

**NOVA COLLEGE-WIDE COURSE CONTENT SUMMARY
DNH 143 - DENTAL HYGIENE III (3 CR.)**

Course Description

This course introduces dental health care for clients with special needs. It includes introduction to computer concepts and applications as well as provides supervised clinical practice in the dental hygiene clinic with emphasis on refining client treatment and instrumentation skills, including oral radiographs. Lecture 2 hours per week. Clinical 3 hours per week. Total 5 hours per week.

General Course Purpose

To expand the dental hygiene student's knowledge of their role in dental hygiene practices and working with special patient groups such as hospitalized and chronically ill patients, patients with physical and mental disabilities, pregnant patients and patients with systemic disorders.

Course Prerequisites/Corequisites

None

Course Objectives

Upon completing the course, the student will be able to:

- Demonstrate proper care, maintenance and use of the dental unit, handpiece, prophylaxis angle, and equipment used in the dental clinic.
- Consistently and appropriately treatment plan and utilize radiographs during dental hygiene procedures.
- Characterize the special considerations in appointment planning for persons with physical, sensory and mental handicaps.
- Describe the capabilities and limitations of persons with physical and mental handicaps with regard to oral hygiene instruction and plaque control.
- Complete scaling, coronal polishing, exposing radiographs and fluoride application on patients in clinic as indicated in criteria for evaluation of end product.
- Describe the adaptation of instruments, equipment and procedures for dental hygiene care for restricted or hospitalized patients and provide oral hygiene instruction taking into consideration the capabilities and limitations of these patients.
- Describe with reasonable expectations, the approach and appointment planning of the pediatric patient, pregnant patient, menopausal patient, geriatric patient, and those with systemic disorders.
- Discuss management of patients with psychiatric disorders.
- Describe the characteristics, clinical and emotional, and the treatment of the patient with an eating disorder.
- Develop and present a Table Clinic.

Major Topics to be Included

- The Pregnant Patient
- Pediatric Oral Health Care
- Preadolescent to Postmenopausal Patients
- The Elderly and Edentulous Patient
- Care of Patients with Disabilities
- The Homebound and Physical Impairment Patient
- Patients with Sensory and Mental Disabilities
- Patients with Psychiatric Disorders
- Patients with Physical Impairments and Seizure Disorders