

Dental Hygiene Program

Student Manual
Academic Year 2026-2027



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I. Introduction

This manual is designed to provide you with a general knowledge of the policies and procedures of the Dental Hygiene Department. You will receive more detailed information as you progress through the program. Reading through the manual will help familiarize you with the Dental Hygiene Program and requirements. If you have questions concerning the program or requirements, please schedule a time to talk with your faculty advisor about your concerns.

The philosophy of the Department of Health Sciences is:

The Department of Health Sciences serves our region by educating and preparing competent and responsible healthcare professionals so that they can deliver the best quality health care possible.

Shawnee State University Mission Statement: We prepare today's students to succeed in tomorrow's world.

Shawnee State University Vision: We will be a best-value university offering a wide range of high-quality signature programs.

Shawnee State University: Our Enduring Values

Student-focused Service: We place students at the center of everything we do and every decision we make.

Community Engagement: We value the diverse perspectives of the people within our community ----- on and off campus ----- and our role in enriching the lives of those who work, live, and discover here.

Authentic Dialogue: We respect open, honest, and sincere two-way communication.

Thoughtful Risk-taking: We value innovation and encourage those around us to dream big and explore new possibilities.

Culture of Continuous Improvement: We look for opportunities to make what we do well today even better tomorrow.

**Shawnee State University
Dental Hygiene Program**

Mission Statement for Shawnee State University Dental Hygiene Program:

1. Educate and prepare competent dental health care professionals, capable of applying knowledge gained in general education, biomedical science, and dental hygiene science when making decisions in the dental hygiene practice setting;
2. Provide graduates with the means of making ethical decisions and assuming responsibility for dental hygiene services provided to diverse populations;
3. Develop in graduates an appreciation for life-long learning and the ability to critically analyze self, standards of care, and current research practices;
4. Provide graduates with the abilities and experience to value community service and contribute to the advancement of the dental hygiene profession.

Goals for Student Outcome

1. The graduate will be knowledgeable in the basic sciences which support dental hygiene.
2. The graduate will be able to provide complete dental hygiene services to include assessment of the patient's physical and oral conditions and demonstrate preparation for medical/dental emergencies.
3. The graduate will participate in dental hygiene continuing education, community service, and promote optimal health by utilizing appropriate educational methods, strategies and communication skills.
4. The graduate will be well prepared to gain employment and successfully function as an ethical dental hygiene practitioner, and/or successfully pursue advanced study in a related field, and to advance in those chosen specialties.
5. Patients served by the SSU Dental Hygiene Clinic will express overall satisfaction with the clinical services, business operations and student interactions regarding scheduling, and respect for individual needs.
6. The Dental Hygiene treatments provided by the SSU Clinic will meet and/or exceed the expected standard of practice in the geographical region and comply with the Ohio Dental Practice Act (statutes and regulations)
7. The graduate will develop the ability to critically analyze self, standards of care, and current research literature.

COMPETENCIES FOR ENTRY INTO THE PROFESSION OF DENTAL HYGIENE, adopted from American Dental Education Association (as approved by the 2023 ADEA House of Delegates)

Preamble

Dental health professionals require interrelated health knowledge in order to deliver ethical and equitable person-centered care. They are members of interprofessional and intraprofessional teams, emphasizing evidence-based practice, quality assurance and informatics.

The dental workforce is comprised of dental assistants, dental hygienists, dental laboratory technicians, dentists and all advanced and future dental practitioners. All dental health care providers collaborate with one another and related professionals to deliver continuing oral care and support patients by addressing health care issues affecting society. The allied dental professional must have a broad-based education and experience to demonstrate professional and ethical behavior. This includes employing effective communication and interpersonal skills, using emerging trends and technologies, applying critical thinking skills and addressing health care issues. To enhance personal and professional development, including opportunities for career expansion, dental professionals' participation in continuing education and lifelong learning is vital.

This document addresses the Core and Discipline-specific Competencies for the allied dental professions (dental assisting, dental hygiene and dental laboratory technology) that provide characteristics of conduct found among all dental professionals. The Core Competencies include:

- Professional Knowledge: 1) Professionalism, 2) Safety, 3) Critical Thinking and 4) Scientific Inquiry and Research
- Health Promotion and Disease Prevention: 1) Health Education and Community Connection and 2) Advocacy
- Professional Development and Practice: 1) Professional Growth, 2) Business Practice and 3) Leadership

The **Core and Discipline-specific Competencies** provide a framework for the development of an entry-level curriculum as part of the educational process for the new practitioner. This framework embraces the intent of high-quality and culturally aware care for all persons.

Discipline-specific Competencies—Dental Hygiene

The dental hygiene competencies are the continuation of the allied dental core competencies, and both should be viewed as a single framework for this discipline. Dental hygienists are oral health professionals who specialize in the identification, prevention and management of oral diseases. Dental hygienists provide evidence-based, person-centered care through assessment, diagnosis, planning, implementation, evaluation and documentation. They practice in collaboration with dental and other professionals in a variety of settings to recognize the oral-systemic connection for improvement of oral health, general health and well-being of individuals, communities and populations.

DH. 1 Essential Knowledge

DH. 1.1 Apply the knowledge of the following sciences during the dental hygiene process of care:

- Microbiology
- Human anatomy and physiology
- Human cellular biology
- Chemistry
- Biochemistry

- Immunology and pathology
- Nutrition
- Pharmacokinetics

DH. 1.2 Apply the knowledge of the following behavioral sciences during the dental hygiene process of care:

- Sociology
- Psychology
- Interpersonal communication

DH. 2 Person-centered Care

2.1 Assessment

DH. 2.1.1 Accurately collect and document a comprehensive medical, dental, social health history and diagnostic data.

DH. 2.1.2 Critically analyze all collected data.

DH. 2.1.3 Identify predisposing, etiologic, environmental and social risk factors for personcentered care.

2.2 Dental Hygiene Diagnosis

DH. 2.2.1 Analyze comprehensive medical, dental and social health history.

DH. 2.2.2 Integrate observational and diagnostic data as part of the dental hygiene diagnosis.

DH. 2.2.3 Use predisposing, etiologic, environmental and social risk factors for person-centered care.

2.3 Planning

DH. 2.3.1 Use the patient's assessment to establish an optimal and realistic, person-centered dental hygiene care plan through mutual communication.

DH. 2.3.2 Use all aspects of the dental hygiene diagnosis in combination with the person's values, beliefs and preferences to develop a dental hygiene care plan through shared decision making.

2.4 Implementation

DH. 2.4.1 Obtain informed consent based on the agreed-upon treatment plan.

DH. 2.4.2 Execute individualized treatment based on the patient's dental hygiene diagnosis.

DH. 2.4.3 Integrate educational, preventive and therapeutic services to provide comprehensive person-centered care.

DH. 2.4.4 Use specialized skills and evidenced-based technology to promote dental and periodontal health.

DH. 2.4.5 Continuously re-evaluate for modifications to achieve desired outcomes.

2.5 Evaluation and Documentation

DH. 2.5.1 Evaluate the effectiveness of completed services.

DH. 2.5.2 Analyze treatment outcomes of the dental hygiene process of care to determine improved health and modifications.

DH. 2.5.3 Modify dental hygiene care plans as necessary to meet goals of patient and clinician.

DH. 2.5.4 Identify necessary referrals for success of the treatment outcomes, including intraprofessional and interprofessional health care providers, supporting professions and patient advocates.

DH. 2.5.5 Accurately document assessment findings and data, dental hygiene diagnosis and care plan, implementation, outcome evaluation and any communication between professionals and patient and anyone else in the circle of care.

ADHA Code of Ethics for Dental Hygienists (Adopted October 2024) https://www.adha.org/wp-content/uploads/2025/03/ADHA-Code-of-Ethics_FY24_10_18.pdf

1. Preamble

As dental hygienists, we are a community of professionals devoted to the prevention of disease and the promotion and improvement of the public's health. We are preventive oral health professionals who provide educational, clinical, and therapeutic services to the public. We strive to live meaningful, productive, satisfying lives that simultaneously serve us, our profession, our society, and the world. Our actions, behaviors, and attitudes are consistent with our commitment to public service. We endorse and incorporate the Code into our daily lives.

2. Purpose

The purpose of a professional code of ethics is to achieve high levels of ethical consciousness, decision making, and practice by the members of the profession. Specific objectives of the Dental Hygiene Code of Ethics are

- to increase our professional and ethical consciousness and sense of ethical responsibility.
- to lead us to recognize ethical issues and choices and to guide us in making more informed ethical decisions.

- to establish a standard for professional judgement and conduct.
- to provide a statement of the ethical behavior the public can expect from us.

The Dental Hygiene Code of Ethics is meant to influence us throughout our careers. It stimulates our continuing study of ethical issues and challenges us to explore our ethical responsibilities. The Code establishes concise standards of behavior to guide the public's expectations of our profession and supports existing dental hygiene practice, laws, and regulations. By holding ourselves accountable to meeting the standards stated in the Code, we enhance the public's trust on which our professional privilege and status are founded.

3. Key Concepts

Our beliefs, principles, values, and ethics are concepts reflected in the Code. They are the essential elements of our comprehensive and definitive code of ethics, and are interrelated and mutually dependent.

4. Basic Beliefs

We recognize the importance of the following beliefs that guide our practice and provide context for our ethics:

- The services we provide contribute to the health and well being of society.
- Our education and licensure qualify us to serve the public by preventing and treating oral disease and helping individuals achieve and maintain optimal health.
- Individuals have intrinsic worth, are responsible for their own health, and are entitled to make choices regarding their health.
- Dental hygiene care is an essential component of overall healthcare and we function interdependently with other healthcare providers.
- All people should have access to healthcare, including oral healthcare.
- We are individually responsible for our actions and the quality of care we provide.

5. Fundamental Principles

These fundamental principles, universal concepts, and general laws of conduct provide the foundation for our ethics.

Universality

The principle of universality expects that, if one individual judges an action to be right or wrong in a given situation, other people considering the same action in the same situation would make the same judgement.

Complementarity

The principle of complementarity recognizes the existence of an obligation to justice and basic human rights. In all relationships, it requires considering the values and perspective of others before making decisions or taking actions affecting them.

Ethics

Ethics are the general standards of right and wrong that guide behavior within society. As generally accepted actions, they can be judged by determining the extent to which they promote good and minimize harm. Ethics compel us to engage in health promotion/disease prevention activities.

Community

This principle expresses our concern for the bond between individuals, the community, and society in general. It leads us to preserve natural resources and inspires us to show concern for the global environment.

Responsibility

Responsibility is central to our ethics. We recognize that there are guidelines for making ethical choices

and accept responsibility for knowing and applying them. We accept the consequences of our actions or the failure to act and are willing to make ethical choices and publicly affirm them.

6. Core Values

We acknowledge these values as general guides for our choices and actions.

Individual autonomy and respect for human beings

People have the right to be treated with respect. They have the right to informed consent prior to treatment, and they have the right to full disclosure of all relevant information so that they can make informed choices about their care.

Confidentiality

We respect the confidentiality of client information and relationships as a demonstration of the value we place on individual autonomy. We acknowledge our obligation to justify any violation of confidence.

Societal Trust

We value client trust and understand that public trust in our profession is based on our actions and behavior.

Nonmaleficence

We accept our fundamental obligation to provide services in a manner that protects all clients and minimizes harm to them, and others involved in their treatment.

Beneficence

We have a primary role in promoting the well-being of individuals and the public by engaging in health promotion/disease prevention activities.

Justice and Fairness

We value justice and support the fair and equitable distribution of healthcare resources. We believe all people should have access to high-quality, affordable oral healthcare.

Veracity

We accept our obligation to tell the truth and assume that others will do the same. We value self-knowledge and seek truth and honesty in all relationships.

7. Standards of Professional Responsibility

We are obligated to practice our profession in a manner that supports our purpose, beliefs, and values in accordance with the fundamental principles that support our ethics. We acknowledge the following responsibilities:

To Ourselves as Individuals...

- Avoid self-deception, and continually strive for knowledge and personal growth.
- Establish and maintain a lifestyle that supports optimal health.
- Create a safe work environment.
- Assert our own interests in ways that are fair and equitable.
- Seek the advice and counsel of others when challenged with ethical dilemmas.
- Have realistic expectations of ourselves and recognize our limitations.

To Ourselves as Professionals...

- Enhance professional competencies through continuous learning in order to practice according to high standards of care.
- Support dental hygiene peer-review systems and quality-assurance measures.

- Develop collaborative professional relationships and exchange knowledge to enhance our own life-long professional development.

To Family and Friends

- Support the efforts of others to establish and maintain healthy lifestyles and respect the rights of friends and family.

To Clients...

- Provide oral healthcare utilizing high levels of professional knowledge, judgement, and skill.
- Maintain a work environment that minimizes the risk of harm.
- Serve all clients without discrimination and avoid action toward any individual or group that may be interpreted as discriminatory.
- Hold professional client relationships confidential.
- Communicate with clients in a respectful manner.
- Promote ethical behavior and high standards of care by all dental hygienists.
- Serve as an advocate for the welfare of clients.
- Provide clients with the information necessary to make informed decisions about their oral health and encourage their full participation in treatment decisions and goals.
- Refer clients to other healthcare providers when their needs are beyond our ability or scope of practice.
- Educate clients about high-quality oral healthcare.
- Recognize that cultural beliefs influence client decisions.

To Colleagues...

- Conduct professional activities and programs, and develop relationships in ways that are honest, responsible, and appropriately open and candid.
- Encourage a work environment that promotes individual professional growth and development.
- Collaborate with others to create a work environment that minimizes risk to the personal health and safety of our colleagues.
- Manage conflicts constructively.
- Support the efforts of other dental hygienists to communicate the dental hygiene philosophy of preventive oral care.
- Inform other healthcare professionals about the relationship between general and oral health.
- Promote human relationships that are mutually beneficial, including those with other healthcare professionals.

To Employees and Employers...

- Conduct professional activities and programs, and develop relationships in ways that are honest, responsible, open, and candid.
- Manage conflicts constructively.
- Support the right of our employees and employers to work in an environment that promotes wellness.
- Respect the employment rights of our employers and employees.

To the Dental Hygiene Profession...

- Participate in the development and advancement of our profession.
- Avoid conflicts of interest and declare them when they occur.
- Seek opportunities to increase public awareness and understanding of oral health practices.
- Act in ways that bring credit to our profession while demonstrating appropriate respect for colleagues in other professions.

- Contribute time, talent, and financial resources to support and promote our profession.
- Promote a positive image for our profession.
- Promote a framework for professional education that develops dental hygiene competencies to meet the oral and overall health needs of the public.

To the Community and Society...

- Recognize and uphold the laws and regulations governing our profession.
- Document and report inappropriate, inadequate, or substandard care and/or illegal activities by any healthcare provider, to the responsible authorities.
- Use peer review as a mechanism for identifying inappropriate, inadequate, or substandard care provided by dental hygienists.
- Comply with local, state, and federal statutes that promote public health and safety.
- Develop support systems and quality-assurance programs in the workplace to assist dental hygienists in providing the appropriate standard of care.
- Promote access to dental hygiene services for all, supporting justice and fairness in the distribution of healthcare resources.
- Act consistently with the ethics of the global scientific community of which our profession is a part.
- Create a healthful workplace ecosystem to support a healthy environment.
- Recognize and uphold our obligation to provide pro bono service.

To Scientific Investigation...

We accept responsibility for conducting research according to the fundamental principles underlying our ethical beliefs in compliance with universal codes, governmental standards, and professional guidelines for the care and management of experimental subjects. We acknowledge our ethical obligations to the scientific community:

- Conduct research that contributes knowledge that is valid and useful to our clients and society.
- Use research methods that meet accepted scientific standards.
- Use research resources appropriately.
- Systematically review and justify research in progress to insure the most favorable benefit-to-risk ratio to research subjects.
- Submit all proposals involving human subjects to an appropriate human subject review committee.
- Secure appropriate institutional committee approval for the conduct of research involving animals.
- Obtain informed consent from human subjects participating in research that is based on specifications published in Title 21 Code of Federal Regulations Part 46.
- Respect the confidentiality and privacy of data.
- Seek opportunities to advance dental hygiene knowledge through research by providing financial, human, and technical resources whenever possible.
- Report research results in a timely manner.
- Report research findings completely and honestly, drawing only those conclusions that are supported by the data presented.
- Report the names of investigators fairly and accurately.
- Interpret the research and the research of others accurately and objectively, drawing conclusions that are supported by the data presented and seeking clarity when uncertain.
- Critically evaluate research methods and results before applying new theory and technology in practice.
- Be knowledgeable concerning currently accepted preventive and therapeutic methods, products, and technology and their application to our practice.

