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.

For more information about this program, go to http://www.ysu.edu/academics/bitonte-college-health-and-human-services/dental-hygiene-major
The application deadline for the Bachelor of Science in Dental Hygiene degree is September 1 for spring semester admittance. Application packets are available in the Dean’s office, Bitonte College of Health and Human Services, Cushwa Hall, room 2104.

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. 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
- Writing 1
- Allied Health Chemistry 1
- Allied Health Anatomy and Physiology
- YSU Success Seminar
- Writing 2
- Communication Foundations
- Allied Health Chemistry 2
- General Psychology
- Survey of Mathematics
  Or
  Statistical Literacy and Critical Reasoning

Second Year
- Microbiology for the Health Professions
- Microbiology Laboratory for Health Professions
- Introduction to Professional Ethics
- Introduction to Sociology
- Arts and Humanities Elective
- Social and Personal Awareness Elective
- 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

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

Third Year
- Dental Hygiene 3
- Clinical Dental Hygiene 3
- Oral Pathology
- Dental Radiology
- Dental Radiology Lab
- Periodontology
- Health Education for Allied Health*
- Dental Hygiene 4
- Clinical Dental Hygiene 4
- Pharmacology
- Local Anesthesia & Pain Control for Dental Hygienists
- Local Anesthesia & Pain Control Clinic
- Research Methods*

Fourth Year
- 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
- 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.

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