introduction to systemic conditions which may affect dental care. Field trips will be required.
DA R011—Beginning Radiology 3 units
Prerequisites: Admittance to Dental Assisting program per application process.
Limitations: Admission to the dental assisting program and physical/clinical examination (within the last 12 months) with CBC and urinalysis verifying physical fitness; non-reactive VDRL or RPR; negative Tuberculosis Mantoux test or negative chest x-ray; Hepatitis B vaccine & titer showing immunity; Tetanus vaccine; MMR vaccine or titer showing immunity to Rubella and Rubeola; Varicella titer showing immunity; CPR certification.
2 hours lecture, 3 hours lab weekly
This course teaches the fundamentals of radiation safety and the operation of dental radiography equipment, along with the clinical application of procedures involved in exposing, processing, mounting and interpreting dental radiographs. Materials fee is required.

DA R012—Dental Materials for the DA 3 units
Prerequisites: Admittance to Dental Assisting program per application process.
Limitations: Admission to the dental assisting program and physical/clinical examination (within the last 12 months) with CBC and urinalysis verifying physical fitness; non-reactive VDRL or RPR; negative Tuberculosis Mantoux test or negative chest x-ray; Hepatitis B vaccine & titer showing immunity; Tetanus vaccine; MMR vaccine or titer showing immunity to Rubella and Rubeola; Varicella titer showing immunity; CPR certification.
2 hours lecture, 3 hours lab weekly
This course teaches the composition and use of restorative materials, impressions materials, pouring dental impressions, the procedural steps in using composite resin material, temporary restorative materials used in dentistry and the role of the dental team in the various procedures performed. Materials fee is required.

DA R013—Occupational Health 1 unit
Prerequisites: Admittance to Dental Assisting program per application process.
Limitations: Admission to the dental assisting program and physical/clinical examination (within the last 12 months) with CBC and urinalysis verifying physical fitness; non-reactive VDRL or RPR; negative Tuberculosis Mantoux test or negative chest x-ray; Hepatitis B vaccine & titer showing immunity; Tetanus vaccine; MMR vaccine or titer showing immunity to Rubella and Rubeola; Varicella titer showing immunity; CPR certification.
1 hour lecture weekly
This course teaches the dental assistant the rules and regulations in a dental office that are required by the federal, state and local regulations concerning the handling of hazardous chemicals, employee safety and waste management.

DA R014—Introduction to Chairside Dental Assisting 2 units
Prerequisites: Admittance to Dental Assisting program per application process.
Limitations: Admission to the dental assisting program and physical/clinical examination (within the last 12 months) with CBC and urinalysis verifying physical fitness; non-reactive VDRL or RPR; negative Tuberculosis Mantoux test or negative chest x-ray; Hepatitis B vaccine & titer showing immunity; Tetanus vaccine; MMR vaccine or titer showing immunity to Rubella and Rubeola; Varicella titer showing immunity; CPR certification.
6 hours lab weekly
This class is an introduction to the chairside dental assistant, preparing the patient for dental treatment, positioning of the patient, operator and assistant for four-handed and six-handed dentistry. Students will learn how to obtain patient health history and vital signs, treatment planning and data gathering. In addition, instrument grasp/transfer, triple syringe use, oral evacuation and retraction will be taught. Identification and use of hand instruments, equipment maintenance, tub, tray and cassette set-ups of the basic general dental procedures will be learned. Materials fee is required. Field trips may be required.

DA R015—Dental Specialties 2 units
Prerequisites: Admittance to Dental Assisting program per application process.
Limitations: Admission to the dental assisting program and physical/clinical examination (within the last 12 months) with CBC and urinalysis verifying physical fitness: non-reactive VDRL or RPR; negative Tuberculosis Mantoux test or negative chest x-ray; Hepatitis B vaccine & titer showing immunity; Tetanus vaccine; MMR vaccine or titer showing immunity to Rubella and Rubeola; Varicella titer showing immunity; CPR certification.
1 hour lecture, 3 hours lab weekly
This course provides instruction in assisting and instrumentation for the following specialties in dentistry: orthodontics, endodontics, periodontics, removable prosthodontics, pediatric dentistry and oral maxillofacial surgery, and assisting in the administration of nitrous oxide. Field trips may be required.