Humanistic Cultural Statement for a Dental Hygiene Program (2026-2027)

At Shawnee State University, we believe in fostering a humanistic culture that places individuals at the heart of our educational and clinical endeavors. Our commitment to humanism in dental hygiene is built upon respect, compassion, empathy, and the pursuit of excellence. We recognize that oral health is integral to overall well-being and that every patient deserves personalized, respectful, and dignified care.

Core Values:

1. **Respect and Dignity:** We honor the intrinsic worth of each individual, whether they are students, faculty, patients, or community members. We treat everyone with kindness and respect, ensuring that their voices are heard and valued.
2. **Compassionate Care:** Our approach to dental hygiene is rooted in empathy. We strive to understand the unique experiences and needs of our patients, providing care that is not only clinically excellent but also emotionally supportive.
3. **Cultural Competence:** We embrace diversity and actively work to understand and appreciate the cultural backgrounds of those we serve. By fostering an inclusive environment, we ensure that our care is accessible and sensitive to the needs of all communities.
4. **Ethical Practice:** Integrity and ethical behavior are the cornerstones of our program. We instill these values in our students, ensuring that they prioritize the well-being of their patients and adhere to the highest standards of professional conduct.
5. **Lifelong Learning:** Education is a continuous journey. We encourage curiosity, critical thinking, and the pursuit of knowledge among our students and faculty. By staying abreast of the latest advancements in dental hygiene, we ensure that our practice remains innovative and effective.
6. **Collaborative Spirit:** Teamwork and collaboration are essential to our success. We cultivate a supportive community where students, faculty, and staff work together to achieve common goals, share knowledge, and inspire one another.

Our Commitment:

- To provide an educational experience that nurtures the personal and professional growth of our students.
- To deliver patient care that is compassionate, comprehensive, and tailored to individual needs.
- To engage with our community through outreach and service, promoting oral health and well-being for all.

In embracing these principles, Shawnee State University aims to develop dental hygiene professionals who are not only skilled and knowledgeable but also compassionate advocates for their patients and communities. Our humanistic culture is the foundation upon which we build lasting relationships and make a meaningful impact on the world.

II. UNIVERSITY POLICIES/SERVICES

Drug Free Campus and Workplace Policy No: 5.06 (revised 2022)

2.0 EMPLOYEE AND STUDENT RESPONSIBILITIES

It is the responsibility of each campus visitor, faculty member, staff member, and student to adhere to this policy. If a violation of this policy occurs, support programs will be made available where appropriate. Disciplinary action may be taken, up to and including termination or dismissal from the University -- in accordance with the applicable university policy, collective bargaining agreement, or student conduct code -- and possible criminal prosecution.

3.0 Substance Abuse Awareness Policy

3.1 In accordance with the Drug-Free Workplace Act of 1988 and the Drug-Free schools and Communities Act, the university will promote substance-abuse awareness that may include the following:

3.1.1 The Department of Counseling and Health Services may make available resource information (booklets, brochures, pamphlets, etc.) regarding health and safety concerns pertaining to substance abuse and information regarding the availability of and/or referral to community-based, approved substance abuse counseling and rehabilitation services.

3.1.2 Employees seeking additional resources are encouraged to contact the University's Employee Assistance Program (EAP), which provides confidential assistance seven days a week, 24 hours per day.

3.1.3 Education concerning substance abuse, especially of alcohol and drugs, will be provided periodically on campus. The university community is encouraged to take advantage of these opportunities to become more aware of the effects of substance abuse.

4.0 FEDERAL GRANTS AND CONTRACTS

The University will establish a process to ensure compliance with the notification requirements of the Drug Free Workplace Act of 1988 as applied to employees who work under a federal grant or contract.

Alcohol on Campus: refer to university policies located on Shawnee State University website #3.19

Student Code of Conduct is located under the Campus Life tab and click Dean of Students. The center column contains the Student Conduct Code.

Smoking on Campus: Smoking, smokeless tobacco, e-cigarettes and any other devices used for vaping is prohibited in all University owned buildings and on campus as stated in the university policy #5.08 for students, visitors and faculty. Smoking policy was revised on May 8th, 2020 and effective May 1, 2021, the University intends to create a one hundred percent smoke and tobacco free environment.

Legal Sanctions

Violations of University policy or engagement of illegal actions will result in the involved individual (s) being subject to sanctions and/or enforcement results as referenced and incorporated by university policy and/or applicable local, state, or federal laws.

Suicide Prevention: Shawnee State University is committed to the health and wellbeing of its students, faculty and staff. The purpose of this policy is to provide programs for advising and for providing information to students, faculty and staff of the resources available on and off the campus of Shawnee State University for the prevention of suicide. This policy serves to further the University's commitment in accordance with Ohio Revised Code Section 3345.37. (policy #5.37)

Non-Discrimination/Sexual Harassment Policy (to include Bullying): Shawnee State University is committed to having an educational and working environment for students and employees that is without unlawful or prohibited discrimination and harassment. This policy serves to ensure that there are University structures and processes in place that prohibit discrimination against any individual because of race, color, genetic information, religion, age, disability, national origin, ancestry, sex, status as a parent during pregnancy and immediately after the birth of a child, status as a parent of a young child, status as a foster parent, sexual orientation, gender, gender identity or gender expression, veteran status or military status. (policy #5.01)

Reporting and Investigating Sexual Assault, Sexual Misconduct and Other Forms of Discrimination: This procedure serves to implement the investigation and complaint provisions of Policy 5.01, Non-Discrimination/Sexual Harassment, by identifying University pathways for students, employees and campus visitors to report sexual violence, sexual misconduct (sexual harassment), other unlawful discrimination, and retaliation, and to ensure that all discrimination complaints received by the University are reviewed and responded to promptly and in a fair and equitable manner. This procedure further serves to provide additional focus on sexual misconduct and to ensure compliance with laws that serve to prevent sexual violence, including the Jeanne Clery Act and the Violence Against Women Reauthorization Act. (policy #5.01:2)

Professional Interaction: During the Dental Hygiene program students will experience how to conduct a proper extra/intra oral exam on each other and will perform the exam on each patient in the clinical setting. Students will also learn to take blood pressure and pulse on one another and will perform vitals on each clinical patient. During the course of treatment, students, faculty and patients will contact one another in a professional manner at all times.

Cancellation of Classes or University Closing: When exceptional conditions occur due to severe weather, major utility failure, or other reasons that affect the majority of the members of the University community, the University may need to close, cancel classes, or relocate selected classroom or work sites. To ensure continuity of services, the University will make every effort to officially remain open. The President shall establish procedures that address the protocols for determining University closing and/or cancellation of classes. Such procedures will include, but not be limited to, weather conditions or building emergencies that may give rise to the closing or cancellation of classes. The procedure may also identify the method of notifying staff, faculty, and students of cancellation of classes and/or University closing. (policy # 5.09)

ALL policies for students and pertaining to student matters can be found on the university website. From the home page, go to the About tab, click and scroll down to University Policies, click and on the University Policy page scroll down to Student.

Tutoring Service:

The tutoring service is offered by the Student Success Center and information can be found on the SSU website under the Academics tab, click on Student Success Center and then Tutoring. Tutoring is available for any student at a very nominal fee and has proven most beneficial to the students who have used the tutoring program. If you are having difficulty in any course, ask the instructor to request a tutor for you. The Student Success Center is located on the 1st floor of Massie Hall and the phone number is (740) 351-3594.

Counseling Services:

Counseling is available and free of charge for all SSU students. The Counseling Center offers educational and personal, confidential counseling to help you cope with problems which may affect your personal life or interfere with your academic progress. Campus Counseling Services are located in Bear Care clinic. You may walk in or call 740-355-7102 to schedule an appointment. More information can be found on the SSU website under the Campus Life tab, click on Student Health and Counseling.

Student Ombudsperson:

The role of student ombudsperson is to help students solve any academic, administrative, or individual issue that they may have while at SSU. You may contact the ombudsperson at phone (740) 351-3630 or through the webpage for the Student Ombudsperson Office, Dr. John Whitaker, Administration Building, room 115. Dr. Whitaker's e-mail is jwhitaker@shawnee.edu.

University ADA Statement for Course Syllabi (2025-2026)

Any student who believes they may need an accommodation based on a documented disability should first contact the Coordinator of Accessibility Services at (740) 351-3163, or mboldman@shawnee.edu (Student Success Center, Massie Hall) and schedule a meeting to identify potential reasonable accommodation(s). Students are strongly encouraged to initiate the accommodation process in the early part of the semester or as soon as the need is recognized.

The [Office of Accessibility Services](#) will gather relevant information and determine whether an accommodation is warranted. When an accommodation is determined to be warranted, an accommodation letter will be sent to the instructor(s) and student via secure e-mail prior to the semester start date, when possible, or as soon as is feasible. The Office of Accessibility Services will not disclose the nature of any disability with instructor(s); if the student wishes to discuss the disability with one or more instructors, they may do so.

Any questions regarding the academic accommodation on the letter should be addressed to the Coordinator of Accessibility Services. If a student does not make a timely request for academic accommodation and/or fails to meet with the Coordinator of Accessibility Services, a reasonable accommodation may be denied or delayed.

Michelle Boldman, MS

Accessibility Services Coordinator

(740) 351-3163

mboldman@shawnee.edu

Accessibility Services and Title IX is also located on the SSU website under the Campus Life tab.

University Religious Accommodation Statement for Course Syllabi (2025-2026)

As an essential part of a liberal society, an individual should have the freedom to believe or not in a religion or spiritual belief system. Under the Ohio Revised Code section 3345.026, also known as “The Testing Your Faith Act,” a student may be absent for up to three days per semester to “take holidays for reasons of faith or religious or spiritual belief system or participate in organized activities conducted under the auspices of a religious denomination, church, or other religious or spiritual organization.”

Pursuant to University Policy 2.21 and Procedure 2.21:1, students are required to notify faculty of their various classes about necessary absences as early as possible after the commencement of a course, and not more than fourteen (14) calendar days after the first day of instruction in the course. Faculty will make accommodations without questioning the sincerity of the student’s religious or spiritual belief system, and will keep all requests confidential.

For additional information about this policy or procedure, please contact the Office of the Registrar at (740) 351-4734 or ssu_registrar@shawnee.edu. Complaints regarding this policy and procedure may be submitted by selecting “Religious Accommodation” online at shawnee.edu/complaint.

Health Care: Bear Care Clinic: (740)355-7102 available M-Friday 10am to 4pm, Located on the southeast corner of campus near the Shawnee Turf soccer field.

For Medical Emergency call 911

Nearest Emergency Care to SSU

Southern Ohio Medical Center 1805 27th Street, Portsmouth OH 45662

Urgent Care:

Southern Ohio Medical Center Portsmouth Family Health Center 1248 Kinney's Lane Portsmouth OH 45662

Routine Care: Southern Ohio Medical center call (740)356-CARE

Social media Policy as written by the Dental Hygiene Program and affiliated Allied Health Programs:

SOCIAL MEDIA GUIDELINES

I. Definitions

A. Social networking site: Spaces on the internet where users can create a profile and connect that profile to others (individuals or entities) to create a personal network.

Examples include Facebook, Instagram, LinkedIn, Snapchat, TikTok, and Twitter.

B. Weblog: A website, usually in the form of an online journal, maintained by an individual with regular commentary on any number of subjects. It may incorporate text, audio, video clips, and any other types of media.

II. Guidelines for ethical/professional behavior

A. Professionalism

1. Postings within social network sites are subject to the same professionalism standards as any other personal interactions. The permanence and written nature of these postings make them even more subject to scrutiny than most other forms of communication. The professionalism description can be found in the SSU Dental Hygiene student manual and the American Dental Hygiene Association’s guidelines for ethics and professional conduct, which is signed by all students during orientation each year by recognizing

- students have read and reviewed the student manual. Students may be subject to disciplinary action for comments that are either unprofessional or violate patient privacy.
2. Statements made by you within online networks will be treated as if you verbally made the statement in a public place.
 3. Do not violate copyrighted or trademarked materials. If you post content, photos, or other media, you are acknowledging that you own or have the right to use these items.
 4. In online social networks, the lines between public and private, personal and professional are blurred. Just by identifying yourself as a Shawnee State University Dental Hygiene student, you are creating perceptions about this program by those who have access to your social network profile or weblog. Be sure that all content associated with you is consistent with your position within the program and with the values and professional standards of the program, university, and hospital.
 5. Use of these social networking sites or weblogs can have legal ramifications. Comments made regarding care of patients or that portray you or a colleague in an unprofessional manner can be used in court or other disciplinary proceedings (e.g. State Professional Licensing Boards).
 6. You are expected to exercise sound, mature judgment when posting to social network sites. The following behaviors may be considered unprofessional behavior and may be the basis for disciplinary action:
 - a. Display of vulgar language.
 - b. Display of language or photographs that imply disrespect for any individual or group because of age, race, gender, ethnicity, or sexual orientation.
 - c. Presentation of personal photographs or photographs of others that may reasonably be interpreted as condoning irresponsible use of alcohol, substance abuse, or sexual promiscuity.
 - d. Posting potentially inflammatory, harmful, or unflattering material on another individual's website, e.g. on the "wall" of that individual's Facebook site.
 7. Unprofessional postings by others on your page reflect very poorly on you. Please monitor others' postings on your profile and work to ensure that the content is not viewed as unprofessional. It may be useful to block postings from individuals who post unprofessional content.
 8. Keep in mind that statements and photos posted within these sites are often viewable by future employers, and even if deleted can be recovered under certain circumstances. Be aware that images can be downloaded by and forwarded to others. It is becoming common for potential employers to search for the social network profiles of potential hires, and there are many examples of people not being offered a job because of findings on social networking sites. Employees have been terminated for postings on social networking sites.

B. Confidentiality

1. HIPAA regulations apply to comments made on social networking sites, and violators are subject to the same prosecution as with other HIPAA violations.
2. Patient privacy measures taken in any public forum apply to social networking sites as well.
3. Online discussions of specific patients should be avoided, even if all identifying information is excluded. It is possible that someone could recognize the patient to which you are referring based upon the context and treatment information. Removal of an individual's name does not constitute proper de-identification of protected health information. Inclusion of data such as age, gender, race, diagnosis, date of evaluation, or type of treatment may still allow the reader to recognize the identity of a specific individual.

4. Under no circumstances should photos of patients or photos depicting the body parts of patients be displayed online. Remember, even if you have permission, such photos may be downloadable and forwarded by others.
5. Students cannot post pictures of themselves with patients, even if they have the patient's permission or are family members. (the patient can take the photo and post it as friend/ family member)

C. Patient contact

1. Interactions with patients within these sites are strongly discouraged. This provides an opportunity for a dual relationship, which can be damaging to the provider-patient relationship, and can also carry legal consequences.
2. Private patient information obtained on a social networking site should not be entered in the patient's medical record without the patient's knowledge and consent.

D. Social media in clinical settings

1. Be aware of social networking policies at any location you are presenting dental health education.
2. Refrain from accessing personal social networking sites while at work or in clinical work areas.
3. No "checking in" during clinical or lab time.
4. **No "friending" a SSU Dental Hygiene faculty, adjunct faculty, clinical supervisor, or the clinical assistant while a student in the program.**
5. **NO Social Media interaction AT ALL between Faculty and Student. If the faculty happens to have a connection on social media before a student begins the program, then the faculty will be instructed to block that student until the student has exited the program.**

NOT FOLLOWING THESE GUIDELINES COULD RESULT IN A HIPAA VIOLATION AND DISMISSAL FROM THE PROGRAM.

