

DENTAL HYGIENE, ASSOCIATE IN SCIENCE (AS)

Originator

sdavis

College

Oxnard College

Division

Oxnard Career & Tech Ed

Program Title

Dental Hygiene, Associate in Science (AS)

Banner Title

2-DENTAL-AS

Type of Program

Credit

Program Award/Degree

A.S. Degree (S)

Program Goals

C – CTE (limited to CTE programs in CTE TOP codes other than ADTs).

Start Semester

Fall

Start Year

2021

Basic Program Information

This is a Collaborative/Joint Program with another college

No

Program Details

Apprenticeship

No

NOTE: CTE program, please consult with Center of Excellence

Program Narrative

Justification/Reason for Revision

2 year review, update documents.

Program Goals and Objectives: Must address a valid transfer, workforce preparation, basic skills, civic education, or lifelong learning purpose.

The Dental Hygiene Associate in Science degree is a Career Technical Education program in which students in the Oxnard College Dental Hygiene Program (OCDHP) are encouraged to be self-directed in their learning and to establish the highest protocols of professional and personal excellence. Creative, critical, and analytical thinking is encouraged and supported throughout the academic and clinical experience of the program to ensure student success. The OCDHP strives to enable students to successfully complete the National Board Dental Hygiene Examination, the Central Regional Dental Testing Service (CRDTS) or Western Regional Examining Board (WREB) Clinical Boards, and the California State Registered Dental Hygienist Law and Ethics exam to achieve RDH licensure. Students are expected to uphold the ethics of the profession, pursue lifelong professional growth and development through continuing education, and to assume a leadership role in promoting prevention practices and dental health ideals to meet the changing health needs of the community.

Dental hygienists usually work in private dental offices or clinics. In addition, there are opportunities to be employed in alternative settings such as hospitals, community health programs or public health institutions. OCDHP's pass rates of 99% are a testament to the quality of education that students receive, resulting in graduates enjoying 100% job placement. The OCDHP has achieved

an outstanding reputation in the community where it is known for producing highly skilled and prepared graduates, making them extremely sought after in the job market.

PROGRAM STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOMES

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

- Demonstrate competence in performing the common local anesthetic techniques used in the practice of dental hygiene.
- Analyze oral structures/tissues and evaluate these oral structures/tissues for pathology and treat any pathology appropriately.
- Construct dental hygiene treatment plans and employ these plans to provide comprehensive dental hygiene treatment to patients.
- Manage their fundamental roles in the dental practice
- Operate dental radiographic equipment properly and safely
- Evaluate patients' medical/dental histories and make appropriate adjustments to their dental hygiene treatment.

Add Attachment

AS Narrative Dental Hygiene 4-24-21.docx

AS Narrative Dental Hygiene 4-24-21.pdf

Add Attachment

AS Advisory Committee Minutes Dental Hygiene 11-10-2020.pdf

AS LMI Center of Excellence Dental Hygienist February 2021.pdf

AS Advisory Committee Roster Dental Hygiene 2020.pdf

SCCRC Minutes Regional Recommendation 5_14_21.pdf

Catalog Description: Includes program requirements, prerequisite skills or enrollment limitations, student learning outcomes, and information relevant to program goal

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 planning, 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.

The Dental Hygiene, Associate in Science Degree Program offers academic and clinical skills curriculum within an on-campus clinic. The student is prepared for the National Board Dental Hygiene Examination (written), the state practical examination, and must take the California Law & Ethics exam to gain licensure as a Registered Dental Hygienist.

Program Requirements: Includes course requirements and sequencing that reflect program goals.

