Dental Hygiene, B.S.

Program Description

Dental hygienists are preventive oral health professionals who have graduated from an accredited dental hygiene program in an institution of higher education, licensed in dental hygiene to provide educational, clinical, research, administrative and therapeutic services supporting total health through the promotion of optimum oral health. In performing the dental hygiene process of care, the dental hygienist assesses the patient’s oral tissues and overall health determining the presence or absence of disease, other abnormalities and disease risks; develops a dental hygiene diagnosis based on clinical findings; formulates evidence-based, patient-centered treatment care plans; performs the clinical procedures outlined in the treatment care plan; educates patients regarding oral hygiene and preventive oral care; and evaluates the outcomes of educational strategies and clinical procedures provided.

Licensure

To register for the National Board Dental Hygiene Exam log onto:

To register for the WREB or CDCA clinical exams, for dental hygiene licensure, log onto:
WREB Exam (http://www.wreb.org)
CDCA Exam (https://www.cdcaexams.org)

To apply for licensure in the State of Utah log onto:
State of Utah Licensure (http://www.dopl.utah.gov)

Program Curriculum

121 credits

DSU General Education Requirements

All DSU General Education requirements must be fulfilled. A previously earned degree may fulfill those requirements, but courses must be equivalent to DSU’s minimum General Education standards in American Institutions, English, and Mathematics.

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Dental Hygiene Program Prerequisite Requirements

The following coursework must be completed before applying to the Dental Hygiene program.

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CHEM 1110  Elementary General/Organic Chemistry (PS)  
FSHD 1020  Sci Foundations of Nutrition (LS)  

1  CHEM 1115 is co-requisite to CHEM 1110, but not required for Dental Hygiene program admission.

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**Dental Hygiene Program Requirements**

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**Graduation Requirements**

1. Complete a minimum of 120 college-level credits (1000 and above).
2. Complete at least 40 upper-division credits (3000 and above).
3. Complete at least 30 upper-division credits at DSU for institutional residency.
4. Cumulative GPA 2.0 or higher.
5. Grade C or higher in all Discipline Core and Emphasis Requirements.

**Graduation Plan**

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<td>Sci Foundations of Nutrition (LS)</td>
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<td>Intro to Dental Sciences</td>
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3rd Year

Fall Semester

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Spring Semester

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4th Year

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Spring Semester

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**Total Hours: 123**

**Dental Hygiene Program Learning Outcomes:**

At the successful conclusion of this program, students will be able to:

1. Execute all steps in the dental hygiene process of care.
2. Apply a professional code of ethics as stated in the ADHA Code of Ethics.
3. Promote oral health through education and service in public health and alternative settings.
4. Analyze and apply research to facilitate evidence-based decisions.
5. Develop effective communication and collaboration skills for interacting with diverse population groups, healthcare professionals, and health care teams to contribute to increased health and health behaviors.