III. ACADEMIC REQUIREMENTS

In order to remain in good academic standing in the dental hygiene program, the student must:

1. Maintain a cumulative GPA of 2.5 in all coursework needed to meet the requirements for an associate of applied science degree in dental hygiene. This applies to all required courses taken before as well as after admission into the dental hygiene program.
2. Maintain a cumulative GPA of 2.5 in all dental hygiene courses.
3. Not receiving a failing grade in any of the required courses for the dental hygiene program. In the dental hygiene program, a grade of "C / 75%" is considered the minimum passing grades for all required DTHY courses. Courses graded with less than a "C" will result in academic dismissal from the program. Courses with clinical components require the student to receive passing grades in both Didactic & Clinical sections in order to earn a passing grade (75%) for the course. Courses taught in sections, such as DTHY 1111, require that the student pass each section designated within the course. Students who fail to achieve any one of the two requirements for good academic standing will be dismissed from the dental hygiene program with the option of reapplying for admission the following academic year.
4. Should the student fail anytime during the 2nd semester or beyond, the decision to readmit a student will be made by the dental hygiene faculty after reviewing the

student's progress in completing any conditions for re-admittance as stated in the letter of dismissal and an interview with the student. Students who are academically dismissed from the dental hygiene program for a second time are not eligible for re-admittance.

Students may appeal a dismissal from the dental hygiene program by following the guidelines for appeal as detailed in the Academic Reinstatement Appeal policy. This can be located on the SSU website under Campus Life, click on Dean of Students. In the center column, Policies and Requests, click on Academic Misconduct. In the right-hand column, click on Academic Reinstatement Appeal for directions.

Ref: <https://www.shawnee.edu/admission-and-financial-aid/registrar/forms-policies/academic-reinstatement-appeal>

Academic Integrity:

Students at SSU are required to do their own work on all tests and assignments. Any form of cheating may result in the student being withdrawn from a particular course or program, as well as dismissal from the University. SSU Student Resource Guide has complete procedures for dealing with academic misconduct. The **Student Resource Guide** is located under Campus Life tab, Dean of Students, center column (Policies and Requests) and is the first entry in the column.

Grading Scale:

The following grading scale will be used for all courses in the Dental Hygiene curriculum (DtHy prefix in the University catalog).

92 - 100 = A	79-79.99 = C+	<u>62-68.99 = D</u>
90 - 91.99 = A- 89	75 - 78.99 = C	<u>60-61.99 = D-</u>
- 89.99 = B+ 82 - 88.99	<u>70-74.99 = C-</u>	<u>Below 60 = F</u>
= B		
80 - 81.99 = B-	<u>69-69.99 = D+</u>	

Continuation Policy: Students must earn a minimum of a "C" (75%) in each DTHY course, and/or sections of a course where applicable, to continue in the Dental Hygiene Program. If a student does not maintain a "C" in each course, the student will be dismissed from the Dental Hygiene Program. In a course containing a didactic and clinical or lab section in which both sections have to carry a passing grade, it is possible one of the section grades will fall below a 74.99 but when computed with the other portion be it didactic or clinical it can raise the overall grade above a 75, however due to the failing grade the student can only be granted a **grade** of a C-.

Dental Hygiene Clinical Remediation Policy

Preclinical Skills Evaluations

All clinical evaluations must be successfully completed by the percent of accuracy listed on the evaluation form. If the first evaluation attempt is unsuccessful, the student may retake the evaluation after remedial instruction by faculty. If the second attempt is unsuccessful, the student may repeat the evaluation only after meeting with the course control faculty to discuss problems and remediation, and a date will then be set for repeating the evaluation the third time. If the evaluation is not successfully completed on this third try, a score of failure will be recorded for this evaluation and for the course. The third attempt will be conducted outside of the regular clinical course time.

Clinical Skills Evaluations

With all clinical skills evaluations, if successful evaluation is not attained on the first attempt, the student will not be permitted to continue treating patients until that student has obtained remedial instrumentation instruction from a full-time dental hygiene instructor and has successfully completed the second evaluation. The remedial instruction and second clinical skills evaluation must be completed within one week following the original evaluation. If the student fails the second evaluation, that student will not be permitted to treat patients and will receive a failing grade for the course.

A full-time instructor will conduct both clinical skills evaluations and the remedial instrumentation instruction. The student must notify an instructor when ready to be evaluated.

Exam Remediation Policy (most DTHY courses)

Students who score below 75% on a course exam (excluding the final exam) are encouraged to review their test with the instructor. A one-on-one review session must be scheduled and completed within one (1) week of the exam date.

Students who complete this test review within the required timeframe will receive a 1% bonus added to their original exam grade.

Policy Summary:

- Applies only to exams where the student scores below 75%
- Final exams are not eligible for remediation
- Test review must be completed within 7 days of the exam
- 1% grade bonus is awarded only after completing the review

Dental Hygiene Advising Policy

1. Pre-Dental Hygiene Students are advised by the Pre-Health Science Advisor or Dental Hygiene Program Director
2. Students admitted into the Dental Hygiene program will be assigned a Faculty Advisor.

- a) They are notified in writing prior to Fall term the name and contact information of their faculty advisor.
 - b) It is recommended that students meet with their faculty advisors at least once/term.
 - c) In addition to advisor notification, a degree audit is provided for each student.
 - d) It is recommended for each student to request a degree audit periodically to evaluate for accuracy and completion of requirements.
 - e) It is the student's responsibility to actively participate in the recognition and resolution of needs and concerns.
3. All dental hygiene full-time faculty have access to Watermark Advising and J 1. Faculty will:
- a) Review degree audits and discuss with advisee as needed.
 - b) Complete, with student, an Individual Advising Plan to be used along with the degree audit to track student progress.
 - c) Advise students in regard to graduation requirements, career options or degree advancement.
 - d) Act as a role model for ethical, professional behavior.
4. The program director or a representative from the dental hygiene program will be available at the orientation sessions for new students.

The Dental Hygiene Advising Policy is contained in the Dental Hygiene Student Manual and is discussed during Freshman orientation the first week of Fall term. This policy is reviewed with the Sophomore Dental Hygiene Students prior to the start of their second year Dental Hygiene curriculum.

5. All Dental Hygiene policies on academic integrity, grading system, and clinical procedures to follow are outlined in the "Student Manual" received by the freshman students. These policies are thoroughly reviewed at the time of distribution of the manual.

Class Attendance:

Clinical and classroom attendance-participation is such an integral part of the dental hygiene program that absences must be at an absolute minimum. At the beginning of each term, the individual instructor will thoroughly explain the attendance policy for his/her course.

Dental Hygiene Attendance Policy:

All dental hygiene students are required to attend all lectures, labs, assigned clinics, and special seminars as scheduled or arranged.

If a student will not be attending class, you must phone or email the instructor **PRIOR** to class. If you cannot reach the instructor, leave your name, phone number, and message on the instructor's voice mail or in an email and the instructor will contact you.

Excused absences include:

- 1. Illness with a doctor's excuse or faculty approval
- 2. Absence approved by the instructor
- 3. Death in the immediate family
Immediate family includes: mother, father, sibling, spouse, son, daughter, grandparent, brother-in-law, sister-in-law, mother-in-law, or father-in-law

Students may make-up quizzes, exams, or tests with an excused absence. Make-up exams may be different in format and content from the original. All make-up exams must be taken the first day that the student returns to school or a zero will be recorded for that exam. Students are responsible for making arrangements with the instructor to take the missed exam. No exam is given prior to the scheduled time.

An unexcused absence will be recorded if:

1. The student who misses a dental hygiene class attends any other scheduled DTHY class the same day. As well, if a student misses a morning class (unexcused) they are not permitted to attend the afternoon dthy course.
2. The student misses class for any reason other than those listed under “excused absences.”
3. The student sleeps during class or during a guest speaker’s presentation.
4. Even if the student has a doctor’s excuse but does not contact the instructor prior to the class period, they will be considered unexcused.

An unexcused absence will result in:

1. Not being permitted to make-up any missed quiz, exam, or test. A score of zero (0) will be recorded. Some courses have practical exams that may not be made-up even if the absence is excused.
2. Five percentage points deducted from the final course grade for each unexcused absence.

Tardiness or leaving class early will result in the deduction of two percentage points off the final course grade for each violation.

Office phone numbers are listed below. Portsmouth area code is 740.

Georgeann Kamer: 351-3296 (gkamer@shawnee.edu) Marie Richey: 351-3139 (mrichy@shawnee.edu)
Velvet Patterson: 351-3273 (vpatterson@shawnee.edu) Rebecca Hutchinson 351-3236 (Allied Health Secretary)

Cell Phone Policy:

Cell phone use (including text messaging) during lectures, exams, labs, clinics, and guest lectures is **STRICTLY FORBIDDEN**. Students must **turn off and stow** their cell phones prior to class. Cell phones are not to be placed on the desks, tables, or any area in the clinic. Repeated violations of the cell phone policy will result in points deducted from the course grade per instructor’s discretion.

If you are expecting an emergency phone call during a class period, please make your dental hygiene faculty aware of the situation prior to the class. During clinical session (patient treatment) absolutely no cell phones are permitted. In case of an emergency make sure to give loved ones the clinic phone number. They can call and ask to speak with you but only in case of an emergency. The Dental Clinic Phone Number is 740-351-3608.

Professional Dress Code:

Students are to follow this dress code when attending sessions with guest speakers or attending seminars and off-campus projects/professional meetings, workshops. Business professional dress is defined as: dresses, dress skirts/suits, dress pants w/shirts, sweaters or jackets.

Flip/Flops or distressed clothing is not considered professional attire!!

* Clinical Dress is covered under Clinical Requirements.

Program Requirements: (BLS and TB skin test)

Prior to enrollment in clinical dental hygiene courses, students are required to fill out a brief medical history and current immunizations to include Hepatitis B along with a 2-Step TB skin test. Covid-19 and Flu vaccines are **highly** recommended at this time but not mandatory. All documentation should be emailed or a copy given to Mrs. Marie Richey (mrichy@shawnee.edu).

Basic Life Support (CPR-AED) training must be completed prior to admission into the Dental Hygiene Program, American Heart Association Health Care Provider BLS must be completed no later than September of the year of admission in order for the student to be continuously certified in BLS during the two years of the Dental Hygiene Program.

All students will submit a Healthcare Provider BLS card that is valid for the two years in the dental hygiene program. If credentials expire before graduation, the student must renew and present with a new card to verify completion of the AHA, Healthcare Provide BLS. Cards should be submitted to Mrs. Marie Richey via her email: mrichey@shawnee.edu. Or use Approve portal.

Community Service:

Dental Hygiene students are required to complete 50 hours of community service by graduation. Thirty-five hours are required by the end of Fall Semester of the second year; an additional 15 hours are required by the end of Spring Semester prior to graduation. The student may earn community service hour credit through continuing education seminars, teaching dental health in elementary schools, volunteering time to work for community agencies or projects or other selected projects approved by the faculty. (A maximum of 10 hours can be earned per event participation)

Dollar donations for charities can be used for community service. However, there is a 4-hour cap. For every 5\$ donated, 1 community service hour can be awarded up to \$20 and 4 hours.

To receive credit from projects which the student schedules on their own, the student must:

1. Have the service and hours approved prior to service by a fulltime faculty member.
2. Turn in the slip for credit within two weeks of completing the project, including complete phone number and name of contact person.
3. Enter the hours and a photo of the slip into UpScale Assessment under Service hours.

Failure to perform a community service project for which the student has signed up will result in the same number of hours added to that student's requirement. For example, if the student signed up to attend a community service project worth 3 hours of credit but fails to attend, 3 hours will be added to the required 50 hours, so the student must now complete 53 hours total.

All dental hygiene students are **required** to attend the “Shawnee State University Alumni Continuing Education Day” for six hours of education on a Saturday in the Fall semester. Community service hours will be earned for this event. A fee could be required for all students to cover costs for the Alumni CE Day. This event may not be offered yearly but rather biannually.

Student Membership in the American Dental Hygienists' Association:

All students are encouraged to join the student organization for the American Dental Hygienists' Association during their 1st year. Class officers will be encouraged to join as student members of the ADHA. There is a fee of 85 dollars for student membership per year. Membership includes receiving the Journal of Dental Hygiene, dental hygiene newsletters and applications for insurance and credit cards and opportunities for scholarships.

Class Officers:

Students will elect class officers at the beginning of Spring semester of their first year: President, V-President, Treasurer. The class officers work together to organize fundraising for the class. The monies collected go towards board examination costs, board reviews, and graduation. Class officers are leaders and great mediators to speak on behalf of the entire class and keep cohesion among classmates. Officers are required to become ADHA members and attend the Ohio Dental Hygiene Association's Annual

Session during Autumn semester. First year students can go as spectators and second year students will attend as student delegates.

Informative Poster: This may be presented as an Informative PowerPoint presentation at the lead Facutly's discretion to be presented at SSU instead of the ODHA Annual Session.

All second-year dental hygiene students are required to present an informative poster presentation at the Ohio Dental Hygienists' Association Annual Session which is held in November if it is decided to participate in the poster presentations. Students may work in groups of up to 4 people.

An Informative Poster Presentation is a presentation using oral communication and a professional poster to inform, clarify, and/or review material on a specific topic. An Informative Poster Presentation is NOT original research. An Informative Poster presents useful and timely information in an original, interesting manner.

This information may be a technique, theory, service, trend or expanded opportunity in the practice of dental hygiene and/or the broader realm of oral and systemic health. Your Informative Poster should be focused, clear and concise to provide information quickly and stimulate attention and interest. An Informative Poster is not an exhibit of materials.

Any changes to The Ohio Dental Hygiene Association's Annual Session, students will be notified immediately. Should students not participate in Annual Session they will participate in SSU Celebration of Scholarship for Poster Presentations/PowerPoint or at a SSU Dental Hygiene Alumni event.

IV. CLINICAL REQUIREMENTS

Gloves, Gowns, Face Shields, Scrub Caps, and Masks:

1. All PPE products gloves, masks and disposable gowns MUST be purchased via the Darby Dental student Portal or in the SSU bookstore. These are made available to students at a greatly reduced rate and ensure that students are protected and have proper medical/ dental grade PPE.
2. PPE Sizing and fit is very personal, so a variety is available to students to get the proper fit.
3. Level 3 masks can be used for lab and clinic settings .
4. N-95 masks are not required at this time; students can choose to wear them if purchased from Darby Dental. SSU Dental Hygiene will not provide fit tests for N-95 at this time.

Failure to have proper PPE will result in dismissal for clinic or lab sessions. This will be taken as unexcused, and students will not be able to participate without proper PPE.

Dress Code - Uniforms:

The student will always present a professional appearance.

The Clinic Uniform will include:

1. Clean, white, or black **leather** clinic shoes.
2. Crew Socks, black or white. (The leg should be covered by socks when sitting down and scrub pant leg rises to expose the leg.)
3. Scrubs — Tops & Pants must be black in color with no design or print; plain white or black T-Shirts only, can be worn under scrub top if needed. **NO visible straps from undergarments. SCRUB LEGGINGS ARE NOT ALLOWED or SCRUB CROP TOPS ARE NOT ALLOWED.**
4. White or black lab coat to be worn for clinical rotations and radiology duties. Lab coats cannot have any logos or designs.

