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Dental Hygiene (DNTL 2242 Ethics, Law & Practice Management (3 Units) CSU  
[formerly DNTL 2241 and DNTL 2245])

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

Hours and Unit Calculations:

48 hours lecture. 96 Outside of class hours. (144 Total Student Learning Hours) 3 Units

Catalog Description: This course provides a comprehensive analysis of the ethical and legal frameworks governing oral healthcare delivery, with a particular focus on California law. It covers essential topics including dental office management, financial and business considerations, and effective job-seeking strategies, such as resume writing and interview techniques, to equip future dental hygienists for their professional career.

Type of Class/Course: Degree Credit

Texts: Kimbrough, Vickie J., and Charla J. Lautar. *Ethics, Jurisprudence, and Practice Management in Dental Hygiene*. 3rd ed., 2022 update, Pearson, 2022.

Additional Required Materials: Access to the California Dental Hygiene and Dental Board website

Course Objectives:

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

1. Discuss federal laws as they apply to delivery of healthcare.
2. Discuss the California Dental Practice Act as it applies to the practice of dental hygiene.
3. Identify and discuss moral and ethical core values as it applies to the practice of dental hygiene and current oral healthcare issues.
4. Explain the business aspect of a dental practice setting which includes marketing, profitability, dental insurance, procedure codes, and management styles.
5. Identify the sections of dental hygiene cover letter and resume.
6. Discuss aspects of searching for a dental hygiene position, including interviews and compensation packages.
7. Discuss California labor laws as they apply to the dental hygiene profession.
8. Identify retirement plan and investment options and the various insurances available to dental hygienists to ensure career longevity.

Student Learning Outcomes (SLO)

1. Apply the decision-making model and core values to identify and implement the most ethical course of action in a dental hygiene patient care scenario.
2. Prepare a cover letter and resume for a dental hygiene position demonstrating professionalism and attention to detail.
3. Develop and deliver well-structured responses to questions during a simulated interview for a dental hygiene position

4. Analyze and interpret the California Dental Practice Act and labor laws in the context of their application to dental hygiene practice.

Course Scope and Content:

Unit I	Ethical Theories <ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>A. Utilitarianism</li><li>B. Kantian Ethics</li><li>C. Virtue Ethics</li></ol>
Unit II	Ethical Principles <ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>A. Core Values</li><li>B. Professional Association Codes of Ethics</li></ol>
Unit III	Informed Consent <ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>A. Types of consent</li><li>B. Exceptions to the rule</li></ol>
Unit IV	Ethical Dilemmas and Decision-making <ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>A. Stages in Moral development</li><li>B. Decision making model</li></ol>
Unit V	Law <ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>A. Workplace labor laws</li><li>B. California Dental Practice Act</li><li>C. Criminal and civil law</li><li>D. Federal laws as applied to healthcare</li></ol>
Unit VI	Dental Practice as a Business <ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>A. Leadership/Management styles</li><li>B. Dental team concept and staff roles</li><li>C. Time management</li><li>D. Dental insurance and procedure codes</li><li>E. Marketing</li><li>F. Profitability and production</li></ol>
Unit VII	Job-Seeking <ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>A. Components of resumes</li><li>B. Interview questions</li><li>C. Employment contracts</li><li>D. Temporary positions and the working interview</li></ol>
Unit VIII	Planning For the Future <ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>A. Insurance coverage for dental hygienists</li><li>B. Investment options</li></ol>

Learning Activities Required Outside of Class:



The students in the class will spend a minimum of 6 hours per week outside of the regular class time doing the following:

1. Independent study and reading
2. Reviewing the California Dental/ Dental Hygiene Board website and publications
3. Homework assignments

Methods of Instruction:

1. Lectures
2. PowerPoint presentations
3. Class discussions
4. Class activities/assignments
5. Guest speakers
6. Group/partner work

Methods of Evaluation:

1. Exams consisting of multiple choice, true/false, matching and short answer questions.
2. Discussion Boards
3. Course assignments

Supplemental Data:

T.O.P. Code:	1240.20 Dental Hygienist
Sam Priority Code:	B: Advanced Occupational
Distance Learning:	N/A
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:	Is not a part of a cooperative work experience education program

Eligible for Credit by Exam:	No
Eligible for Pass/No Pass:	N/A
Discipline:	Dental Technology