



## **Bachelor of Science in Dental Hygiene**

Dental hygienists work in a variety of settings to deliver clinical care and work under varying levels of supervision. Common services included in the dental hygiene **scope of practice** are patient assessment, radiographs, prophylaxis, and fluoride treatments. Each state passes its own laws determining the specific services that dental hygienists can perform, the settings in which they can practice and the level of supervision under which they practice. A dental hygienist must have strong academic capability, good manual dexterity, and solid critical thinking skills.

The Bachelor of Science in Dental Hygiene (BSDH) at YSU is a four-year program. Students take nine semesters of coursework, including three semesters of basic science and general education before admission into the program.

At the conclusion of the program, students are eligible to take regional and national board examinations. Upon successful completion of these examinations, graduates may apply for licensure to practice dental hygiene in the state of Ohio, as well as many other states.

### **Employment Opportunities**

Dental hygienists can be employed in general dental offices or in offices that specialize in pediatric dentistry (treatment of children) or periodontics (diseases of the soft tissue and bone). Students who have completed a bachelor's degree are prepared for opportunities in marketing, dental sales, research, teaching, dental public health, state or federal government positions and other health care settings.

### **Faculty**

YSU maintains a faculty to student ratio of approximately 1:4 in the dental hygiene clinic; 1:5 in the radiology and local anesthesia labs as well as the expanded functions lab and clinic; 1:10 in head and neck anatomy, and dental materials, and 1:24 in the classroom. These ratios enable the faculty to provide individual instruction to the students.

The dental hygiene faculty includes full-time and part-time dental hygienists, dentists, and dental specialists.

### **Accreditation**

The Dr. Madeleine Haggerty Dental Hygiene Program is accredited by the American Dental Association Commission on Dental Accreditation.

### **Facilities**

The Dr. Dominic A. and Helen M. Bitonte College of Health and Human Services located in Cushwa Hall is home to the Dental Hygiene Program. Cushwa Hall houses classrooms, conference rooms, dental hygiene clinics, and a patient reception room.

### **Off Campus Experiences**

Experience in nontraditional sites is required in the public health dental hygiene course. Students provide oral health care to patients in regional dental clinics and dental health education in the area school systems.

### **Special Costs**

Dental hygiene students incur costs above the university tuition, such as uniforms, instrument kits, magnification loupes, and required immunizations and testing. There are also fees for regional and national licensure examinations.

### **Application Information for the Bachelor of Science in Dental Hygiene**

New, transfer and former YSU students must first apply and be admitted to the University by completing the undergraduate admissions form and indicating dental hygiene as the intended major. The application must be submitted by August 1 for fall semester or December 1 for spring semester. The academic credentials of transfer students must be received by August 15 for fall semester and December 15 for spring semester.

*(continued)*

**FOR MORE INFORMATION ABOUT THIS PROGRAM, GO TO:**

<http://www.ysu.edu/academics/bitonte-college-health-and-human-services/dental-hygiene-major>

**Contact the Admissions Office at:**

Telephone: 877-468-6978 • 330-941-2000 • Fax: 330-941-3674 • Email: [enroll@ysu.edu](mailto:enroll@ysu.edu)

Accessibility Services Office: Video Phone: 866-757-1353

[www.ysu.edu](http://www.ysu.edu)

The application deadline for the Bachelor of Science in Dental Hygiene degree is September 1 for spring semester admittance. Candidates should apply online. Please email Jennifer Myers at [jmyers09@ysu.edu](mailto:jmyers09@ysu.edu) for a review of your prerequisites and individual application link (beginning March 1).

All necessary dental hygiene records and supporting documents must be received by September 1 of the year of application. Students will be admitted on a competitive basis as class size is restricted.

### Observation Requirement

Prospective students must complete a minimum of 12 hours of observation of a registered dental hygienist in at least two separate dental offices or dental clinics. Observation forms are available on the dental hygiene website at [www.ysu.edu](http://www.ysu.edu). Each prospective student must complete the forms and mail them to Youngstown State University Dental Hygiene Program, One University Plaza, Youngstown, Ohio, 44555. The forms must be received by the September 1 deadline.

### Curriculum Overview

#### First Year (Fall Semester)

- Writing 1
- Chemistry for the Allied Health Sciences
- Allied Health Anatomy and Physiology
- YSU Success Seminar

#### First Year (Spring Semester)

- Writing 2
- Communication Foundations
- Microbiology for the Health Professions
- Microbiology Laboratory for Health Professions  
**OR**
- Microbiology for Health Care Laboratory
- General Psychology
- Quantitative Reasoning  
**OR**
- Statistical Literacy and Critical Reasoning

#### Second Year (Fall Semester)

- Introduction to Professional Ethics
- Introduction to Sociology
- Arts and Humanities Elective
- Social and Personal Awareness Elective

#### Second Year (Spring Semester)

- Dental Hygiene 1
- Clinical Dental Hygiene 1
- Head and Neck Anatomy
- Head and Neck Anatomy Lab
- Management of Medical /Dental Emergencies
- Social & Personal Awareness Elective

#### Second Year (Summer Semester)

- Dental Hygiene 2
- Clinical Dental Hygiene 2
- Oral Histology

#### Third Year (Fall Semester)

- Dental Hygiene 3
- Clinical Dental Hygiene 3
- Oral Pathology
- Dental Radiology
- Dental Radiology Lab
- Periodontology
- Health Education for Allied Health\*

#### Third Year (Spring Semester)

- Dental Hygiene 4
- Clinical Dental Hygiene 4
- Pharmacology
- Local Anesthesia & Pain Control for Dental Hygienists
- Local Anesthesia & Pain Control Clinic
- Research Methods\*

#### Fourth Year (Fall Semester)

- Dental Hygiene 5
- Clinical Dental Hygiene 5
- Dental Materials
- Dental Materials Lab
- Directed Dental Hygiene Research
- Expanded Functions for the Dental Hygienist
- Expanded Functions for the Dental Hygienist Lab

#### Fourth Year (Spring Semester)

- Dental Hygiene 6
- Clinical Dental Hygiene 6
- Dental Public Health
- Community Clinicals
- Ethics and Practice Concepts
- Expanded Functions Clinical

### Program Goals

- GOAL 1: Participate in a variety of recruitment activities to attract and admit qualified students.
- GOAL 2: Review and evaluate program curriculum to include current research and evidence-based content.
- GOAL 3: Enhance the competency and professionalism of the dental hygiene faculty by encouraging scholarly activity and service.
- GOAL 4: Graduate students who have met stated program competencies.

### Transferability

Transferability of courses completed in the YSU Dental Hygiene Program is dependent upon the policies of the new program of application.

\*AHLT distance education courses are assessed a technology fee and use a secure login and pass code to verify and protect student identity.

Revised May 2023

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