5. Name tag, glasses, mask, face shield, hair covering, fluid resistant jacket or gown and gloves.
6. Disposable fluid resistant gowns must be worn during patient treatment. It is **NEVER** to be worn outside the clinic. It is disposed of at the end of each clinic day.
7. CLOTH Scrub Caps are permitted to be worn but must be washed after each clinical day. No fabric headbands.
8. Cleaning Units: When setting up or cleaning up units **NO STREET CLOTHES ALLOWED**

Hair:

1. Clean with a professional appearance: No messy hairstyles, No extreme hair color, ex. Pink, Purple, Blue. No loose hair strands can be hanging from the face
2. Cannot touch collar or extend onto back.
3. French braids are acceptable, but no ponytails (long hair must be pinned to the head).
4. No hair falling forward into face; hair must be clipped back from face. All hair should be covered under cap or hairnet.
5. Male students may have well-groomed or close-cut mustache and/or beard. (Suggested trimming guard #1)

Jewelry:

No jewelry will be permitted; this includes any facial jewelry, tongue, lip or facial piercing, earrings, rings, or chains. A plain wedding band that can be disinfected and a smart watch or a regular watch with a second hand for time keeping only may be worn. Studies have demonstrated that skin underneath rings are more heavily colonized with bacteria than comparable areas of skin on fingers without rings. Rings can make donning gloves more difficult and cause gloves to tear more readily.

All ear and facial piercings must be removed prior to entering the clinic. Covering the jewelry with tape or a Band-Aid is not acceptable. Space holders for the piercing are to be removed. If a student has a new piercing inserted while in the program, please be aware that you will be required to remove the jewelry before the site has healed.

Cosmetics:

Excessive use of cosmetics is not permitted in the clinical setting. Make-up, if worn, must be applied lightly. Nail polish, including clear polish, is not permitted for students. Perfume or cologne, if used, must be applied lightly to avoid offending the patient.

NO new tattoos, NO microblading, NO Permanent make-up, while in the program as this is an open wound and a portal of entry for bacteria/infection. If you should go ahead with anything that creates a portal of entry for bacteria, then you will sit out of clinic sessions for a minimum of 2 weeks to allow for healing. This will be considered unexcused.

NO Lash extensions that will interfere with the wearing of safety glasses.

Fingernails:

Long fingernails, artificial nails, nail jewelry and nail polish increase the potential for hand contamination of dental health care workers. Microorganisms can colonize on hands in the moist

environment underneath gloves. Long nails and hand jewelry can cause gloves to tear. Sharp nail edges or broken short nails are also likely to increase glove failure and the risk of microbial contamination. Keeping fingernails short is important because most microflora on the hand is found under and around the fingernails. Chipped or pitted nail polish can harbor added bacteria. Injury of patient oral tissue is possible with long fingernails.

Therefore, nails must be short, neatly manicured, and not polished. Nails must not extend above the fingertips when the fingers are extended with palm facing you at eye level.

Laboratory Attire:

Worn for laboratory classes and when there is a seminar which will be utilizing clinical facilities: demonstrations, workshops, etc.

1. Neatly pressed white or black lab coat over appropriate classroom attire.
2. Name tag.
3. Hair, nails and jewelry as described under clinical dress code.

These regulations for clinical dress code will be enforced during clinic sessions and labs. **Failure to be properly attired may result in dismissal from the clinic or laboratory class.** These regulations extend to all extra-mural activities, such as school visits or other clinical assignments.

No Hoodies, Sweaters or Cardigans are allowed in place of a white or black lab coat.

Liability Insurance:

The University will provide liability insurance while in our clinic.

Health Insurance and Health Services

Students are not required to have health insurance during the dental hygiene program, but it is encouraged. If you need assistance with securing health insurance, SSU's Bear Care Clinic provides access to an insurance navigator to identify health insurance options for your situation. Please contact the Bear Care Clinic at 740-355-7102 to learn more about insurance navigator services. SSU's Bear Care Clinic also provides health and wellness care for all students. Services include primary and first aid care, vaccinations, mental health and counseling services, medical testing (TB, Strep, Flue, Pregnancy, etc.) as well as wellness education/events. The Bear Care Clinics is located on the Southeast corner of campus near the Shawnee turf soccer fields. Counseling and medical appointments may be made by calling 740-355-7103. Services are available at the SSU Bear care Clinic Monday-Friday 10am-4pm during fall and spring semesters when classes are in session. During Breaks and summer term, appointments can be made at Compass Community Health Locations.

Instrument Kits:

Student instrument kits are purchased during the freshman year fall semester. The kit contains the hand instruments and materials the student will need in the clinical courses of the dental hygiene program. All students must buy the complete instrument kit; the total price is approximately \$2300. Kits are purchased through the University Bookstore. Instruments in the kit are color-coded for identification purposes. **Anything lost by the student must be re-purchased.** All dental hygiene instruments and supplies purchased from the bookstore are non-returnable. Students must also purchase dental handpieces to be used in clinics. The handpiece is approximately \$365 and must be purchased prior to Spring term of the first year.

Students may also be purchasing a digital XCP setup for radiology at the end of Autumn semester to use for DTHY 1111 and during patient treatment for the remainder of the program.

Costs may vary each school year, and new instruments may be added at the faculty's discretion. It is **NEVER** advised for a student to purchase a graduate's used instruments. However, if a student was to purchase used instruments, they may be advised to purchase new individual instruments and will need to purchase any NEW instrument selections not present in the used kit.

Use of another student's instruments will not be **prohibited**: 2nd year students are **NOT** allowed to use 1st year student's instruments for **ANY** reason.

If a student has a problem regarding their instruments, they have to speak to a full-time faculty member to resolve this issue.

Should a student use another student's instruments, points will be deducted from the clinical course grade at the instructor's discretion.

Locker Room and Locker Assignments:

The locker room houses student lockers, rest room, student mailboxes, and chairs. The student should maintain neatness and cleanliness in this room at all times. This is the only room in the Dental Hygiene Department where food and beverages are allowed. Any announcements and community service opportunities will be posted on the bulletin board in the locker room. Please check the bulletin boards regularly for posted information. The Dental Hygiene Clinic is not to be used as a short cut to reach the locker room or dental lab room. Both the locker room and the lab have outside hallway doors, which are to be used for entering and exiting.

You will need to purchase a lock with two keys to place on your assigned locker. You will be required to give one locker key to a faculty member to be kept on file. First year students need to purchase a carrying case to contain instrument kit items for clinical use.

At the beginning of summer term, you will receive a unit cabinet in the clinic.

Clinic Authentication:

Students will use the Microsoft authenticator app on their cell phone in clinic.

Mailboxes:

Individual student mailboxes are located in the locker room and will be assigned during the first week of the first term. Students should check their mailboxes daily and empty them at the end of each week. No student should view or remove the contents of any other student's mailboxes.

Clinic Grading System:

This will vary somewhat depending on the term. At the beginning of each term, your clinical instructor will thoroughly discuss the requirements, evaluation methods, and grading policy for that term's clinical assignment. If at that time you have a question concerning clinical evaluations, please take the time to meet with the faculty member responsible for the course. It is very important to give your patients quality care. Students must maintain a minimum of 75% on the final patient grade average each term in order to remain in the program.

Clinical Hours (Patient Contact):

Students are required to log at least a certain number of clinical hours available each term. You will receive credit for clinic hours during any patient treatment (scale and polish, radiographs, sealants . . .) and for any assigned duty such as reception, sterilization, and radiology.

Laundry:

Always launder your scrubs/uniforms and scrub caps separately from other clothing.

Clinical Duty Rotations:

Every term, students will be assigned clinical rotations. These may include reception, sterilization, and radiology duties. The student is required to participate in these duties on the assigned day. No switching of duties or days is permitted. The student will, at the beginning of each term, be given assigned duties and their dates. The student should be present 30 minutes prior to the beginning of his/her clinic duty. The student will receive credit and be evaluated for each duty. **No studying or personal projects are permitted when the student is assigned a duty.** You will complete the Time Tracker for the appropriate Duty you were scheduled for. You will need to check off the duties on the activity sheet for the duty you completed.

There is no food, drinks or cellular phones allowed on duty rotations.

Clinical Skills Proficiency Evaluations:

A clinical skills proficiency evaluation must be completed in the Summer and Fall terms. The student will be required to demonstrate proficiency with sickles, curets, probe and explorer on an typodont.. If successful evaluation is not attained on the first attempt, the student will not be permitted to continue treating patients until he/she has obtained remedial instrumentation instruction from a full-time dental hygiene instructor and has successfully completed the second evaluation. The remedial instruction and second clinical skills evaluation must be completed within one week following the original evaluation. If the student fails the second evaluation, that student will not be permitted to treat patients and will receive a failing grade for the course. Both clinical skills evaluations and the remedial instrumentation instruction will be conducted by a full-time instructor.

In spring Term of Second Year clinic (DTHY 2206) The student will complete a timed scaling assessment on a provided dental mannequin. This is designed to prepare each student for possible board exams; therefore, the ultrasonic scaler may be used. This will be graded by faculty and points awarded in alignment with prior provided scoring methods. Students will be scored using 3 grading faculty and using non-identifiers to eliminate bias. Students will meet with the clinic coordinator to review performance and discuss any remediation needed prior to taking any external clinical exams.

Proficiency or Competency Evaluations

The following proficiency evaluations must be successfully completed in the appropriate time frame listed in course outlines.

Hand Washing	Donning PPE
Infection Control	Blood Pressure Assessment
Fluoride Technique	Caries Detection
Instrument Sharpening	Pain Management
Oxygen Tank	
Paralleling Instrument Setup	Pit and fissure sealant
Arestin	Ultrasonic Scaler
Calculus Detection	FMX Proficiency
Treatment Record Proficiency	Air polishing and Piezo
Process Evaluation Oraqix	Dental Hygiene Treatment Plan Competency
Competency: ODU11/12 Explorer (Perio Stage II, III, IV Patient ONLY)	
Competency: Tobacco Cessation Counseling	

Treatment Record Protocol

Treatment Record notes describe the services rendered for the patient and should provide a complete and comprehensive description of the completed and scheduled dental care. In addition, the notes should include explanations or rationale for treatment where appropriate. Any limitations

and/or unexpected outcomes would also be noted. There are certain minimum requirements for the recording of treatment record notes which include:

- Date and particulars of each professional encounter with the patient, in person or by phone
- Radiographs (number and type) along with # of retakes
- Diagnostic study casts
- Clinical findings, diagnoses and assessments
- Procedures performed including methods and materials used (e.g. Pit & Fissure Sealants, Fluoride)
- Local and topical anesthetics used including type and quantity
- Medication given to or taken by patient (ex. Antibiotic premedication) to include dosage
- Advice given by or on behalf of dentist/faculty/student including pre- and post-treatment instructions or reference to handout given
- Referrals to other health professionals for examination, tests, consultation or treatment

The date of service must be included along with proper faculty and student signatures.

**Shawnee State University
Dental Hygiene Department
Clinic, Sterilization and Lab Policy
For Unscheduled Use**

The following guidelines must be adhered to regarding the occupation and use of the clinic, lab and sterilization facilities during hours other than when a regularly scheduled class or clinic is in session.

1. All after-hours use must be pre-approved by a faculty member.
2. All clinical procedures must be performed during the regularly scheduled clinic session. i.e. taking impressions
3. The completion of any Sterilization assistant duties after regularly scheduled clinic sessions must be completed in a timely manner with a faculty member (or the clinic coordinator) in the building. The student is responsible for notifying the faculty that his/her duties extended past clinic hours.
4. If it is impossible for a faculty member to be present, the student must make arrangements with faculty to complete duties at the earliest opportunity.
5. No equipment, i.e. autoclaves, ultrasonic baths, fans, clinic radio, or personal items (loupe lights), shall be left turned on in the dental hygiene lab, dispensary, or clinic areas after regular clinic hours.
6. Students are not permitted to use cast grinders after regular clinic hours.
7. The instruments autoclaved must be run by 2:45 (Summer and Fall terms) and 3:45 (Spring term). Any instruments after that time must be autoclaved the next day at 11:00 am (Summer and Fall terms) or 12:00 pm (Spring term).
8. Students are not permitted to take patient files or x-rays from the dental hygiene clinic/lab areas.
9. The lab is an area used for study, grading x-rays, pouring and trimming models. **It is not an area to loaf or eat. NO Food or drinks are permitted in the LAB.**

After clinic hours include Friday.

Acceptable uses not requiring permission but requiring responsible use including turning off equipment:

1. Evaluating radiographs
2. Dental health education projects
3. Reviewing supplemental study materials left in the lab for didactic courses
i.e. extracted tooth modules, utilizing nutritional counseling materials.

V. CLINICAL PROCEDURES

Scheduling Patient Appointments:

Students are responsible for securing their own patients and checking their patient schedule daily, prior to clinic hours. An active patient recall system will provide each student with a limited number of possible patients.

Patient Scheduling Policy:

Dental Hygiene students are expected to demonstrate professional respect, courtesy, and consideration for all scheduled patients. Patients are not to be canceled out or rescheduled in order to schedule a patient who is more suitable to the student's requirements or for the convenience of those students who have met their requirements. Patients are not to be rescheduled or moved to another open student without authorization from the 2nd year clinic coordinator. If a patient cancels, the student should attempt to reschedule the patient; if patient will not reschedule, they will be listed on the cancellation list in the computer. Students are expected to treat those patients who are scheduled. Any violation of this policy will result in a 5% patient care grade reduction for each student involved and for each violation.

Incomplete Patient Treatment Policy:

- A. To ensure that patients receive complete dental hygiene care in our facility, students shall document patients' reasons for not returning to complete their dental hygiene treatment.

To document the incomplete care, the procedure is:

1. Document, on the treatment record and in the treatment/care plan, the specific reason the patient stated for not returning. Sign both entries and have the faculty advisor sign the entries.
2. Record, on the incomplete clinical patient evaluation form, the patient's stated reason. Sign the entry and have the faculty advisor sign it. The faculty advisor will file the clinical patient evaluation forms with the clinic coordinator.

- B. All incomplete patients must be accounted for prior to graduation.

- C. All students with incomplete patient treatment at the end of the term will be required to meet with their faculty advisor to review the patient status. Clinic Coordinator will run an incomplete patient report the week prior to the last week of lectures so that students can rectify and follow up with incomplete patients.

- D. Zeroes will be recorded as grades for:

- All incomplete patients from spring term whose treatment is not completed summer term, unless the reason for not returning is documented under (A) above.
- Four or more incomplete patients.

Patient Cancellations:

You will not be allowed to cancel any patient appointments. Always check the schedule daily. Your first obligation is to those patients scheduled in the appointment book. Therefore, you will want to make certain you enter in appointments for family or friends before you are scheduled with another patient.

The receptionist will make local phone calls to patients to confirm appointments. Unfortunately, some patients will cancel or not show up for their appointment. Clinic hours cannot be given under these circumstances, so it is advisable to have a back-up patient available who could come into the clinic on short notice. Last-minute patients can often be found on campus or even by the mySSU app.

POLICY FOR PATIENTS WHO REPEATEDLY CANCEL OR FAIL TO SHOW FOR APPOINTMENTS

New patients are given the patient information brochure that outlines the program's and patient's responsibilities. In order for the student to achieve clinical requirements in a timely manner, patients must present for scheduled appointments.

If a patient fails to show for a confirmed appointment or cancels the appointment the day of the appointment two or more times, the student may not be required to reappoint the patient. The patient may not be permitted to schedule future appointments in the dental hygiene clinic.

However, certain guidelines must be followed in order to utilize this policy.

1. The student must be courteous and respectful in all conversations with the patient.
2. Each appointment that the patient cancels at the last minute or fails to show for must be documented on the patient's treatment record and care plan/progress notes and signed by the student and faculty member the same day as the scheduled appointment.
3. After documentation of two or more cancelled/no show appointments, a faculty member will explain our policy with a mailed notice to the patient that details our policy and informs them that no further appointments will be scheduled.
4. The faculty member will document the notice mailed to the patient on the treatment record.
5. Patients may have a valid reason for failure to present for one or more appointments. In these instances, patients may be permitted to reschedule. **It will be the faculty's decision.**
6. Faculty will maintain a listing of patients who are not permitted to schedule appointments for the dental hygiene secretary and at the reception desk for reference.

Patient Conduct/Grounds for Administrative Dismissal

A. Purpose

The James Kadel Dental Hygiene Clinic "Clinic" at Shawnee State University operates as an educational facility with patient care services provided within a supervised academic environment. The Clinic is committed to maintaining a safe, respectful, and legally compliant setting for students, faculty, staff, and patients. Conduct that compromises safety, interferes with clinical operations, or disrupts the educational mission will not be permitted.

