

Course Code: DHG 237**Course Title:** Licensure/Transition to RDH**Department:** Allied Health**Effective Date:** Summer 2026**PCS Code:** 1.2 - Occupational/Technical Instruction**CIP Code:** 51.0602**Repeatability:** 0

Credit Hours

Catalog Notation: 1-0-1**Credit Hour Distribution:**

Lecture: 1

Lab: 0

Clinical: 0

Total: 1

General Course Information

Catalog Description

The role of licensure in the dental hygiene profession. The processes, procedures, requirements, jurisdictions and cost of becoming licensed to practice dental hygiene in the United States. Preparation for transition from student to licensed professional.

General Course Objectives

Apply knowledge of the National Board Dental Hygiene Examination to prepare for successful completion. Apply knowledge of the clinical/regional board examination to prepare for successful completion. Understand the role and importance of the American Dental Hygiene Association to prepare for participation. Understand various requirements for dental hygiene licensure internationally. Demonstrate an understanding of the licensure process for state dental hygiene licensure.

Minimum Placement Levels

English	Reading	Math
Placement out of ENG 099	Placement out of CCS 099	Placement out of MAT 072

Prerequisites

Credit in DHG 210, DHG 217, DHG 218, DHG 230, DHG 233, and ENG 101

Admission into the Dental Hygiene program

Methods of Evaluation

10-12 online assignments, 1-2 exams.

Instructional Materials and Additional Supplies

Community Oral Health Practice for the Dental Hygienist by Beatty

Darby's Comprehensive Review of Dental Hygiene by Blue

Dental Hygiene Theory and Practice by Pieren and Gadbury-Amyots

Course Content

General Learning Outcomes (GLOs)

- Critical Thinking and Information Literacy: Students will demonstrate the ability to evaluate perspectives, evidence, and implications, and to locate, assess, and use information effectively.

Course Segments and Student Learning Outcomes

Course Segment	Learning Outcomes	Lecture Hours	Lab Hours	Clinical Hours
Course Overview and Registration for National Board Dental Hygiene Exam	1. Describe the history of the professional examination process. 2. Describe the Dental Hygiene National Board Exam. 3. Compare and contrast the types of examinations required for licensure. 4. Differentiate between the practical and written examination. 5. List the content divisions of the Dental Hygiene National Board Exam. 6. Describe the examination format, test construction, and scoring system.	1	0	0
Overview of CRDTS	1. Describe where to find the information about the states included in each regional examination. 2. Describe examiner selection, calibration, and training for the regional examination. 3. Describe the pros and cons of a double-blind testing manner for the regional examination.	2	0	0
Overview of Licensure and State Board of Dentistry	1. Describe the credentialing system of the state board of dentistry. 2. Compare and contrast the differences between the state board of dentistry and professional organizations. 3. Describe how members are chosen to serve on the state board of dentistry. 4. Describe how the individual practitioner, the educational system, and the credentialing agencies affect the advancement of standard of care.	1	0	0
CRTS Application Process and Requirements	1. Describe the content and requirements of the regional board examination of interest to student. 2. Describe examination scoring and the emphasis on determining acceptable versus unacceptable performance. 3. Produce the required manikin paperwork for the CRDTS examination. 4. Produce the application process of the practical examination for the region of interest to student.	2	0	0
Candidates Guide and Preparation for the NBDHE	1. Discuss the ethical obligation of taking the NBDHE, when the obligation begins, and the penalty for a candidate who acts unethically. 2. Explain the timetable for the exam. 3. Describe the process after receiving the confirmation email. 4. List three things to bring to the examination, what to turn in at the end of the examination, and 10 items that are not allowed in the secure testing area. 5. Define an "irregularity" and explain the consequences. 6. Define the following: test descriptors, distracters, completion items, negative items, paired true-false terms, cause and effect items, testlet, and case-based. 7. Recognize the guidelines for preparing for the board exam. 8. Identify tips for taking multiple-choice examination. 9. Identify tips for managing test anxiety.	3	0	0

Course Segment	Learning Outcomes	Lecture Hours	Lab Hours	Clinical Hours
CRDTS Examination	1. Describe the graded component of the CRDTS Examination (Patient or Manikin). 2. Identify requirements of the Extra/Intra Oral Assessment, Periodontal Probing, Scaling/Subgingival Calculus Removal, and Supragingival Deposit Removal (Patient and Manikin). 3. Describe the Examination Scoring System: Penalty Point Deductions, Treatment Selection, Treatment Standards, and Critical Errors (Patient and Manikin). 4. Describe patient acceptability and health history requirements (Patient). 5. Describe the process of the clinical examination including forms, equipment, and PPE necessary (Patient and Manikin). 6. List the components of Treatment Selection: Teeth, Qualifying Calculus, Treatment Selection Prohibitions, Radiographs, and Administration of Anesthetics (Patient). 7. Recognize Forms and their role in the examination (Patient and Manikin).	3	0	0
ADHA, IDHA, ADEA	1. Describe the mission statement of the ADHA. 2. Describe the role of Component, Constituent, and National Organizations. 3. Describe the mission statement of the IDHA. 4. Name the person who is the regional contact for IDHA in student's home area. 5. Describe the requirements to be certified as a Public Health Dental Hygienist in Illinois. 6. Defend the importance of and education of the Public Health Dental Hygienist.	1	0	0
Obtaining a License	1. List the basic requirements necessary to obtain a license. 2. Describe the licensure renewal process. 3. Produce the application for state licensure.	1	0	0
International Dental Hygiene Practice	1. Determine the educational and licensure requirements to practice dental hygiene in another country of choice. 2. Describe the role and scope of practice of the dental hygienist in chosen country.	1	0	0

Total Contact Hours

Lecture Hours	Lab Hours	Clinical Hours
15	0	0