Course ID	Title	Units/Hours
Program Recommendation		
CAOT R803	Computer Literacy	0
Program Prerequisite Courses		
DH R001	Pre-Dental Hygiene	1
ANAT R101	General Human Anatomy	4
BIOL R101	General Biology (or equivalent)	3
or BIOL R101H	Honors: General Biology	
BIOL R101L	General Biology Laboratory (or equivalent)	1
CHEM R110	Elementary Chemistry	5
CHEM R112	Elementary Organic and Biological Chemistry	5
COMM R101	Introduction to Oral Communication	3
ENGL R101	College Composition	4
or ENGL R101H	Honors: College Composition	
MATH R005	Beginning and Intermediate Algebra for Statistics and Liberal Arts	4-6
or MATH R015	Beginning and Intermediate Algebra	
or MATH R105	Introductory Statistics	
or MATH R105H	Honors: Introductory Statistics	
MICR R100	Principles of Microbiology	3
MICR R100L	Principles of Microbiology Laboratory	2
PHSO R101	Human Physiology	5
PSY R101	General Psychology	3
or PSY R101H	Honors: General Psychology	
SOC R101	Introduction to Sociology	3
or SOC R101H	Honors: Introduction to Sociology	
Select one of the following:		3
ANTH R102	Introduction to Cultural Anthropology	3

or ANTH R102H	Honors: Introduction to Cultural Anthropology	
ANTH/ETHS R114	African American Culture and Experience	3
CHST R101	Introduction to Chicana/o Studies	3
ECE R107	Teaching in a Diverse Society	3
SJS/ETHS R110	Introduction to Social Justice Studies	3
SOC R103	Race and Ethnic Relations	3
SOC/CHST R108	Sociology of the Chicano Community	3

The courses listed above are not necessarily entry-level. Oxnard College offers courses to prepare students to succeed in these prerequisites. The Dental Hygiene Program requires full-time enrollment. See a counselor for more information.

Dental Hygiene Program Admission

Upon completion of the prerequisites, students must apply for admission to the Dental Hygiene program. A minimum cumulative college GPA of 3.0 is required. All colleges ever attended must be reported. All science prerequisites must have been completed no more than 5 years prior to application to the Dental Hygiene program and must have been completed with a 3.0 GPA. Contact the program coordinator at 805-678-5823 for details on the selection process. *The Dental Hygiene program requires full-time enrollment.*

Course ID	Title	Units/Hours
Required Dental Hygiene Courses		
DH R010	Oral Biology for Dental Hygiene	
DH R011	Oral Radiology for Dental Hygiene	
DH R012	Head and Neck Anatomy for Dental Hygiene	
DH R013	Dental Health Education Seminar for Dental Hygiene	
DH R014	Introduction to Dental Hygiene Practice	
DH R015	Introduction to PreClinic/Clinic for Dental Hygiene	
DH R020	Local Anesthesia for Nitrous Oxide for Dental Hygiene	
DH R021	General and Oral Pathology for Dental Hygiene	
DH R022	Pharmacology for Dental Hygiene	
DH R023	Dental Hygiene Clinical Practice I	
DH R024	Dental Hygiene Clinic Seminar I	
DH R025	Periodontics for Dental Hygiene I	
DH R030	Special Patients/Geriatrics for Dental Hygiene	
DH R031	Nutrition in Dentistry for Dental Hygiene	
DH R032	Dental Materials for Dental Hygiene	
DH R033	Dental Hygiene Clinic Seminar II	
DH R034	Dental Hygiene Clinical Practice II	
DH R035	Periodontics for Dental Hygiene II	
DH R036	Community Oral Health for Dental Hygiene I	
DH R040	Advanced Clinical Topics in Dental Hygiene	
DH R041	Practice Management for Dental Hygiene	
DH R042	Dental Hygiene Clinic Seminar III	
DH R043	Dental Hygiene Clinical Practice III	
DH R044	Community Oral Health for Dental Hygiene II	
DH R045	Ethics and Jurisprudence for Dental Hygiene	

Total Required Major Units	55.5
Oxnard College General Education	29
Double-Counted Units	- 16
Free Electives Required	0
Total Required Units for A.S. Degree	68.5

To complete the Associate Degree, students must meet requirements in the major, general education, competency, units, scholarship, and residency. Refer to Earn an Associate Degree (<http://catalog.vcccd.edu/oxnard/graduation-requirements/earn-associate-degree/>) and the A.A. or A.S. Degree in Specific Majors (<http://catalog.vcccd.edu/oxnard/graduation-requirements/associate-degrees-specific-majors/>) sections of this catalog.