B. Standard of Conduct

All patients are expected to conduct themselves in a respectful and appropriate manner while on Clinic premises or when communicating with students, faculty, supervisors, or staff, whether in person, by telephone, electronically, or in writing.

The following behaviors constitute grounds for administrative dismissal from the Clinic, including but not limited to:

- Abusive, profane, harassing, discriminatory, or derogatory language directed toward students, faculty, supervisors, staff, or other patients;
- Threatening statements, gestures, or conduct, whether explicit or implied;
- Physical intimidation, aggressive actions, or unwanted physical contact;
- Conduct that creates a hostile, disruptive, or unsafe clinical or educational environment;
- Refusal to comply with Clinic policies, safety procedures, or reasonable directives of supervising faculty or staff;
- Any behavior that Clinic administration determines poses a risk to the health, safety, or welfare of students, faculty, staff, or patients; or
- Actions that cause students, faculty, or staff to believe the patient is impaired and/or patients that are under the influence of alcohol/drugs.

C. Administrative Action

The Clinic reserves the right to take immediate administrative action in response to inappropriate or threatening conduct. Depending on the severity of the behavior, dismissal may occur without prior warning.

Administrative action may include:

- Immediate termination of the current appointment;
- Cancellation of all future appointments;
- Administrative discharge from the Clinic; and
- Restriction from returning to Clinic premises.

The decision to dismiss a patient rest with Clinic administration and supervising faculty, and shall be final.

D. Notification and Continuity of Care

When appropriate and feasible, the patient will receive written notice of dismissal. The notice will specify the effective date of termination of the professional relationship.

Upon dismissal:

- The patient will be advised to seek care from an alternative provider;
- All future appointments will be cancelled;
- Copies of records will be provided in accordance with applicable federal and state laws upon receipt of a valid written authorization; and
- The Clinic will comply with all applicable regulations regarding continuity of care and patient record access.

E. Safety and Legal Compliance

If patient conduct is determined to be threatening, violent, or otherwise unlawful, the Clinic reserves the right to contact campus security and/or law enforcement and to pursue any additional remedies permitted by law.

Nothing in this policy shall limit the Clinic's authority to take immediate action necessary to protect the safety and welfare of students, faculty, staff, or patients.

Patient Assessment:

A thorough health history, dental history, intra-extra oral examination, dental charting and periodontal charting (on patients with an adult dentition) will be completed on all patients treated in the Dental Hygiene Clinic. The health history (including vital signs for 18 years and older) must be approved by faculty before any treatment is started. Patients' health histories and charts are to be

kept confidential and are filed in locked cabinets behind the reception desk. Students are not permitted to remove any patient records in the patient folder from the clinic area. Students should not document on patient's charts prior to the dental appointment. All Patient charting should be completed during the patient's appointment time. Charting prior to the appointment will be a **10 point deduction for your clinic patient grade** overall and will be done by the clinic coordinator.

Dental Hygiene Department: Shawnee State University
ASA Classification System for Patient Health Status:

ASA Class	Description	Examples
1	A normal, healthy patient , without organic, physiologic, or psychiatric disturbance	Healthy, non-smoking, no or minimal alcohol use

2	A patient with mild systemic disease; controlled medical conditions, or an ASA 1 with extreme anxiety or fear toward dentistry	Well controlled: prehypertension, non-insulin dependent diabetes, epilepsy, asthma, thyroid conditions. ASA1 w/mild respiratory condition, active allergies, smoker, social use of alcohol, obesity (30<BMI<40), pregnancy
3	A patient having one or more moderate to severe systemic diseases that limits activity but is not incapacitating.	CHF, angina pectoris longer than 3 months, MI, CVA, TIA, coronary artery disease w/stents, slight COPD, poorly controlled hypertension or DM, morbid obesity, active hepatitis, alcohol dependence or abuse, implanted pacemaker, chronic renal failure/regular dialysis, moderate reduction of ejection fraction
4	A patient with severe systemic disease that limits activity and is a constant threat to life.	Unstable angina, MI, CVA, severe CHF, Coronary artery disease w/stents, ongoing ischemia or severe valve dysfunction, severe reduction of ejection fraction, sepsis, disseminated intravascular coagulation, mod-severe COPD, uncontrolled diabetes, hypertension, epilepsy, or thyroid, renal failure with refractory ascites and end-stage renal disease w/out dialysis, severe CHF, No dental hygiene treatment permitted.
5	A patient with a critical medical condition that is associated with little chance of survival with or without the surgical procedure. Not expected to survive more than 24 hours	Ruptured abdominal or thoracic aneurysm, massive trauma, intracranial bleed with mass effect, ischemic bowel in the face of significant cardiac pathology or multiple organ or system dysfunction. No dental hygiene treatment permitted.
6	A declared brain-dead patient whose organs are being removed for donor purposes	

Adapted by Margaret J. Fehrenbach, RDH, MS from the American Society of Anesthesiologists and Medical Emergencies in the Dental Office (Malamed, Mosby). 05/01/18

CHF: Congestive Heart Failure, TIA: Transient Ischemic Attack, MI: Myocardial Infarction, DM: Diabetes Mellitus, COPD: Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Disease, CVA: Cerebrovascular Accident

ASA-E: Emergency operation: used to modify a classification, i.e., ASA III-E

ASA-P: Pregnant patient: used to modify a classification, i.e., ASA III-P

Classification of Calculus

Class 0 No Calculus	No calculus Present Biofilm may or may not be present
Class 1 Light Supra gingival and zero subgingival calculus	Supragingival- light deposits may or may not be present. Deposits may be localized(proximal) granular areas or small nodules.
Class 2 Light/Moderate Moderate supragingival and light subgingival calculus. Readily detectable sub-gingival calculus. MUST include molars and premolars CALUCLUS ON 9 teeth or LESS	Supragingival-localized supra (proximal spicules) on most teeth including spicules on lingual surfaces of mandibular teeth and facial surfaces of maxillary teeth. Subgingival- localized sub present, esp. Granular
Class 3 Moderate supra gingival and moderate subgingival calculus. Readily detectable subgingival calculus= localized ledges and /or bands MUST include Molars and Premolars CALCULUS ON MORE THAN 9 TEETH BUT LESS THAN 15	Supragingival- may be localized ledges especially on facial surfaces of max molas and lingual surfaces of mandibular teeth Subgingival- localized and generalized bands encircling the cervical third of most roots.
Class 4 Heavy Supra Gingival and Heavy Subgingival calculus Readily detectable sub-gingival calculus 50% or greater. Generalized ledges and or bands MUST include molars and premolars. CALCULUS ON 15 OR MORE TEETH	Supragingival-generalized ledges around cervical of crowns. Subgingival- generalized bands on the cervical and middle thirds of most roots and or fingerlike projections on the cervical and middle thirds of most roots.

****If there is a question as to the quality of the deposits, instructors will assign the lower classification (ie, Class 2 instead of 3). The classification may be increased if the deposits prove to be more tenacious than the origin assessment indicated. Instructors will communicate with the instructor who assigned the original classification prior to changing it. If the original faculty is not present in clinic the decision will be made by the clinic coordinator.**

Times to Remember:

Students who fail to FLOSS after polishing patient will receive a a point deduction from the check-out grade at the discretion of the faculty member. Time management is important! When faculty arrive at the unit to check the patient out at 3:20 or 4:20 flossing should have already been completed.

Impressions and Sealants must be started by 2:45 pm (3:45 pm Spring Semester)

BWX or Pano: 3:30pm (4:30 pm Spring Semester)

FMX: 2:30 pm (3:30 pm Spring Semester)

Any evaluation or graded patient education must be completed before check-out time.

Rotations: Reception, Sterilization, Radiology: when rotation duties are done incorrectly or not completed there will be a point deduction noted on the daily evaluation form and those points will be deducted from the clinic grade or the radiology grade by the clinic coordinator.

Clinical Assistance:

If you experience difficulty or have questions at any time during patient treatment, place the flag up at your unit to summon help from faculty.

All patients will be checked by an instructor to determine patient difficulty and to evaluate the student on patient assessment, scaling and polishing or progress check if the patient is not being completed that day. If a student, during scaling procedures, is having difficulty, he/she may request an instructor to spot check the area of difficulty to determine if there is calculus in that area. Spot checks will only be given for a specific tooth causing difficulty. Spot checks are not to be used to determine how well you have scaled an arch.

Patient Education:

Prior and during dental hygiene treatment each patient is to receive individualized information concerning the condition of his/her mouth. Patients must also be instructed about the cause and prevention of disease, including appropriate biofilm control measures (brushing, flossing . . .)

Equipment, visual aids, and other materials are available at all times. The student is expected to utilize these resources to their fullest potential.

Patient Education Resources in cubicles and on the shelving in the lab:

- Patient education pamphlets on subjects such as oral cancer, smoking, fluoride rinses, brushing and flossing, etc.
- Tooth models
- Typodont and brush
- Oral irrigating device and electric toothbrush
- Dental health handout copies for groups
- Pamphlets on periodontal disease and various oral health topics
- Sonicare power brush for demonstration is located at the front instructor's station in the clinic

If the student has any questions on the use of any of these resources, ask an instructor.

Patient Referrals:

- A. Patients with medical conditions requiring consultation with a physician prior to treatment must be given a referral form to be completed by the physician.
A copy of this form remains in the patient's folder.

- B. All patient referrals for treatment by a dentist or physician will be made by the clinical faculty or the clinical dentist. A copy of this referral must be placed in the patient's file folder or documented in the patient's treatment care plan and on the treatment record.
- C. Patient referrals may be emailed to physicians.
- D. Patient referrals must be current.
- E. Dental digital images can be emailed to the dental office of the patient's choice.
- F. Before emailing any personal information, a patient must complete and sign a copy of our release of information form prior to sending information.

Patient Files:

Clinical patient file folders are color-coded. The first color code is the first letter of the last name. The second color-code is the second letter of the last name. Files are coded by year of patient treatment. The year must be kept up to date. For example, if your patient was here in 2024 and is now returning in 2025, the 24 label must be changed to 25. The files are alphabetized. For several folders that share the same last name, the first names are alphabetized, i.e., John Smith is filed before Karen Smith.

Patient file labels are typed by the clinical administrative assistant. The clinical administrative assistant is also responsible for filing patient folders. It is critical to file alphabetically since misfiled folders are difficult to locate. Students on a reception rotation will assist the clinical administrative assistant with these tasks.

No part of the patient's chart (health histories and radiographs) is to leave the clinic area. The clinical administrative assistant/student will correctly file all folders before leaving the clinic. Confidentiality of patient medical records must be maintained by the student. Refrain from discussing patient records in front of others.

Guidelines for Dental Hygiene Treatments in Conjunction with Local Anesthesia:

Rationale:

Local anesthesia can be a valuable adjunct to help you perform thorough dental hygiene treatment for those patients with hypersensitive oral tissues. Local anesthesia can help your patients tolerate a difficult scaling and/or root planning procedure. Although the patient will have a higher pain threshold for the dental hygiene procedures, the student must use the same, carefully controlled, method of scaling and root planing that is used for non-anesthetized tissues. Just because the patient cannot sense pain or discomfort does not permit the use of excessive force or inappropriate techniques in scaling and root planing. Damage to the hard and soft tissues can be the result of inappropriate scaling and root planing techniques, regardless of if the patient's oral tissues are anesthetized or not.

Patient Selection:

Patients with a low pain threshold for dental hygiene procedures or patients requiring extensive root debridement may be candidates for local anesthetic medication. If the dental hygiene treatment cannot be performed due to patient discomfort, the clinic's supervising dentist or a local anesthetic certified dental hygiene faculty may authorize and administer, or supervise the administration by a student, the local anesthetic medication. The student may also choose to apply a topical or non-injectable local anesthetic.

Documentation:

If a local or topical anesthetic is administered after a consultation with the patient and a review of the medical history, such dosage and location of administration will be recorded on the patients' treatment notes and signed by the supervising dentist.

Post-Treatment Information to the Patient:

Students are responsible for informing the patient of precautions following the administration of local anesthetics. Students will record the patient's blood pressure **before and after treatment** on the treatment record and care plan. Such information will have been presented to the students in a didactic class before any dental hygiene treatments are permitted in conjunction with local anesthetics.

Disposal of Needles and Local Anesthetic Cartridge:

The needle should be recapped with an appropriate one-handed re-capper after the local anesthetic injections are completed. The used syringe must be properly disassembled and disposed of by placing the needle and anesthetic cartridges into the SHARPS CONTAINER which is located in the lower cabinet of your unit and then preparing the metal syringe barrel and handle for autoclaving.

Recall System:

The front desk clinical administrative assistant will call patients who are due to come in for their dental exam and prophylaxis and will schedule with the student who treated the patient last or will schedule with a student based on clinic requirement needs for that semester.

All patients treated in our clinic will be placed into the recall system. Therefore, it is important that each patient you complete has a recall card updated (if they have been treated here before), or a card filled out (if they are a new patient).

Radiology:

All equipment, policies and procedures for dental hygiene radiology are outlined in detail in the Radiology Manual, which is given to the student Summer Term.

A pregnant student exposing x-rays will be required to wear a pano apron during all exposures during the pregnancy.(will need to sign consent paper)

For all students exposing patients to ionizing radiation, the student must look through the window either in the door or next to the door to see the patient during every radiation exposure

NO CELL PHONES are permitted in the Radiology area or clinic.

Patient Identifiers: Patient Name and Date of Birth

Privacy: No patient should be discussed before or after dismissal from the clinic.

When patients are moving in the clinic such as going to the restroom or being taken back for x-rays, a student should be chaperoning the patient to their destination.

When a patient is treated by multiple students a patient must be identified by their birthdate before the 2nd student begins treatment.

Example: A 2nd student is taking x-rays on another student's patient, the 2nd student must identify the patient by using the medical history and asking the patient their birthdate to verify they have the correct patient.

Dental Hygiene Department

Important Dental Hygiene Patient Information

740.351.3241

SCOPE OF CARE

Shawnee State University's Dental Hygiene Program provides dental hygiene care to all interested individuals and groups. In an educational setting, students perform all dental hygiene services allowed by Ohio law. These services include: scaling and polishing of teeth, administration of appropriate pain control, dental x-rays (full-mouth surveys, individual periapicals, bitewing-surveys, panographs), application of fluoride, application of pit and fissure sealants, patient education, nutritional counseling, and study models

Each patient will be examined by an Ohio licensed dental hygienist or dentist. At that time, the faculty member may refer you for additional dental or medical treatment, such as restorations (fillings), orthodontic treatment, periodontal treatment, or medical history concerns, as needed. Our clinic only provides dental hygiene services. If you do not have a family dentist, we can provide you with a list of area dentists who are members of the American Dental Association. Please ask your student hygienist or the receptionist for the listing.

Patient cooperation is a valuable and essential part of the treatment regimen. Therefore, we want you to know the following information concerning patient treatment in our Dental Hygiene Clinic.

1. It may require more than one appointment to complete your treatment.

This will depend on the difficulty of your treatment, the condition of your gum tissues, and the type of oral home care you have followed. If you feel you will not be able to return for necessary visits, please inform the student at the beginning of the first appointment or during the telephone contact.

2. Because students are involved in a learning situation, they work more slowly than a graduate dental hygienist. All procedures performed by the student are completely checked and evaluated by an Ohio licensed dental hygienist or dentist who is a member of the University faculty.

3. Students must complete a specific number of patient treatments within a limited time span. Broken or canceled appointments, or patients who cannot return for a second appointment or patients who reschedule more than 2 times, can jeopardize a student's graduation requirements. For this reason, patients who cancel the day of their appointment or do not show up for their appointment or reschedule in the same semester two or more times may be asked to seek treatment elsewhere and may not be permitted to schedule any future appointments.

4. Our bloodborne infectious disease policy can be accessed on the university's website: <https://www.shawnee.edu/about-us/administrative-offices/risk-management-safety/environmental-health-safety> or patients may request a paper copy.

5. The minimal fees and high level of care provided will offset the extra time required for patient treatment. We have found that patients who can only stay for one short appointment are better served by private dental care.

