

ALLIED HEALTH AND NURSING CURRICULA

DENTAL HYGIENE

Associate of Applied Science Degree

MEC

Purpose: The curriculum is designed to prepare selected students to serve in a dynamic and growing health profession as valuable members of the Dental Health team. At the successful completion of the program, the student will be eligible to take the National Board and Regional Board Examinations in Dental Hygiene leading to licensure as a Registered Dental Hygienist (R.D.H.).

Transfer Information: Although transfer is not the primary purpose of an A.A.S. program, NVCC has articulation agreements that facilitate the transfer of this and other career-oriented programs to selected senior institutions. Students interested in transfer should contact a counselor or their faculty advisor early in their program.

Students must comply with all General Admission Requirements for Allied Health Programs. (See page 127.)

Additional Admission Requirements:

1. Students must pass NAS 161-162, Health Science I-II, 8 credits, with a grade of B or better prior to being admitted to the program.
2. Students may be required to repeat courses or to complete evaluative testing for credits earned more than ten years ago.

Special Program Requirements: The Commonwealth of Virginia Board of Dentistry reserves the right to deny licensure to any candidate who has been convicted of a crime involving moral turpitude or the use of drugs or alcohol to the extent that such use renders him/her unsafe to practice dental hygiene. Any applicant who has been found guilty of a misdemeanor or felony must consult with the Dental Hygiene assistant dean prior to admission.

Special Accreditation Status: The curriculum has been accredited by the Commission on Dental Accreditation of the American Dental Association, a specialized accrediting body recognized by the Council on Post-Secondary Accreditation and by the U.S. Department of Education.

Prerequisites:

	Credits
NAS 161 Health Science I	4
NAS 162 Health Science II	<u>4</u>
Total Credits	8

Two Years

First Semester

	Credits
DNH 111 Oral Anatomy	2
DNH 114 Head/Neck Anatomy	2
DNH 120 Management of Emergencies	2
DNH 130 Oral Radiography for the Dental Hygienist	2
DNH 141 Dental Hygiene I	5
SDV 101 Orientation to Health Care	<u>1</u>
Total	14

Second Semester

DNH 113 General & Oral Histology	2
DNH 142 Dental Hygiene II	5
DNH 145 General & Oral Pathology	2
DNH 146 Periodontics for the Dental Hygienist	2
DNH 150 Nutrition	2
ENG 111 College Composition I	<u>3</u>
Total	16

Third Semester

DNH	143 Dental Hygiene III	4
DNH	214 Practical Materials for Dental Hygiene	<u>2</u>
	Total	6

Fourth Semester

DNH	216 Pharmacology	2
DNH	220 Community Dental Health	2
DNH	244 Dental Hygiene IV	5
¹ PED	116 Lifetime Fitness & Wellness	1
PSY	201 Intro. to Psychology I	<u>3</u>
	Total	13

Fifth Semester

DNH	225 Community Dental Health Ed.	2
DNH	230 Office Practice & Ethics	1
DNH	245 Dental Hygiene V	5
¹ PED/RPK		1
HIS	101 History of Western Civilization I OR HIS 111 History of World Civ. I OR HIS 261 Topics in Cultural Ethnicity	3
SPD	229 Intercultural Communication	<u>3</u>
	Total	15

Total credits for the A.A.S. Degree in Dental Hygiene = 72 (includes 8 prerequisite credits).

¹ The PED requirement may be met by one of the following options: PED 116, 2 cr.; PED 220, 2 cr.; PED 116, 1 cr. plus a PED activities course, 1 cr.; or PED 116, 1 cr. plus RPK activities course. PED 116 is offered as both a 1-credit and a 2-credit course.