Plan of Study

Year 1		Units/Hours
Fall Semester		
DH R010	Oral Biology for Dental Hygiene	3
DH R011	Oral Radiology for Dental Hygiene	3
DH R012	Head and Neck Anatomy for Dental Hygiene	2.5
DH R013	Dental Health Education Seminar for Dental Hygiene	1

DH R014	Introduction to Dental Hygiene Practice	3
DH R015	Introduction to PreClinic/Clinic for Dental Hygiene	2
Units/Hours		14.5
Spring Semester		
DH R020	Local Anesthesia for Nitrous Oxide for Dental Hygiene	2
DH R021	General and Oral Pathology for Dental Hygiene	4
DH R022	Pharmacology for Dental Hygiene	2
DH R023	Dental Hygiene Clinical Practice I	3
DH R024	Dental Hygiene Clinic Seminar I	3
DH R025	Periodontics for Dental Hygiene I	2
Units/Hours		16
Year 2		
Fall Semester		
DH R030	Special Patients/Geriatrics for Dental Hygiene	1
DH R031	Nutrition in Dentistry for Dental Hygiene	1
DH R032	Dental Materials for Dental Hygiene	2
DH R033	Dental Hygiene Clinic Seminar II	2
DH R034	Dental Hygiene Clinical Practice II	4
DH R035	Periodontics for Dental Hygiene II	2
DH R036	Community Oral Health for Dental Hygiene I	2
Units/Hours		14
Spring Semester		
DH R040	Advanced Clinical Topics in Dental Hygiene	2
DH R041	Practice Management for Dental Hygiene	1
DH R042	Dental Hygiene Clinic Seminar III	2
DH R043	Dental Hygiene Clinical Practice III	4
DH R044	Community Oral Health for Dental Hygiene II	1
DH R045	Ethics and Jurisprudence for Dental Hygiene	1
Units/Hours		11
Total Units/Hours		55.5

Enrollment and Completer Projections: Projection of number of students to earn certificate annually

The Oxnard College Dental Hygiene Program accepts 20 students every fall and is limited in the number of students it can admit due to the size of the clinic. However, based on the successful job placement for OCDHP graduates, faculty have determined that they have established a perfect balance so that demand doesn't exceed the supply and similarly the market isn't flooded with graduates unable to find employment.

Although retention and graduation rates remain high, students are often lost between the fall and spring semester of the junior year for a number of reasons with retention rates around 90%. One factor is the lack of student readiness even with the number of prerequisites required for the program. Faculty have noted over the years that there is a deficit in critical thinking skills, which are essential to the program and patient care. In the DH program, information must be synthesized and integrated with information from other courses for complex solutions to be derived. Students often feel that the rigor of the program is excessive, however, these standards are required by both the Commission on Dental Accreditation (CODA) and the Dental Hygiene Board of California (DHBC) and must be maintained. In order to avoid the attrition rate, the DH program believes that moving to a more merit based application process would be beneficial. Likewise, the addition of a Critical Reading and Thinking Course as a prerequisite is being considered.

Place of Program in Curriculum/Similar Programs: How the degree/certificate fits in the college's existing program inventory

In addition to the Dental Assisting Associate in Science degree, Oxnard College offers the following Dental programs:

Certificate of Achievement: Dental Assisting

Associate in Science: Dental Assisting

Similar Programs at Other Colleges in Service Area: Justification of need for program in the region

Oxnard College is the only college in Ventura County or the region offering the Dental Hygiene program.

The closest California Community College programs in Dental Hygiene are at West Los Angeles College and Pasadena City College. This is a highly competitive program with many more applicants than the college can admit and there is enough demand to support the existing California Community College programs. The distance of the other colleges from Oxnard means that these colleges are not competing for local students or in the local job market with Oxnard College graduates.