6. Payments for treatments are required on the initial appointment. Due to budgetary considerations, we cannot send bills to patients or third party payers. Please make personal checks payable to: Shawnee State University.

Dental Hygiene Fees:

Adult Patients	\$25.00	(regardless of number of visits to complete treatment)
Children (Under 15)	\$10.00	
SSU Students and Alumni.....	\$10.00	
SSU Golden Bear.....	\$10.00	
Fluoride treatment.....	no charge	
Pit and Fissure Sealants.....	(1 tooth)... \$10.00	(3 or more teeth)...\$30.00
Bitewing x-rays.....	\$10.00	
Full-mouth x-rays.....	\$15.00	
Panograph x-ray.....	\$15.00	
Selected periapicals.....	\$10.00	
Digital images can be emailed at no charge (FMX, BWX, or Periapical)		

We do not accept credit or debit cards, dental insurance, Medicaid or bill for services.

If you have any comments or would like to speak to a faculty member, please call our secretary at 740- 351-3236, and they will direct your call appropriately.

STANDARDS OF PATIENT CARE

1. Patients will be informed of the clinical services provided at the SSU Dental Hygiene Clinic and informed of patients' rights to the same standards of care provided by dental offices in the tri-state area.
2. Faculty and students will hold professional patient relationships confidential.
3. Patients will be provided care utilizing the highest level of infection control procedures to prevent disease transmission and treated in an environment that minimizes the risk of harm.
4. Patients will be provided with information necessary to make informed decisions concerning their oral health and encouraged to participate in their treatment decisions and goals.
5. Patients will be instructed on both the prevention of disease and maintenance of oral health.
6. Patients will be offered recall appointment notifications based on their oral health needs.
7. Patients will be referred to other healthcare providers when their needs are beyond the scope of practice of the Shawnee State University Dental Hygiene Clinic.
8. Individual treatment plans will be based on the assessment of patient needs determined by data gathered from the health history, intra/extra oral exam, dental and periodontal charting, and appropriate radiographs and will be approved by a faculty member prior to implementation.

9. Patients will be provided with preventive and therapeutic dental hygiene services utilizing appropriate pain control, preventive and chemotherapeutic agents.
10. Patients will be examined by a faculty member at each appointment to ensure that the patient's treatment meets the standard of care.
11. Upon completion of care, patients will be thoroughly evaluated by a faculty member to verify that the treatment plan has been completed and the standards of care have been met.

BILL OF RIGHTS FOR PATIENTS

Shawnee State University does not discriminate in admission, access or treatment in programs and activities or employment practices on the basis of race, creed, sex, color, national or ethnic origin, religion, marital status, age, sexual orientation, Vietnam-era or qualified disabled veteran status, or qualified handicap.

1. The patient has the right to considerate and respectful care.
2. The patient has the right to an explanation of recommended treatment or treatment alternatives concerning his current oral condition in terms the patient can reasonably be expected to understand.
3. The patient has the right to receive information necessary to give informed consent prior to the start of any procedure and /or treatment.
4. The patient has the right to refuse treatment and to be informed of the possible consequences of this action.
5. The patient has the right to every consideration of his privacy concerning his own dental care.
6. The patient has the right to expect that all communications and records pertaining to his care will be treated as confidential.
7. The patient has the right to be advised if Shawnee State University Dental Hygiene Clinic proposes to engage in or perform human experimentation affecting his care of treatment.
8. The patient has the right to expect reasonable continuity and completion of care.
9. The patient has the right to receive an explanation of all fees prior to treatment.
10. The patient has the right to treatment that meets the standard of care in the dental hygiene profession.

SHAWNEE STATE UNIVERSITY DENTAL HYGIENE CLINIC **PRIVACY POLICY NOTICE**

This notice describes how the personal and medical information you provide for our dental hygiene records may be used and how you can gain access to this information.

We may use your personal and health care information for the following purposes:

1. **Dental Hygiene Treatment** – We may disclose your health care information to the student dental hygienist who is providing or assisting in providing dental hygiene treatment for you. In addition, the Dental Hygiene faculty members who are supervising the student dental hygienists may have access to your healthcare information. We may disclose your health care information to your physician of record, dentist of record, or other health care professionals if required for your care.
2. **Dental Hygiene Business and Academic Operations** - We may disclose your health care information to an agency who is evaluating the Dental Hygiene Clinical program such as the American Dental Association who accredits all Dental Hygiene Programs or the Ohio State Dental Board who inspects dental offices and university programs for compliance with State of Ohio Dental Laws. Your records may also be used for purposes of training, teaching, and learning.
3. **Upon Your Authorization** – We may disclose your health care information to third parties only if authorized by you to do so upon completion of a Patient Authorization Form.
4. **Appointment Reminders** - We may access your health care information in order to remind you of your next dental hygiene appointment. We may disclose your health care information when contacting you to remind you of an upcoming appointment.
5. **Required By Law** -We may disclose your healthcare information when we are required to do so by law.

Patient's Health Care Records Rights:

1. You have a right to look at or obtain a copy of your health care records. If you want copies of your records you will need to request those from our clinical administrative assistant.
2. You have a right to correct or amend your healthcare records as long as those changes do not cause the records to become inaccurate.
3. You have a right to expect that your healthcare information will be recorded and stored in a confidential manner. If you think this right has been violated and you would like to express a concern or file a complaint, please contact the SSU Clinic Privacy Office listed below.

Privacy Director: James Kadel, D.D.S. (740) 351-3036, email: jkadel@shawnee.edu

SSU Revised 2012

PATIENT ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

I, _____, have received, reviewed, and understand the SSU Dental Hygiene Clinic Privacy Policy with respect to protecting my health care information.

Patient's Signature _____ **Date:** _____

In case you do not agree to sign this form, our office must indicate why you declined to do so.
Reason for patient's refusal.

Privacy Director's Signature: _____ Date: _____

PATIENT SATISFACTION SURVEY

In order to assess patients' perception of the quality of care received in the dental hygiene clinic, patients will be given the opportunity to complete a survey. One week at mid-term each term, the program leader will place a QR code at each unit and at the front desk. Patients will be asked to complete a digital patient satisfaction survey. Patients are free to complete surveys other than mid-term week.

At the end of the survey week, the program leader will review the surveys, tally the results, and share the results at a faculty meeting. Comments from patients concerning the care received will be evaluated by the faculty. Survey results are available for student review.

Social Networking Policy:

Freedom of Speech is a right guaranteed by the United States constitution. In regard to patient care, however, our patient information is protected by (HIPAA) Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act. HIPAA prevents a student from discussing or posting pictures of a patient outside the clinical environment. In addition, the ADHA code of ethics (see pg. 6-10 of this handbook) also addresses confidentiality, professional responsibility and ethics. Students should avoid discussion of problems, issues, or negative experiences encountered on the SSU campus and in the Dental Hygiene clinic on ANY social media network. Violations of this Policy will result in removal from the program.

Keep in mind ANY undesirable activity posted to a social media network can be accessible to a future employer!!

Guidelines for the prevention of Infective Endocarditis (IE) American Heart Association (as stated on website June 2024)

Preventive antibiotics prior to a dental procedure are advised for patients with:

1. Prosthetic cardiac valves, including transcatheter-implanted prostheses and homografts.
2. Prosthetic material used for heart valve repair, such as annuloplasty rings, chords or clips.
3. Previous IE.
4. Unrepaired cyanotic congenital heart defect (birth defects with oxygen levels lower than normal) or repaired congenital heart defect, with residual shunts or valvular regurgitation at the site adjacent to the site of a prosthetic patch or prosthetic device.
5. Cardiac transplant with valve regurgitation due to a structurally abnormal valve.

Patients with congenital heart disease can have complicated circumstances. They should check with their cardiologist if there is any question at all as to the category that best fits their needs.

Endocarditis prophylaxis NOT recommended for:

- mitral valve prolapse

- rheumatic heart disease
- bicuspid valve disease
- heart murmur
- prior use of the medication phen-phen
- calcified aortic stenosis
- congenital heart conditions such as ventricular septal defect, atrial septal defect and hypertrophic cardiomyopathy.

Table 5. Antibiotic Regimens for a Dental Procedure Regimen: Single Dose 30 to 60 Minutes Before Procedure

Situation	Agent	Adults	Children
Oral	Amoxicillin	2 g	50 mg/kg
Unable to take oral medication	Ampicillin OR cefazolin or ceftriaxone	2 g IM or IV	50 mg/kg IM or IV
		1 g IM or IV	50 mg/kg IM or IV
Allergic to penicillin or ampicillin—oral	Cephalexin* OR azithromycin or clarithromycin OR doxycycline	2 g	50 mg/kg
		500 mg 100 mg	15 mg/kg <45 kg, 4.4 mg/kg >45 kg, 100 mg
Allergic to penicillin or ampicillin and unable to take oral medication	Cefazolin or ceftriaxone†	1 g IM or IV	50 mg/kg IM or IV

Clindamycin is no longer recommended for antibiotic prophylaxis for a dental procedure.

IM indicates intramuscular; and IV, intravenous.

*Or other first- or second-generation oral cephalosporin in equivalent adult or pediatric dosing.

†Cephalosporins should not be used in an individual with a history of anaphylaxis, angioedema, or urticarial with penicillin or ampicillin.

TABLE 2

Dental Procedures for Which Antibiotic Prophylaxis for High-Risk Cardiac Patients Is and Is Not Recommended⁵

DENTAL PROCEDURES FOR WHICH ANTIBIOTIC PROPHYLAXIS IS RECOMMENDED:

- Restorative care wherein gingival tissues will be manipulated
- Surgical and nonsurgical periodontal procedures
- Surgical and nonsurgical endodontic procedures
- Oral surgery, including extractions
- All dental procedures involving manipulation of gingival tissue, the periapical region of teeth, or perforation of the oral mucosa

DENTAL PROCEDURES FOR WHICH ANTIBIOTIC PROPHYLAXIS IS NOT RECOMMENDED:

- Injection of local anesthetic through noninfected tissue
- Dental radiography
- Placement of removable prosthetics
- Placement or adjustment of orthodontic appliances or brackets
- Exfoliation of primary teeth
- Bleeding resulting from trauma sustained by the oral mucosa or lips

Management of patients with prosthetic joints undergoing dental procedures

Clinical Recommendation:

In general, for patients with prosthetic joint implants, prophylactic antibiotics are **not** recommended prior to dental procedures to prevent prosthetic joint infection.

For patients with a history of complications associated with their joint replacement surgery who are undergoing dental procedures that include gingival manipulation or mucosal incision, prophylactic antibiotics should only be considered after consultation with the patient and orthopedic surgeon.* To assess a patient's medical status, a complete health history is always recommended when making final decisions regarding the need for antibiotic prophylaxis.

Clinical Reasoning for the Recommendation:

- There is evidence that dental procedures are not associated with prosthetic joint implant infections.
- There is evidence that antibiotics provided before oral care do not prevent prosthetic joint implant infections.
- There are potential harms of antibiotics including risk for anaphylaxis, antibiotic resistance, and opportunistic infections like *Clostridium difficile*.
- The benefits of antibiotic prophylaxis may not exceed the harms for most patients.
- The individual patient's circumstances and preferences should be considered when deciding whether to prescribe prophylactic antibiotics prior to dental procedures.

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ADA. Center for Evidence-Based Dentistry™

* In cases where antibiotics are deemed necessary, it is most appropriate that the orthopedic surgeon recommend the appropriate antibiotic regimen and when reasonable write the prescription.

Dental Hygiene Procedures to consider antibiotic premedication only after a consultation with the Orthopedic Surgeon:

1. Periodontal procedures including surgery, subgingival placement of antibiotic fibers/strips, scaling and root planing, probing, recall maintenance
2. Prophylactic cleaning of teeth or implants where bleeding is anticipated

Dental Hygiene Procedures not requiring antibiotic premedication:

1. Exposing oral radiographs
2. Fluoride treatments
3. Oral impressions

Table. American Academy of Orthopedic Surgeons/American Dental Association Antibiotic Prophylaxis: Additional Risk Assessment²⁻⁵

Risk Factors Evaluated in AAOS/ADA Model	Examples of AAOS/ADA Risk Factors
Dental procedures	Manipulation of gingival tissue or periapical region of the teeth, or perforation of the oral mucosa
Severely Immunocompromised states	HIV with CD4 <200 or AIDS-related opportunistic infection; patients with neutropenic cancer; bone marrow transplant recipients; patients with rheumatoid arthritis using biological response modifiers or prednisone >10mg/day; solid organ transplant recipients; inherited immunodeficiency
Glycemic control	Hemoglobin A1c >8% or random blood glucose >200 mg/dL
History of periprosthetic joint infections	History of periprosthetic or deep joint infection involving the implant
Time since prosthesis implant	Less than or greater than 1 year from time of primary surgery

AAOS indicates American Academy of Orthopedic Surgeons; ADA, American Dental Association.

Patients at increased risk of Hematogenous Total Joint Infection who might require pre-medication

1. Inflammatory arthropathies: rheumatoid arthritis, systemic lupus erythematosus
2. Disease, drug, or radiation-induced immunosuppression
3. Previous prosthetic joint infections
4. Insulin dependent (Type I) diabetes
5. Malnourishment
6. Hemophilia
7. HIV infection, Malignancy

Our rule at SSU Dental Hygiene clinic is to contact the patient's physician (Orthopedic Surgeon) to verify the recommended course of treatment with pre-medication for the prosthetic joint patient.

VI. POLICIES AND PROCEDURES FOR EMERGENCIES

Prevention and Preparedness:

All faculty and dental hygiene students shall maintain their current certification in Healthcare Provider CPR.

1. The medical history should be thoroughly reviewed prior to patient treatment.
2. For ease of access and reference, the patient's medical history shall be placed on the top of all other records during patient treatment. Should the patient be moved into Radiology the medical history will travel with them.
3. All students and faculty shall be certified in Healthcare Provider CPR and have been instructed in the management of medical emergencies.
4. All emergency telephone numbers are posted on the bulletin board beside the telephone at the reception desk. For EMS dial **911**.
5. An emergency medical kit is located in the dispensary by the incubator. The oxygen tank is located on the clinic floor in front of the dispensary. The AED is located outside the main dental hygiene clinic door.
6. The dental hygiene faculty is the medical emergency team.

Procedures:

1. The student must stay with the patient and send another student for a clinical instructor (and the clinical dentist or the Dental Hygiene Director). Remain calm.
2. The instrument tray should be moved out of the way.
3. Directions should be given in a calm, clear voice.
4. Patient comfort and emotional state must be given priority.
5. The student is to observe the patient's behavior and appearance (signs/symptoms). The student shall access that the patient has a patent airway, is breathing and has circulation.
6. The clinical dentist and/or the Dental Hygiene Director shall oversee the emergency situation.
7. One instructor will be responsible for emergency equipment (AED, oxygen tank, blood pressure cuff and stethoscope) and emergency drugs. This team member is responsible for gathering the material, bringing it to the site of the emergency, and preparing the equipment for use.
8. One instructor will be responsible for summoning medical assistance, should the need arise. He/she will also meet the ambulance and escort EMS personnel to the site.
9. One instructor will remain at the emergency site for monitoring vital signs and basic life support.
10. If the patient is transported to the hospital, an instructor, the clinical dentist, or the Dental Hygiene Director will accompany the patient to the hospital.

Emergency Resuscitation Equipment:

Students must have their pocket masks available for use during patient treatment. Masks should be stored in assigned unit cabinet.

The Dental Hygiene Clinic will have available an emergency mouth-to-mouth resuscitation pocket mask that protects the rescuer from patient saliva. This is located at the front patient education station in the cabinet under the sink.

Disposable, emergency mouthpieces and oxygen will be available in the clinic area. All students will be instructed on their use during Spring Term of the freshman year.

Fire Extinguisher:

The fire extinguisher is located on the wall in the hallway by the main clinic door.

