

Northern Virginia Community College 2009-2010 Catalog
Medical Education - 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: Transfer is **not** the primary purpose of an A.A.S. program, but NOVA 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.

Admission Requirements:

Students must:

- Comply with all General Admission Requirements for Allied Health Programs.
- Be eligible to sit for the licensure exam, which will require the student to present documentation of legal status in the US.
- Pass NAS 161-162 Health Science I-II with a grade of "B" or higher prior to being admitted to the program.
- Pass ENG 111 College Composition I and SDV 101 Orientation to Health Care with a "C" or higher prior to being admitted to the program. (For admission in Fall 2009 or later)
- Be willing to repeat courses or to complete evaluative testing for credits earned more than ten years ago.
- Look for the competitive admission and deadlines for applications on the Dental Hygiene web site at <http://www.nvcc.edu/medical/health/dental/index.htm>.

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:

ENG	111 College Composition I
NAS	161 Health Science I
NAS	162 Health Science II
SDV	101 Orientation to Health Care
Total	

Credits

3
4
4
1
12

Two Years

1st Semester

DNH	111 Oral Anatomy
DNH	115 Histology/Head and Neck Anatomy
DNH	130 Oral Radiography for the Dental Hygienist
DNH	141 Dental Hygiene I
Total	

Credits

2
3
2
5
12

2nd Semester

DNH	120 Management of Emergencies
DNH	142 Dental Hygiene II
DNH	145 General and Oral Pathology
DNH	146 Periodontics for the Dental Hygienist
DNH	216 Pharmacology
Total	

2
5
2
2
2
13

Continued...

3rd Semester

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

4th Semester

DNH	150 Nutrition	2
DNH	226 Public Health Dental Hygiene I	2
DNH	235 Mgmt of Pain & Anxiety in the Dental Office	2
DNH	244 Dental Hygiene IV	5
¹ PED	116 Lifetime Fitness & Wellness	1
PSY	201 Intro to Psychology I	<u>3</u>
	Total	15

5th Semester

CST	229 Intercultural Communication	<u>3</u>
DNH	227 Public Health Dental Hygiene II	1
DNH	230 Office Practice & Ethics	1
DNH	245 Dental Hygiene V	5
² _____	Humanities/Fine Arts Elective	3
¹ PED/RPK	Elective	<u>1</u>
	Total	14

Total credits for the A.A.S. Degree in Dental Hygiene = 72 (includes 12 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.

² Humanities/fine arts elective may be selected from the humanities/fine arts courses listed under General Education Electives.