Master Planning

Master Planning: Address how the degree/certificate fits in the mission, curriculum, and master planning of the college and higher education in California

Oxnard College Mission

Oxnard College is a learning-centered institution that embraces academic excellence by providing multiple pathways to student success.

As a CTE program, the Dental Hygiene program supports the college's mission to provide multiple pathways to success by offering economically vibrant occupational education programs that help stimulate local economic development.

Since 1997, the Oxnard College Dental Hygiene Program has provided students with a high quality, two-year degree program at low cost, helping students access a rewarding and high-salaried career. The California Employment Development Department lists the median annual salary of dental hygienists in Ventura County as \$103,484 and the median hourly wage as \$49.75. The Dental Hygiene Program admits 20 students every Fall semester. Upon verification of program selection criteria, all qualified candidates will be included in a selection pool. A lottery selection process prioritizing Oxnard College and VCCCD students is utilized to select the entering students and alternates. Students not accepted must reapply each year. There is currently no wait list. Enrollment in the program reflects the demographics of the surrounding area. The application period is from January 1st – March 1st.

Enrollment and retention rates remain very strong due to the commitment from both the faculty as well as the students and in spite of the rigor of the program. Retention rates increased to almost 100% in the Spring of 2020 and 2021. The fact that the DH Program continues to receive about 3 times the number of applicants as there are spaces in the program shows that there is still tremendous demand for the program. OCDHP's pass rates are a testament to the quality of education that students receive, resulting in graduates enjoying 100% job placement. The OCDHP has achieved an outstanding reputation in the community where it is known for producing highly skilled and prepared graduates, making them extremely sought after in the job market.

The Commission on Dental Accreditation is a specialized accrediting agency recognized by the Council on Post-secondary Accreditation and the United States Department of Education to accredit dental and dental-related disciplines. The Oxnard College Dental Hygiene Program is accredited by the Commission on Dental Accreditation.

The Oxnard College Dental Hygiene Program received national recognition from the Bellwether Consortium not only for the success of the program, but also for maintaining in-person instruction throughout the pandemic without a single incident of Covid infection. The state-of-the-art building, equipment, technology, and safety protocols have allowed OCDHP to maintain the critical public safety and health employment pipeline the community and state depend on.

Program Student Learning Outcomes

Program Student Learning Outcomes

Outcome
Demonstrate competence in performing the common local anesthetic techniques used in the practice of dental hygiene.
Analyze oral structures/tissues and evaluate these oral structures/tissues for pathology and treat any pathology appropriately.
Construct dental hygiene treatment plans and employ these plans to provide comprehensive dental hygiene treatment to patients.
Manage their fundamental roles in the dental practice
Operate dental radiographic equipment properly and safely
Evaluate patients' medical/dental histories and make appropriate adjustments to their dental hygiene treatment.

Units Required for Program

Required Major Units (Credit Program)/Hours (Noncredit Program) (Minimum)

55.5

Required Major Units (Credit Program)/Hours (Noncredit Program) (Maximum)

55.5

General Education Pattern Available for Program

VCCCD GE

Yes

VCCCD GE

29

Double-Count Units:

16

GE Pattern of a Transfer Institution (meeting minimum of T5 requirements)

No

CSU GE-Breadth

No

IGETC

No

Total General Education Units (Minimum)

29

Total General Education Units (Maximum)

29

Total Double-Count Units (Minimum)

16

Total Double-Count Units (Maximum)

16

Elective Units (Minimum)

0

Elective Units (Maximum)

0

Total Units/Hours for Program (Minimum)

68.5

Total Units/Hours for Program

68.5

Codes

Program TOP Code

1240.20 - *Dental Hygienist

Program CIP Code

51.0602 - 51.0602

SOC (Standard Occupational Classification) Code

29-1292

Approval Dates

Curriculum Committee

04/28/2021

DTRW-I

MM/DD/YYYY

Board of Trustees

MM/DD/YYYY

CCCCO

05/08/2021

State Control #

07084

Department of Education/Accreditation

MM/DD/YYYY

CTE Regional Consortium Recommendation

05/14/2021

Next Program Review Date

01/01/2023