

Dental Hygiene (DNLT) 2135 Community Oral Health I (2 Units) CSU

Prerequisite: Successful completion of all first and second semester dental hygiene program courses with a grade of 'C' or better

Advisory: None

Hours and Unit Calculations: 32 hours lecture + 64 Outside-of-class hours (96 Total Student Learning Hours) = 2 Units

Catalog Description: This course introduces students to the principles and practices of dental public health. Students will gain a comprehensive understanding of federal and state oral health programs, their roles in the delivery of dental care, and the associated barriers to accessing and providing care to underserved communities. Emphasis will be placed on the dental hygiene process of care and its application in designing effective oral health education programs tailored to specific groups in the community.

Type of Class/Course: Degree Credit

Texts: Nathe, Nielsen Christine. *Dental Public Health & Research: Contemporary Practice for the Dental Hygienist*, 4th ed., 2023 update, Pearson, 2023. 2017.

Additional Required Materials: None

Course Objectives:

By the end of the course, a successful student will be able to:

1. Identify various federal and state oral health programs and the role they play in the delivery of dental care in the United States.
2. Identify barriers to obtaining and delivering dental hygiene care.
3. Explain how the dental hygiene process of care is used to plan an oral health education program.
4. Explain the legislative process in the United States and how it affects the dental hygiene profession.
5. List and describe the current public health preventive modalities, with an emphasis on community water fluoridation.
6. Critique current methods of payment for dental care, including both private and public funding.
7. Define cultural competency and its significance in treating culturally diverse populations.
8. Compare common dental indices used in community health settings

Course Student Learning Outcomes (SLO)

1. Utilize the dental hygiene process of care to plan and implement an oral health education program for a target group in the community.
2. Determine approaches that dental professionals can adopt to ensure respectful and culturally sensitive treatment of patients from various backgrounds.
3. Analyze the delivery of dental care through state and federal programs, including how financing structures impact dental care access and provision in the United States.

Course Scope and Content:

Unit I Dental Public Health

- A. A historical perspective of public health
- B. Factors affecting public health

Unit II The Prevention Movement

- A. Evolution of organized dental hygiene
- B. Dental health preventive modalities

Unit III Dental Care Delivery in the United States

- A. Federal structure
- B. State structure
- C. Dental Health Care Workforce

Unit IV Federal and State Legislation Affecting Dental Hygiene Practice

- A. Passing State Laws
- B. Supervision Laws
- C. State Dental Boards

Unit V Financing Dental Care

- A. Payment Methods and Insurance Plans
- B. Dental Provider Billing
- C. Governmental Roles in Funding Dental Care

Unit VI Advocacy for Dental Care

- A. Changes Agents
- B. Lobbying
- C. Role of Professional Associations



Unit VII Dental Health Education and Promotion

- A. Principles of Health
- B. Theories

Unit VIII Target Populations

- A. Target Population Profiles
- B. Barriers to Dental Care

Unit IX Cultural Competency

- A. Cultural Diversity in the United States
- B. Culture Issues in Health Care

Unit X Dental Hygiene Public Health Programs

- A. Assessment
- B. Program Planning
- C. Program Evaluation

Learning Activities Required Outside of Class

The students in the class will spend a minimum of 4 hours per week outside of the regular class time doing the following:

1. Independent reading
2. Homework Assignments
3. Partner work

Methods of Instruction

1. Lecture
2. Discussion
3. Group Activities
4. Audio visual presentations

Methods of Evaluation

1. Quizzes/Tests
2. Written Assignments
3. Partner Project

Supplemental Data:

TOP Code:	124020: Dental Hygienist
SAM Priority Code:	B: Advanced Occupational
Distance Education:	Not Applicable
Funding Agency:	Y: Not Applicable(funds not used)
Program Status:	1: Program Applicable
Noncredit Category:	Y: Not Applicable, Credit Course
Special Class Status:	N: Course is not a special class
Basic Skills Status:	N: Course is not a basic skills course
Prior to College Level:	Y: Not applicable
Cooperative Work Experience:	N: Is not part of a cooperative work experience education program
Eligible for Credit by Exam:	NO
Eligible for Pass/No Pass:	NO
Taft College General Education:	NONE
Discipline:	Dental Technology