First Aid Kit/Medical Emergency Kit:

The first aid kit is located in the dispensary next to the incubator. The kit contains supplies for managing clinic and laboratory accidents. There is also a medical emergency kit containing emergency drugs and apparatuses. Should an emergency arise, the clinical dentist or a faculty member should be immediately notified. Additional equipment is located in the front cabinet in the clinic.

AED (automated external defibrillator) is located outside of the Dental Hygiene Clinic door (room 166) in case of a medical emergency.

1. Turn on the AED and follow the visual and/or audio prompts.
2. Open the person's shirt and wipe his or her bare chest dry. If the person is wearing any medication patches, you should use a gloved (if possible) hand to remove the patches before wiping the person's chest.
3. Attach the AED pads, and plug in the connector (if necessary)
4. Make sure no one is, including you, is touching the person. Tell everyone to "Stand Clear"
5. Push the "Analyze" button (if necessary) and allow the AED to analyze the person's heart rhythm.
6. If the AED recommends that you deliver a shock to the person, make sure that no one, including you, is touching the person and tell everyone to "Stand Clear". Once clear, press the "Shock" button.
7. Begin CPR after delivering the shock. Or, if no shock is advised, begin CPR. Perform 2 minutes (about 5 cycles) of CPR and continue to follow the AED's prompts. If you notice obvious signs of life, discontinue CPR and monitor breathing for any changes in condition.

Oxygen: Proper Usage of Oxygen Tank and the Oxygen Mask

The oxygen tank is located in front of the Dispensary counter.

Steps for using oxygen:

1. Roll the cart to the area needed.
2. To open tank, turn top valve open one quarter turn to the left.
3. Place mask over patient's face, covering nose and mouth.
4. Turn knob by green gauge to 10-15 lpm; at this point oxygen will be flowing.

To turn off oxygen:

1. Turn top valve back to the right one quarter turn.
2. Turn knob by green gauge back to zero once the oxygen stops flowing—this relieves pressure in tank. *must be checked that the pressure is relieved.
3. Dispose of the mask/bag in the Biohazard collection bag.

CAUTION:

Accidental dropping or tipping over of the oxygen tank may result in damage to the valve and immediate release of the oxygen in an explosive manner.

**Shawnee State University
Dental Hygiene Department
Policies and Procedures for Laboratory Emergencies**

Prevention and Preparedness:

1. Students are required to wear appropriate personal protective equipment during lab procedures as instructed.
2. Students are informed of potential lab hazards.
3. A first aid kit is located in the dispensary beside the incubator. The oxygen tank is located on the clinic floor in front of the dispensary. The AED is located outside the main clinic door.

Procedures:

1. The lab instructor(s) shall oversee the emergency, providing first aid and advising the victim to seek further medical attention when deemed necessary.
2. **Treatment of thermal burns:** (1) Redness, swelling, pain: Apply cold water, after cooled apply aloe vera gel or body lotion. (2) Deeper injury, blisters develop: apply cold water, after cooled apply antibiotic ointment, cover burn with non-stick dressing. Do not break blisters.

3. **Treatment of chemical burns to the eyes:** (1) Flood eyes with water for at least 20 minutes (If burning or irritation continues or resumes flush eyes with water for an additional 5 minutes).
4. **Treatment of open wounds:** Shallow wound: (1) Wash with soap/water then flush with clean running water. (2) Apply layer of antibiotic ointment. (3) Cover with a sterile dressing. (4) Control bleeding with direct pressure. Do not remove dressing once placed; apply another dressing over blood-soaked dressing if necessary.
Wounds that require medical care: (1) Wounds that continue to bleed after 15 minutes of direct pressure. (2) Long, deep cuts that require stitches (should be placed within 6-8 hours).
5. **Treatment of shock:** (1) Ensure adequate breathing. Administer a high concentration of oxygen if breathing is adequate. (2) Place victim supine (3) Place blanket over/under the victim to keep warm. (4) Transport victim to the hospital.
6. **Inhalation:** (1) Remove victim from the source and into fresh air. (2) Establish an open airway. (3) Stay alert for vomiting. (4) Administer high concentration oxygen. (5) Transport victim to hospital with containers, bottles, or labels from inhaled substance.
7. If the injured person is transported to the hospital by EMS personnel, an instructor will accompany the victim to the hospital.

Shawnee State University Revised 2023
 Adapted from AAOS/ECSI recommendations

Evacuations/Exits:

Emergency evacuation and exit procedures information sheets are located in the Clinic by the dispensary and the door by Unit 10. Listed on these sheets are: an evacuation map for fire, emergency medical telephone numbers, and tornado procedures. Classrooms and labs throughout the campus also have these procedures posted. It is the students' responsibility to familiarize themselves with these procedures to insure safety for themselves and their patients.

Eye Wash Station:

All students are required to wear protective glasses with side shields during patient treatment. An eye wash station is located in the dispensary; the fountain in the sink should be used as eye wash. An eye wash station is also located at the sink located in Dr. Kadel's cubicle at the back of the clinic.

Inclement Weather Policy:

Refer to the University Student Handbook for policy concerning inclement weather and class scheduling. The University rarely closes due to inclement weather; however, you should be aware of the University policy and tune into local radio stations for announcements. It is highly recommended that you register for SSU alert information on My SSU.

ACTIVE SHOOTER: Information from SSU website:

In an Active Shooter Emergency:

- Make a decision as to what course of action you will take to protect yourself.
- There will generally be three options:
 - Run and evacuate

- Hide or lock down
- Fight and take down the shooter

If you are able to evacuate, do it and remember to:

- Leave your belongings behind.
- Run in a zip-zag pattern away from the building or situation.
- Do not stop running until you feel safe or are in a safe zone.
- Contact 911 or SSU DPS emergency line (740.351.3232) and provide detailed information.

If you are on the second floor or higher, ask yourself if escaping through a window is possible. Make an improvised rope out of clothing, belts or any other item to help limit the falling distance and attempt to fall into shrubs, mulch, or grass.

If evacuation if not possible:

- Take shelter in the nearest office, room, or closet and silence all electronic devices.
- Turn off the lights.
- Lock and barricade the door with items in the room (desks, chairs, bookshelves, etc.). If possible, tie down the door by attaching a belt to the door handle.
- Search for alternative escape routes (windows, additional doors, etc.).
- Call 911 or SSU DPS emergency line (740.351.3232) and provide detailed information.
- Do not open the door for anyone or peek out doors or windows. Responding officers will have access to all of the rooms in a building.
- Spread out and stay low to the ground. Huddling together makes a better target.

Note that you may have to take the offensive if the shooter enters your area. Always position yourself in a spot that allows for the elements of surprise. Be prepared to utilize anything close to hand as a weapon and prepare yourself for the physical encounter.

If the shooter is in your area and escape is not possible, your only option is to fight:

- Throw anything at the shooter, aiming at the face, to distract the shooter.
- Use any weapon of opportunity close at hand (scissors, staplers, pens, keys, purse, backpacks, books, etc.).
- If possible, attack in a group and SWARM. Grab the shooter's extremities and take them to the ground and use your body weight to secure them.

REMEMBER FIGHTING DIRTY IS FAIR WHEN SURVIVAL IS THE GOAL AND YOUR LIFE DEPENDS ON IT.

When the shooter is incapacitated, call 911 or SSU DPS and advise law enforcement the shooter is down. Provide your location and stay on the line. Remove any weapons away from the suspect. DO NOT HOLD IT! Secure the suspect (with your body weight, belts, etc.) until help arrives.

Police officers responding to an active shooter are trained to proceed immediately to the area in which shots were last heard.

You must remain calm and do as the officers tell you. Put down any bags or packages you may be carrying and keep your hands visible at all times. Avoid making quick movements toward the officers, such as attempting to hold on to them for safety. If you know the location of the shooter, tell the officers.

What to expect from responding officers:

- They may arrive in any size team or as an individual.
- They may be wearing patrol uniforms, civilian clothing, or bulletproof vests with other tactical equipment.
- Officers may be armed with rifles, shotguns or handguns, and they may use pepper spray or tear gas to control the situation.

First officers to arrive will not stop to aid injured people. Their purpose is to stop the shooting as quickly as possible. Rescue teams and emergency medical personnel will follow behind to help.

ONCE YOU HAVE REACHED A SAFE LOCATION, OFFICERS MAY DETAIN YOU UNTIL THE SITUATION IS UNDER CONTROL AND ALL WITNESSES HAVE BEEN IDENTIFIED AND QUESTIONED.

Please keep in mind that entire area is a crime scene. Until you are released, remain at the assembly point authorities have designated.

[Active Shooter Guidelines Brochure \(PDF\) found online on SSU website](#)

VII. INFECTION CONTROL POLICY

The following infection control policy will be followed during all clinical sessions:

References:

Department of Labor, Occupational Safety and Health Administration, 29 CFR Part 1910.1030, Occupational Exposure to Bloodborne Pathogens; Final Rule.

CDC Website, Infection Prevention & Control Guidelines & Recommendations, Summary of Infection Prevention Practices in Dental Settings: Basic Expectations for Safe Care

Centers for Disease Control and Prevention: Guidelines for Infection Control in Dental Health: Care Settings. MMWR 2003; 52 (No. RR-17)

Infection Control guidelines are subject to change in accordance with the Center for Disease Control per recommendations.

ASEPSIS AND INFECTION CONTROL POLICY

Handwashing is Mandatory:

1. Before treatment
2. Between patients
3. After glove removal (Remove by grasping glove at cuff and pulling it off inside out)
4. During treatment if gloves are removed
5. Before leaving the operatory and upon return to operatory prior to re-gloving
6. Handwashing may be accomplished by using antibacterial soap and water or an alcohol based hand rub.

Handwashing Protocol:

1. No jewelry is worn on hands or arms during patient treatment
2. Nails must be clean, short, and polish free
3. Wet hands and wrists under cool running water
4. Dispense sufficient antimicrobial soap to lather hands and wrists
5. Lather thoroughly with particular emphasis around nails and between fingers for 15 seconds minimum before rinsing under cool water
6. Repeat steps 4 and 5; then dry thoroughly with paper towels

To Decontaminate Hands with an Antiseptic Hand Rub:

1. Dispense an adequate amount of an alcohol based rub to the palm of one hand
2. Rub hands together and vigorously cover all surfaces of fingers and hands
3. Rub thoroughly until hands are completely dry

Set-up Protocol:

1. Wash hands; wear gloves, mask and glasses and hair covering
 2. Flush all waterlines for at least 2 minutes before and after appt. And at the end of appt shut unit off and depress the water button until water line is completely empty (bleeding the line).
 3. Disinfect all surfaces; allow contact for 10 minutes
 - A. Chair, Tray, Light switch and handles, Stool
 - B. Countertop, Sink, Arm with suction, and air/water hook-up, all lines and knobs/handles
 4. Wipe surfaces dry after 10 minutes contact with disinfectant and cover the following with plastic barriers:
 - A. Tray, Light switch and handles
 - B. Unit arm, Air/Water syringe, Holder for suction and on/off knob, Handpiece if using ultrasonic, Unit control panel
 5. Attach small Bio-Hazard bag to an accessible area of counter that will not interfere with patient treatment
 6. With gloved hands attach saliva ejector tip, sterilized handpiece, and sterilized air/water tip
 7. Sterilized instruments are to remain bagged until patient is seated
- *Saliva ejector tip is **NOT** on the suction when the line is being flushed!!

Patient Treatment Protocol: (Student should have on hair covering and fluid resistant jacket or gown)

1. Instruct patients over age 6 to rinse with antimicrobial mouthwash for 1 minute
2. Put on Mask & Protective Eye wear, Face Shield, Wash hands and wrists as described in handwashing protocol
3. Glove up and examine gloves for defects. Gloves must extend over lab jacket cuff. Once gloved, touch only the patient and barrier covered areas.
4. Open bags with sterile instruments and arrange on tray
5. During charting do not touch patient record with contaminated gloves; wear over glove
 - A. Pens must be disinfected and covered with plastic
 - B. Clip board disinfected and covered with plastic barrier
6. An instrument that is dropped will NOT be picked up and reused. If the instrument is essential for the procedure, a sterilized instrument must be obtained.
7. Contaminated disposable items are to be discarded immediately in the Bio-Hazard bag
8. Contaminated sharps are to be discarded immediately in the sharps container located in the sterilization area or under the unit cabinet.

Clean-up after Patient Treatment Protocol: (student should still have on hair covering and fluid resistant jacket or gown)

1. Remove gloves and wash hands immediately
2. Complete all forms and records relating to treatment and dismiss the patient
3. Put on heavy duty nitrile gloves over clean latex gloves before beginning clean-up; wear mask & glasses
4. Remove contaminated instruments, place in red lid plastic container to transport to sterilization area to be cleaned and sterilized (see #8 below)
5. Remove all plastic barriers and disposables
6. Disinfect all surfaces
7. Flush all waterlines for 2 minutes; And at the end of appt shut unit off and depress the water button until water line is completely empty (bleeding the line).
8. Instrument cleaning, disinfecting, sterilization:
 - A. Wear heavy duty nitrile gloves, place instruments in plastic container with red lid.
 - B. Carry instruments in the plastic container with red lid to the ultrasonic cleaner
 - C. Place instruments in ultrasonic cleaner for 15 min to complete cleaning, bio-burden breakdown, & disinfecting
 - D. Lift the basket out of the ultrasonic unit & rinse solution off of instruments in the sink
 - E. When instruments are visibly clean & dry, place in autoclave bags for autoclaving
 - F. All instruments & handpieces are sterilized by autoclaving
 - G. Spray/wipe/spray to disinfect the counter & sink
 - H. Take plastic container with red lid back to clinic unit & spray/wipe/spray plastic container with red lid to disinfect
8. Rinse & disinfect protective eyewear or face shield
9. Empty all trash into large trash bin; bio-hazard bag, seal & place in large bio-hazard box (make sure there is no items on the floor around the unit or chair.
10. Rinse & spray disinfect heavy nitrile gloves; dry & place in zip-lock bag
11. Wash hands thoroughly before leaving the clinic area

Revised 7/2025

IF YOU ARE EXPOSED TO HUMAN BLOOD OR OTHER POTENTIALLY INFECTIOUS MATERIAL THROUGH....

**Skin Puncture
Skin Contamination
or
Mucosal Contamination**

PERFORM FIRST AID PROCEDURES IMMEDIATELY

For skin puncture or surface skin contamination, encourage bleeding and wash skin site with soap and warm water for 15 minutes. For contamination mucosal or conjunctival sites, wash with large amounts of water for 15 minutes.

REPORT THE ACCIDENT TO THE PERSON IN CHARGE

COMPLETE THE SSU ACCIDENT REPORT FORM

IDENTIFY THE SOURCE INDIVIDUAL

RECEIVE PRETEST COUNSELING

RECEIVE HIV BASELINE & RECOMMENDED FOLLOW-UP

TESTING

RECEIVE HBV TESTING

RECEIVE POST-TEST COUNSELING

Incident Report Forms are located at the Front Desk

Hepatitis B Vaccination:

All students are required to complete the protocol recommended for Hepatitis B vaccination before oral treatment can be rendered to the public by the student. Recommended protocol includes a series of three vaccinations to ensure immunity.

The student will obtain the Hepatitis B series of three vaccinations prior to Spring Term of the freshman year. Documentation of the administration of the Hepatitis B vaccine by the student's physician must be provided to the 2nd year clinical coordinator, Marie Richey, prior to Spring Term of the freshman year. Email: mrichey@shawnee.edu

COVID-19 Vaccination: Is Strongly Recommended

Health Insurance and Health Services

Students are not required to have health insurance during the dental hygiene program, but it is encouraged. If you need assistance with securing health insurance, SSU's Bear Care Clinic provides access to an insurance navigator to identify health insurance options for your situation. Please contact the Bear Care Clinic at 740-355-7102 to learn more about insurance navigator services. SSU's Bear Care Clinic also provides health and wellness care for all students. Services include primary and first aid care, vaccinations, mental health and counseling services, medical testing (TB, Strep, Flue, Pregnancy, etc.) as well as wellness education/events. The Bear Care Clinics is located on the Southeast corner of campus near the Shawnee turf soccer fields. Counseling and medical appointments may be made by calling 740-355-7103. Services are available at the SSU Bear care Clinic Monday-Friday 10am-4pm during fall and spring semesters when classes are in session. During Breaks and summer term, appointments can be made at Compass Community Health Locations.