DA R020—Advanced Dental Assisting 2 units
Prerequisites: Successful completion of all first semester Dental Assisting Program courses (DA R010, DA R011, DA R012, DA R013, DA R014, and DA R015).
Limitations: Admission to the dental assisting program and physical/clinical examination (within the last 12 months) with CBC and urinalysis verifying physical fitness: non-reactive VDRL or RPR; negative Tuberculosis Mantoux test or negative chest x-ray; Hepatitis B vaccine & titer showing immunity; Tetanus vaccine; MMR vaccine or titer showing immunity to Rubella and Rubeola; Varicella titer showing immunity; CPR certification.
1 hour lecture, 3 hours lab weekly
This course focuses on the development of the pre-clinical skills required for the registered dental assisting student. Students are required to meet standards of competency for each registered dental assisting task. This class is designed to prepare students for the practical component of the California Registered Dental Assistant examination. Mannequins are used for most instruction. Materials fee is required.

DA R021—Practice Management for the Dental Assistant 3 units
Prerequisites: Successful completion of all first semester Dental Assisting Program courses (DA R010, DA R011, DA R012, DA R013, DA R014, and DA R015).
Limitations: Admission to the dental assisting program and physical/clinical examination (within the last 12 months) with CBC and urinalysis verifying physical fitness: non-reactive VDRL or RPR; negative Tuberculosis Mantoux test or negative chest x-ray; Hepatitis B vaccine & titer showing immunity; Tetanus vaccine; MMR vaccine or titer showing immunity to Rubella and Rubeola; Varicella titer showing immunity; CPR certification.
2 hours lecture, 3 hours lab weekly
This course focuses on instruction for the non-clinical functions which dental assistants are required to perform with emphasis on: financial arrangements, collection techniques, completing insurance forms, and maintaining current insurance records, office mail, dental office computer systems, group practice, inventory, marketing, purchasing, payroll, tax records, disbursements, and petty cash. Students will learn soft dent integrated record system.

DA R022—Clinical Dental Experiences 3 units
Prerequisites: Successful completion of all first semester Dental Assisting Program courses (DA R010, DA R011, DA R012, DA R013, DA R014, and DA R015)
Limitations: Admission to the dental assisting program and physical/clinical examination (within the last 12 months) with CBC and urinalysis verifying physical fitness: non-reactive VDRL or RPR; negative Tuberculosis Mantoux test or negative chest x-ray; Hepatitis B vaccine & titer showing immunity; Tetanus vaccine; MMR vaccine or titer showing immunity to Rubella and Rubeola; Varicella titer showing immunity; CPR certification.
1 hour lecture, 6 hours lab weekly
This class incorporates practical experience working in a private practice in all fields of dentistry through a clinical externship. Experiences are in chairside and office management techniques, with emphasis on performance of Registered Dental Assistant tasks. Seminars are used to evaluate and review clinical application. Written reports are required. Field trips may be required.
DA R023—Ethics and Jurisprudence for the Dental Assistant 1 unit

Prerequisites: Successful completion of DA R010.

Limitations: Admission to the dental assisting program and physical/clinical examination (within the last 12 months) with CBC and urinalysis verifying physical fitness: non-reactive VDRL or RPR; negative Tuberculosis Mantoux test or negative chest x-ray; Hepatitis B vaccine & titer showing immunity; Tetanus vaccine; MMR vaccine or titters showing immunity to Rubella and Rubeola; Varicella titer showing immunity; CPR certification. 1 hour lecture weekly

This class is the study of the fundamental factors necessary to be employed. The scope of dental assistant practice within the ethical and legal framework of the State Dental Practice Act, and the Code of Ethics of the American Dental Association are explored.

DA R024—Dental Assisting Seminar 2 units

Prerequisites: Successful completion of all first semester Dental Assisting Program courses (DA R010, DA R011, DA R012, DA R013, DA R014, and DA R015).

Limitations: Admission to the dental assisting program and physical/clinical examination (within the last 12 months) with CBC and urinalysis verifying physical fitness: non-reactive VDRL or RPR; negative Tuberculosis Mantoux test or negative chest x-ray; Hepatitis B vaccine & titer showing immunity; Tetanus vaccine; MMR vaccine or titters showing immunity to Rubella and Rubeola; Varicella titer showing immunity; CPR certification. 2 hours lecture weekly

This course focuses on the preparation for the dental assisting certificate examination.

DA R025—Dental Health Education 2 units

Prerequisites: Successful completion of DA R010.

