

Dental Hygiene

DENTAL AUXILIARIES EDUCATION DEPARTMENT

Associate in Applied Science (A.A.S.) Degree

The program in Dental Hygiene is accredited by the Commission on Dental Accreditation and has been granted the accreditation status of approval. Graduates of this program qualify to take the North East Regional and the National Board Examinations for licensure to practice.

Why major in Dental Hygiene?

The student can become a licensed professional who works under the supervision of a dentist and performs services that detect, prevent and treat diseases of the mouth. Services include performing oral examinations, oral cancer screenings, scaling, root planning, polishing, applying decay preventing agents, taking and processing dental X-rays, and providing patient education in preventive dentistry.

Can students who major in Dental Hygiene transfer to a four-year college or university?

Some colleges and universities such as Thomas Edison, Montclair State University, UMDNJ, and New Jersey City University will apply the courses the student has taken toward a bachelor's degree.

What will students learn by studying Dental Hygiene?

Students will study comprehensive didactic, laboratory and clinic courses in dental hygiene and the dental sciences presented by highly qualified dental hygienists and dentists. State-of-the-art equipment is used in the on-site dental hygiene clinic and laboratories. Students will have additional clinical experiences in local hospitals and public schools. Basic science and general education requirements complete the course of study.

Are there any special requirements that must be satisfied before taking courses in the major?

- Students must be a U.S. citizen or permanent resident who have been permanently domiciled in the state of New Jersey for at least 12 months prior to the first day of classes.
- Students must have a "C" or better in high school laboratory biology and laboratory chemistry or an equivalent college course.
- Algebra 1 is a pre-requisite for all majors. Algebra 1 competency may be verified with a passing score on the College's placement test of completion of the appropriate course. As a result of the student's performance on the College's placement test, he or she may need developmental coursework. All developmental coursework must be completed before they will be considered for admission to the program.
- Students must have a cumulative GPA of 2.75. High school GPA will be used if the student has less than 12 college credits at the time of application.
- When students apply, they must take a Health Technologies entrance examination. A minimum overall score of 75% is required to be eligible for admission.

How long will it take to complete this degree?

Once students complete developmental coursework (if needed), the degree can be completed in two years of full-time study.

Are there any special requirements once the student is admitted to this major?

Students must meet the academic standards of progress to stay in the program. All DHY courses must be taken at Middlesex County College.

Questions?

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DENTAL HYGIENE

Associate in Applied Science (A.A.S.) Degree - DHY.AAS

Below are required courses and recommended course groupings and sequences for program completion.

Courses may have prerequisite and corequisite requirements. Check course descriptions for details.

Courses	Credits	Requisites/Comments
<i>Semester I</i>		
BIO 211 Principles of Microbiology	4	One year of high school laboratory biology or BIO 010 and one year of high school laboratory chemistry or CHM 010. Also appropriate score on the College's placement test or MAT 013.
DHY 102 Dental Radiology	2	Credit-by-examination available if the student is licensed to take radiographs in New Jersey.
DHY 105 Oral Anatomy and Histology	4	
DHY 107 Preventive Oral Health Services I	4	
ENG 121 English Composition I	3	A passing score on the College's placement test or a grade of "C" or better in ENG 010.
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<i>Semester II</i>		
BIO 111 Human Anatomy and Physiology I	4	One year of high school laboratory biology or BIO 010 and one year of high school laboratory chemistry or CHM 010 and appropriate score on the College's placement test or MAT 013.
DHY 108 Preventive Oral Health Services II	5	DHY 102, DHY 105, DHY 107 and current CPR certification.
DHY 111 Nutrition and Oral Health	2	DHY 102, DHY 105, DHY 107
DHY 204 Dental Materials	2	DHY 102, DHY 105, DHY 107
DHY 115 Periodontology	2	BIO 211, DHY 102, DHY 105, DHY 107
ENG 122 English Composition II	3	A grade of "C" or better in ENG 121
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<i>Summer I</i>		
CHM 107 Principles of General, Organic & Biochemistry	4	One year of high school laboratory chemistry or CHM 010.
BIO 112 Human Anatomy and Physiology II	4	BIO 111
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<i>Semester III</i>		
DHY 203 General and Oral Pathology	2	DHY 108, DHY 111, DHY 204, DHY 115
DHY 207 Dental Health Education	2	DHY 108, DHY 111, DHY 204, DHY 115
DHY 208 Pharmacology	2	Prerequisite(s): CHM 107 Corequisite(s): BIO 112, DHY 203, DHY 207, DHY 211, DHY 215
DHY 211 Preventive Oral Health Services III	5	DHY 108, DHY 111, DHY 204, DHY 115 and current CPR certification.
DHY 215 Advanced Periodontology	1	DHY 108, DHY 111, DHY 204, DHY 115
PSY 123 Introduction to Psychology	3	
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<i>Semester IV</i>		
DHY 210 Community Health	2	DHY 203, DHY 207, DHY 211, DHY 215
DHY 212 Preventive Oral Health Services IV	5	DHY 203, DHY 207, DHY 211, DHY 215 and current CPR certification.
DHY 218 Local Anesthesia and Pain Control	2	DHY 105, DHY 208, DHY 211 Corequisite(s): DHY 212
DHY 224 Dental Hygiene Seminar	1	Prerequisite(s): DHY 107, DHY 108, DHY 211 Corequisite(s): DHY 212
SOC 121 Introduction to Sociology	3	
Physical/Health Education Elective	1-3	

Total Credits: 72-74

Standards of Progress

1. Maintain a cumulative grade point average of 2.0.
2. Must achieve a "C" grade or better in all science courses to satisfy degree requirements.
3. Must achieve a "C" grade or better in all dental hygiene courses in order to progress in the curriculum.
4. An unsatisfactory grade (i.e. a grade less than "C") in any first semester dental hygiene course results in dismissal from the program. The student has the option to reapply to the Dental Hygiene Program. Upon readmission, the student is required to retake DHY 107- Preventative Oral Health Services I in addition to any other failed courses.
5. If a student earns a grade of less than "C" in any dental hygiene course other than the first semester courses, the student may retake the course the next time it is offered, and if space is available in the program for the student to return. Upon returning, the student is also required to retake the Preventative Oral Health Services course that is the co-requisite for the semester they return. Students retaking clinical courses must adhere to the conditions outlined in the Dental Hygiene program's *Policy for Returning Students*. A student may retake a failed dental hygiene course only once; any subsequent failure(s) in the same dental hygiene course will result in dismissal from the Dental Hygiene Program.
6. Students who are dismissed from the Dental Hygiene Program have the option to re-apply.

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