Dental Hygiene (DNTL) 2244 Community Oral Health (2 Units) CSU
[formerly Dental Hygiene 44]

Prerequisite: Successful completion of all first, second and third semester Dental Hygiene Program courses with a grade of “C” or better

Advisory: None

Total Hours: 32 hours lecture

Catalog Description: This course introduces students to the principle and practices of dental public health. The emphasis is based on the role of the dental hygienist as an innovator of and an educator in community health programs. Public health issues will be introduced and discussed. Students will learn to interpret and apply evidenced based research and develop a community based dental health project.

Type of Class/Course: Degree Credit


Additional Instructional Materials: None

Course Objectives:

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

1. Conduct a needs assessment on a target group in the community,
2. Develop, implement, and assess an oral hygiene presentation to a target group,
3. Explain oral health disparities in different communities,
4. Explain the benefits and limitations of the Registered Dental Hygienist in Alternative Practice (RDHAP),
5. Successfully conduct, analyze, and apply evidence-based research in an academic setting,
6. Understand and apply cultural competence in a dental hygiene setting, and
7. Develop an effective dental hygiene diagnosis
Course Scope and Content:

Unit I  Dental Public Health: An Overview
        A. Historical Perspective of Public Health
        B. Factors Affecting Dental 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

Unit IV  Dental Hygiene Care Delivery in the Global Community
        A. International Dental Hygiene
        B. Key International Organizations

Unit V   Financing Dental Care
        A. Payment Methods
        B. Dental Provider Billing

Unit VI  Legislation and Dental Hygiene Practice
        A. Supervision Requirements
        B. Advocacy for Dental Hygiene Care

Unit VII Community Lesson Plan Development
        A. Dental Hygiene Process of Care
        B. Dental Hygiene Diagnosis

Unit VIII Target Populations
        A. Target Populations Profiles
        B. Barriers to Dental Care

Unit IX  Cultural Competency
        A. Cultural Diversity in the United States
        B. Cultural Issues in Healthcare

Unit X   Program Planning
        A. Dental Hygiene Public Health Programs
        B. Dental Hygiene Public Health Program Planning Paradigm

Unit XI  Program Evaluation
        A. Evaluation Techniques
        B. Dental Indexes
Unit XII  Research in Dental Hygiene  
A. The Components of a Research Study  
B. Research Approaches and Designs  

Unit XIII  Epidemiology  
A. Measurement  
B. Surveillance and Reports  
C. Prevention Using Dental Care  

Unit XIV  Biostatistics  
A. Descriptive Statistics  
B. Inferential Statistics  

Unit XV  Evaluation of Scientific Literature and Dental Products  
A. Sources for Dental Care Products  
B. Evaluation of Advertisements  

Unit XVI  Strategies for Creating Dental Hygiene Positions  
A. Legislative Perspective  
B. Proposal Development and Presentation  

Unit XVII  Drug Abuse  
A. Meth Mouth  
B. Identification  

Learning Activities Required Outside of Class:  

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

1. Independent reading and study  
2. Target group work  
3. Preparation of Power Point presentation to class on their target group  
4. RDHAP interview  
5. Preparing Grant and final reflection papers  
6. Independent research  

Methods of Instruction:  

1. Lecture  
2. Class discussion  
3. Class debate  
4. Audiovisual presentations  
5. Classroom Activities  
   a. Case Studies  
   b. Analyze Advertisement
c. Formulation of dental hygiene diagnosis

Methods of Evaluation:

1. Substantial writing assignments including:
   a. RDHAP interview
   b. target group work
   c. grant reflection papers
   d. final reflection paper
2. Examinations and quizzes including:
   a. multiple choice items
   b. matching items
   c. true/false items
   d. take home tests

Supplemental Data:

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