

# Dental Hygiene Degree Map

● CAREER DEGREE     MIDDLETOWN CAMPUS

## A Day in the Life...

A dental hygienist is a professional licensed by the state and must have an associate's degree. She or he often works one-on-one with patients performing tasks such as helping to prevent dental disease, applying preventive agents, and taking radiographs (X-rays). Hygienists perform oral cancer screenings, take patients' medical history, take vital signs, and educate patients on ways to improve and maintain good oral health. Other job duties may include applying sealants and fluoride to teeth, teaching patients oral hygiene strategies, such as brushing, flossing and nutritional counseling; making impressions for study casts or models of teeth; and performing documentation and office management activities. Dental hygienists find employment in private dental offices, corporate dental practices, hospitals, public health, higher education, the armed services, marketing and research fields.

## Three Reasons to Consider Dental Hygiene

1. Our Dental Hygiene program provides hands-on training through classroom instruction and participation in a clinical setting.
2. This program will prepare you for a healthcare job that's in high demand and has opportunities for career growth.
3. Our Dental Hygiene program includes a clinical setting that mirrors a community dental practice, so you'll have hands-on opportunities to practice skills taught in the classroom and you'll have access to the latest technology such as digital radiographs.

## Keep This in Mind

There are additional expenses for instruments, uniforms, equipment, professional memberships, and Board exam expenses.

This program is like a **full-time job** in itself and the faculty recommends that outside work commitments should be 10 hours or less during the semester.

The student's time must be flexible since there will be days when you will need to arrive earlier to prepare and stay later to finish the clinic duties.

Once you graduate from this program, you will find employment, have the potential for economic independence, and be part of a respected alumni group.

## Dental Hygiene Gateway Courses:

*Course sequences for Dental Hygiene have been thoughtfully developed to include all necessary gateway courses and key electives, and to meet all accrediting standards.*

### First Semester

Course #	Course Name	P, C, P/C	Cr
ENG 101	Freshman English 1	P	3
BIO 115	Human Biology	P	4
CHM 110	General and Biological Chemistry	P	3
DNT 101	Preventive Oral Health Services 1	C, P/C	5
DNT 103	Maxillofacial Anatomy and Oral Histology	C, P/C	4
	Total Semester Credits		19

### Milestones

**During this semester, students should:**

- Attend Orientation (May prior to first semester and Kit Day in August)
- Participate in Dental Hygiene Open House

### Second Semester

Course #	Course Name	P, C, P/C	Cr
ENG 102	Freshman English 2	P	3
DNT 102	Preventive Oral Health Services 2	P, C, P/C	5
DNT 104	Dental Radiology	P, C, P/C	3
DNT 106	Oral Health Education	P, C, P/C	2
DNT 108	Pharmacology	P, C, P/C	2
MLT 106	Microbiology for Health Professionals	P/C	3
	Total Semester Credits		18

### Milestones

**During this semester, students should:**

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- Begin patient care in clinic

## Summer Session I

Course #	Course Name	P, C, P/C	Cr
DNT 110	Pain Management in Dentistry		2

### Milestones

During this semester, students should:

- N/A

## Third Semester

Course #	Course Name	P, C, P/C	Cr
BIO 125	Nutrition		3
DNT 201	Preventive Oral Health Services III	P, C, P/C	5
DNT 203	Oral Pathology	P, C, P/C	2
DNT 205	Periodontology	P, C, P/C	2
DNT 207	Dental Bio-Materials and Advanced Functions	P, C, P/C	3
	Total Semester Credits		15

### Milestones

During this semester, students should:

- Complete VA Rotation/Ultrasonics requirements
- Engage in community activities

## Fourth Semester

Course #	Course Name	P, C, P/C	Cr
COM 101	Foundations of Communication		3
PSY 111	Introduction to Psychology		3
SOC 101	Introduction to Sociology		3
DNT 202	Preventive Oral Health Services IV	P, C, P/C	5
DNT 206	Community Dental Health	P, C, P/C	2
	Total Semester Credits		16

### Milestones

During this semester, students should:

- Prepare for Board exams
- Apply for graduation
- Attend both the Pinning and Commencement Ceremonies

**TOTAL DEGREE CREDITS: 70**