Limitations: Admission to the dental assisting program and physical/clinical examination (within the last 12 months) with CBC and urinalysis verifying physical fitness: non-reactive VDRL or RPR; negative Tuberculosis Mantoux test or negative chest x-ray; Hepatitis B vaccine & titer showing immunity; Tetanus vaccine; MMR vaccine or titters showing immunity to Rubella and Rubeola; Varicella titer showing immunity; CPR certification. 2 hours lecture weekly

This course teaches the principles and practices of prevention and control of dental diseases with emphasis on nutrition, plaque control, motivation, and chairside patient education.

DA R101—Dental Assisting 9 units

Corequisites: DA R101L.

Advisory: ENGL R101.

Limitations: Physical/clinical examination (within the last 12 months) with CBC and urinalysis; non-reactive VDRL or RPR; negative Tuberculosis Mantoux test or negative chest x-ray; Hepatitis B vaccine & titer showing immunity; Tetanus vaccine; MMR vaccine or titters showing immunity to Rubella and Rubeola; Varicella titer showing immunity. 9 hours lecture weekly

This course is a comprehensive overview of dental assisting. Topics will include dental terminology, basic anatomy of the oral cavity, dental anatomy and physiology, oral embryology, tooth morphology, classifications of restorations, preliminary oral inspection, charting existing conditions of the hard and soft tissues, taking and recording vital signs, and the introduction to systemic conditions which may affect dental care. Dental radiology/angiography, dental materials, occupational health, and dental specialties will also be discussed. Field trips may be required.

Transfer credit: CSU

DA R101L—Dental Assisting Laboratory 5 units

Corequisites: DA R101.

Limitations: Physical/clinical examination (within the last 12 months) with CBC and urinalysis; non-reactive VDRL or RPR; negative Tuberculosis Mantoux test or negative chest x-ray; Hepatitis B vaccine & titer showing immunity; Tetanus vaccine; MMR vaccine or titters showing immunity to Rubella and Rubeola; Varicella titer showing immunity. 15 hours lab weekly

This class is a hands-on introduction to the primary dental assistant duties. Topics include preparing the patient for dental treatment, positioning of the patient and dental team, and four-handed and six-handed dentistry. Students will learn how to obtain patient health history and vital signs, treatment planning, and data gathering. In addition, instrument grasp/transfer, triplex syringe use, oral evacuation, and retraction will be taught. Identification and use of hand instruments, equipment maintenance, tub, tray and cassette setups of the basic general dental procedures will be covered. Dental radiology/angiography techniques, dental materials uses and techniques will also be practiced. Field trips may be required.

Transfer credit: CSU

DA R105—First Aid/Personal Safety 3 units

3 hours lecture weekly

This course develops safety awareness and positive reactions to emergency situations. It covers ways of reacting to persons suffering from traumatic shock as well as ways of interacting with and calming family members of injured persons. The course includes, but is not limited to, recognition and standard treatment procedures for four life-threatening situations (unconsciousness, breathing, circulation-pulse, and severe bleeding); use of the Automated External Defibrillator (AED); care for poisoning, fractures, emergencies, shock; identification and prevention of sexually transmitted diseases; injury prevention and safety of infants, toddlers/preschoolers and young children; and preventative drug education. Students successfully completing the course receive an National Safety Council First Aid Card, Adult and Child and Infant CPR Cards, and an Automated External Defibrillation (AED) Card. (Same as HED R105). Course is offered Pass/No Pass (P/NP) at student’s option.

Transfer credit: CSU; UC.  C-ID: KIN 101

DENTAL HYGIENE

The Dental Hygiene Program prepares students for the practice of dental hygiene. A Registered Dental Hygienist (RDH) is a licensed professional who is part of the dental care team, performing such services as oral examination, oral prophylaxis (scaling, root planing, soft tissue curettage and polishing the teeth), exposing and processing dental x-rays, administering local anesthesia and nitrous oxide sedation for pain control, applying preventive substances such as topical fluorides and dental sealants along with instructing patients in oral disease control and nutrition.

This Dental Hygiene, Associate of Science Degree Program offers academic and clinical skills curriculum within an on-campus clinic. The student is prepared for the National Board written examination and the State practical examination for licensure as a Registered Dental Hygienist.

For more information, contact the Dental Hygiene Program at (805) 986-5823

FACULTY

Full-Time
Armine Derdarian, DDS
Richard Enriquez, DDS
Margaret Newville, RDH

Part-Time
Susan McDonald, RDH