Standard Precautions:

All students will follow standard precautions while providing any care that involves the possibility of exposure to saliva or blood.

1. Gloves will be worn before touching the oral cavity or any non-intact skin.
2. The gloves will be removed and hands washed prior to leaving the immediate area of care.
3. Upon returning to the immediate area of care, the student will re-wash her/his hands and re-glove.
4. All students are required to wear gloves, masks, gowns, protective glasses with face shield and a scrub cap while providing oral care services.
5. Students should take precautions to avoid sticks and/or injuries with sharp instruments.

6. If a glove is torn or if a glove is punctured by an instrument, the glove must be removed, hands washed, and a new glove used as promptly as possible. The instrument that punctured the glove should be removed from the instrument tray and not be reused until sterilized.

Exudate Lesions and Weeping Dermatitis:

Students with exudate lesions or weeping dermatitis on his or her hands will refrain from all direct patient care and from handling patient care equipment until the condition resolves. **This includes: fresh tattoos, microblading and permanent makeup tattooing.**

The student will inform a dental hygiene instructor of any skin lesions on his/her hands. The student will inform the patient of his/her inability to provide care and make arrangements to provide care on another date or allow another student to provide care for the patient if appropriate. The student will not be penalized for lost clinic hours in the event of this occurrence.

Instruction in Standard Precautions:

All students will be instructed concerning standard precautions prior to providing oral care.

Freshman students will be instructed concerning all standard precautions to be followed in the Dental Hygiene Clinic. This instruction will occur in DTHY 1102 (Dental Hygiene Theory & Technique I). Standard precautions procedures are listed in this manual.

All Health Science students are required to complete OSHA Blood-Borne Pathogens training seminar Fall term of each year.

Dental Hygiene students will receive training on the handling of products containing hazardous chemicals.

Information on Hepatitis B and AIDS Pathology:

All students will be instructed regarding Hepatitis B and AIDS pathology, modes of transmission and risks associated with the disease. This instruction will occur in DTHY 1103 (Dental Hygiene Theory & Technique II), DTHY 1115 (Oral Microbiology), and DTHY 2215 (Oral Pathology).

1. All students will be given a copy of the infection control policy and procedures in the Dental Hygiene Student Manual.
2. A general explanation of the epidemiology, symptoms, and modes of transmission of bloodborne diseases shall be given to the student during Spring Term of the Freshman year. This will occur in DTHY 1103 (Dental Hygiene Theory & Technique II) and DTHY 1115 (Oral Microbiology).
3. Explanation of the protocol for handwashing, glove changing, masks, protective clothing and eyewear, decontamination of unit, universal precautions, sharp disposal, and means of avoiding unnecessary exposure shall be provided to the student.
4. Information on how to handle exposure incidents such as exposure to contaminated sharps shall be provided to the student.
5. An explanation of the biohazard label shall be provided to the student.

Decontamination of Alginate Impressions:

Following an alginate impression, the student with gloved hands will spray the impression with decontaminate.

1. Immediately upon removal of the impression, the student will hold the impression over the sink bowl, rinse the impression under running water, and spray until saturated with disinfectant.
2. The impression will then be wrapped in damp paper towels for 10 minutes prior to pouring the models.
3. After disinfection is complete, the students will hold the impression over the sink bowl and rinse off the disinfectant under running water.

Autoclave Procedures:

All instruments and radiologic intra-oral devices will be sterilized before use on patients.

1. All instruments will be properly decontaminated, properly bagged and placed in autoclave tray.
2. Student on sterilization duty will load instruments and ensure that instruments have been properly autoclaved. Including chemical integrator in each load.
3. The autoclaves will be tested weekly with spore ampules to insure efficiency of autoclave system. The student will document running the ampules and place the ampules in the incubator after the steam cycle is complete.
4. The ampules will be checked again 48 hours later by another student. The results will be recorded on a sheet posted in the sterilization area.
5. The clinic coordinator will be notified immediately of spore ampules that reflect inadequate sterilization procedures.
6. Every load ran must be documented on the autoclave monitoring log with an instructors approval (initials) pertaining to process, chemical and/or biological indicator monitoring.

Disposal of Contaminated Waste:

All contaminated waste generated during the course of treatment will be properly disposed.

The student will place all contaminated, disposable materials in a small plastic collector bag at the immediate area of care. The bag will be sealed and then disposed into a red BIOWASTE Bag. The BIOWASTE bag will be placed into the large plastic box with BIOWASTE clearly printed on the outside. The box will be picked up by the appropriate personnel.

Subcutaneous Puncture Wounds:

The student that is exposed to a subcutaneous puncture will follow the procedure for possible exposure to HIV or Hepatitis B.

1. The area will be washed with warm soapy water.

2. A dental hygiene instructor will be notified immediately. The instructor will initiate a puncture report.
3. The source individual should be informed of the incident by a DtHy instructor and, if possible, tested for serologic evidence of HIV and HBV infection.
4. Results of source individual's tests will be made available to the student. At that time, the student will be made aware of any applicable laws and regulations concerning disclosure of the identity of and infectious status of source individual.

If the source individual has AIDS, is positive for HIV or HBV antibody, or refuses the test, the student should be counseled regarding the risk of infection and evaluated clinically and serologically for evidence of HIV infection as soon as possible after the exposure.

5. The student should be advised to report and seek medical evaluation for any acute febrile illness that occurs within 12 weeks after exposure. Seronegative students should be retested six weeks post-exposure and on a periodic basis thereafter (e.g., 12 weeks and 6 months after exposure) to determine whether transmission has occurred.
6. Most infected persons are expected to seroconvert within 6-12 weeks following exposure. If after 12 weeks the student is negative, no further testing is necessary if the patient is seronegative. If the source patient is at high risk for HIV, a subsequent test may be advisable.

Infection Control Review:

Infection control standards shall be reviewed and revised at least annually, or more often if necessary.

During each Summer term the dental hygiene faculty shall review and revise, if necessary, the infection control standards.

Contaminated Sharps Disposal:

All contaminated disposable sharps shall be placed in a closable, puncture-resistant container that is leak proof on the sides and bottom. The container will be red and will be marked with the Universal Biohazard symbol.

Every dental unit (as well as the sterilization area) will have a sharps container. Containers will be closed prior to moving them and will not be overfilled.

Students will place all contaminated, disposable sharps items in appropriate containers.

Eating and Drinking in the Clinic, Sterilization, Lab, Reception and Radiology Area:

Eating, drinking, and personal grooming are prohibited in all clinical and sterilization areas.

Food and drink shall not be kept in the refrigerator, freezer, shelves, or cabinets of the clinical or sterilization areas.

When students are trimming models, no food or drink should be out in the dental hygiene lab due to dust particles being placed into the air. (More instructions will be given during DTHY 2212)

VIII. Chemical Hazard Communication Policy:

The Shawnee State University Hazard Communication Policy will be followed during all lab and clinical sessions that involve the exposure, or potential exposure, to hazardous chemicals and substances. Policy #5.22

References: Federal Occupational Safety and Health Administration, Hazard Communication Standard 29 CFR 1910.1200.

Safety Data Sheets:

An indexed copy of all available material safety data sheets for hazardous chemicals used in the dental hygiene lab and clinic is kept online via Green Light.

Required Training for Students:

Students shall receive training and information concerning all potentially hazardous materials and chemicals that they will come in contact with while involved in laboratory and clinical procedures. This training will be accomplished each year and as new materials are introduced to the students.

A designated instructor will inform the student as to the location and availability of the written communication program. An explanation of what a MSDS is and how the student can utilize this information will be supplied. Information concerning the use of work practice controls designed to prevent exposure to hazardous chemicals, as well as, the handling of chemical spills will also be discussed.

Shawnee State University Dental Hygiene Program Bloodborne/Infectious Disease Policy

The Shawnee State University Dental Hygiene Program is committed to providing a safe environment and to protecting patients, students, faculty, and staff from exposure to bloodborne and infectious diseases. The program is committed to protecting the rights of individuals who may have a bloodborne or infectious disease.

Prevention

Utilizing the guidelines developed by the Centers for Disease Control (CDC), the intent of this prevention policy is to protect students, faculty, and staff who are at risk for potential contact with bloodborne pathogens (HIV, HBV) and infectious diseases.

The CDC strongly recommends the following immunizations for Health-Care Personnel (HCP):

Hepatitis B recombinant vaccine (3 dose schedule)	Mumps live-virus vaccine (MMR)
Measles live virus vaccine (MMR)	Rubella live virus vaccine (MMR)

The full text of the CDC recommendations can be found on their website: cdc.gov/mmwr

Applicants accepted into the dental hygiene program are required to complete or show proof of completion of the recommended immunizations and tuberculosis testing. Documentation shall be

provided by the student's physician prior to spring term of the freshman year. Many applicants may have already received these immunizations as infants/children.

*Students may decline to be immunized by signing the department's declination form and an annual waiver form from the Ohio State Dental Board.

Training

All dental hygiene students and clinical faculty are required to attend an annual bloodborne pathogen training session. Students must also successfully complete a standard precautions/infection control competency the first semester. In addition, clinical faculty and students are informed of the risk of bloodborne infectious diseases through the university's Bloodborne Pathogens Policy 5.21 and Exposure Control Plan 5.21:1, documents in the Dental Hygiene Program Student Manual, Adjunct Faculty Manual, and didactic course lectures.

Patients

The dental hygiene department does not discriminate against patients with a bloodborne infectious disease. Strict adherence to standard precautions is followed by all students, faculty and support staff during all phases of patient treatment. Patients are informed of their rights and responsibilities at the initial and re-care appointments in the dental hygiene clinic. Patients are asked to read the "Dental Hygiene Patient Information" brochure which includes a bill of rights, standards of patient care, and patient responsibilities outlined in the scope of care. Patients are required to sign the consent for treatment form indicating they have received and read the above referenced documents.

Infectious students or faculty and Confidentiality

Students or clinical faculty infected with a bloodborne pathogen such as HIV or HBV and who are directly involved in patient care should be under the care of a qualified physician. The physician should provide guidance on preventing the spread of infection. Individuals must be accountable and act responsibly in the provision of patient care.

Shawnee State University and the dental hygiene department respect the right of confidentiality and will make every effort to maintain an individual's rights. A student will be allowed to continue his/her education provided their medical condition permits and patient care or other individual's health are not jeopardized or at risk. In the event that an individual poses a risk to others, the Dental Hygiene Program Leader and the Dean of the College of Professional Studies will assist the individual in obtaining counseling and advisement regarding their health and education.

Commission on Dental Accreditation Complaint Policy

A complaint is defined by the Commission on Dental Accreditation as one alleging that a commission-accredited educational program, or a program which has an application for initial accreditation pending, may not be in substantial compliance with Commission standards per required accreditation procedures.

Required Notice of Opportunity and Procedure to File Complaints with the Commission on Dental Accreditation

Each program accredited by the Commission on Dental Accreditation must develop and implement a procedure to inform students of the mailing address and telephone number of the Commission on Dental Accreditation. The notice, to be distributed at regular intervals, but at least annually, must include but is not necessarily limited to the following language:

The Commission on Dental Accreditation will review complaints that relate to a program's compliance with the accreditation standards. The commission is

interested in the sustained quality and continued improvement of dental and dental-related education programs but does not intervene on behalf of individuals or act as a court of appeal for individuals in matters of admission, appointment, promotion or dismissal of faculty, staff or students.

A copy of the appropriate accreditation standards and/or the Commission's policy and procedure for submission at 401 N. Michigan Ave., Suite 3300 Chicago, IL 60611 or by calling 1-800-232-6108 or 312-440-4653

The accredited program must retain in its files information to document compliance with this policy so that it is available for review during the Commission's on-site reviews of the program.

Name: _____ Date: _____

Technical Standards for Dental Hygiene and Essential Abilities

THIS OCCUPATION REQUIRES ONE TO:

- Administer oral hygiene care to patients
- Assess patients' oral hygiene concerns or issues
- Maintain health records
- Educate patients on oral health and disease prevention

TASKS:

- Review and document patients medical and dental histories
- Feel and visually examine oral tissues for sores and signs of disease
- Palpating the head and neck region to detect swelling or tenderness that could indicate presence of oral cancer
- Examine gums, by using a dental instrument called a probe, to identify periodontal issues and signs of gum disease
- Remove biofilm, calculus, and stains from teeth and above and below the gumline, using dental instruments
- Provide clinical services and health education to improve and maintain oral health for patients of all ages
- Expose and interpret dental radiographs
- Chart conditions of decay and disease for diagnosis by a dentist
- Application of caries-preventive agents such as fluorides and pit and fissure sealants
- Administer local or topical anesthetics or nitrous analgesia for pain management
- Take impressions for study casts and whitening trays
- Maintain dental equipment, sharpen, and sterilize instruments
- Maintain a patient recall system
- Work in a team environment
- Life-long learning

TECHNOLOGY AND TOOLS USED:

- Use of computer software and technology
- Hand instruments used for assessing and cleaning teeth and piezoelectric and magnetostrictive ultrasonic scalers.
- Digital, traditional dental radiographs including panoramic radiographs and portable x-ray units (not used at FSU)
- Teeth cleaning devices or accessories – air driven dental polishers; air/water syringes; motor driven dental polishers.
- Dental lasers (not currently used at FSU) & caries detection aids.

WORK ACTIVITIES

- Establishing and maintaining interpersonal relationships
- Assisting and caring for others
- Working with the public
- Documenting information
- Critical thinking skills and problem solving
- Using relevant knowledge
- Handling and moving objects

- Resolving conflicts
- Identifying objects, actions, and events
- Monitor processes and materials
- Organizing, planning and prioritizing
- General physical activities
- Perform office work

WORK ENVIRONMENT

- Primarily in a dental office
- Repetitive motions
- Use hands to handle, control or feel objects, tools or controls
- Wear Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) - scrubs, safety glasses with side shields, face shields, masks, closed toe shoes, etc.
- Majority of the time a dental hygienist will sit while performing duties. There is also walking, bending and twisting.

KNOWLEDGE

- Medicine and Dentistry
- Customer and Personal Service
- Psychology, chemistry, biology
- Sales and Marketing
- Public Safety and Security
- Production and Processing

SKILLS

- Proficient in the English Language
- Active listening
- Communicate effectively
- Active Learning
- Reading Comprehension
- Time Management
- Critical Thinking
- Social Perceptiveness
- Problem solving
- Coordination
- Writing

ESSENTIAL ABILITIES

- Arm-hand steadiness
- Finger Dexterity – being able to grasp, manipulate or assemble very small objects and have coordinated movements with fingers.
- Manual Dexterity – The ability to quickly move your hand, your hand and forearm, or two hands to grasp, manipulate, or assemble objects.
- Near Vision – The ability to see details at close range.
- Visual color discrimination – being able to see differences between shades of color and brightness.
- Problem Sensitivity – The ability to tell when something is wrong or is likely to go wrong. It does not involve solving the problem, only recognizing there is a problem.

- Control Precision – The ability to adjust the controls of a machine quickly and repeatedly to exact positions.
- Selective Attention – The ability to concentrate on a task over a period without being distracted.
- Deductive Reasoning – The ability to apply general rules to specific problems to produce answers that make sense.

LANGUAGE ABILITY

- Oral Expression/Speech Clarity/Recognition – The ability to speak clearly so others can understand you and to have the ability to identify and understand the speech of another person.
- Be able to read small, printed labels on medications and other pertinent supplies.
- Must be able to read, write, speak, record and report in English. Must be able to comprehend written and oral directions given in English and the ability to carry them out.

WORK STYLES

- Dependable
- Attention to Detail
- Concern for Others
- Independence
- Integrity
- Self-Control
- Stress Tolerance
- Initiative
- Achievement/Effort
- Leadership
- Persistence
- Analytical thinking
- Innovation
- Adaptability and flexibility

CLINICAL ASSESSMENTS

- Must be able to successfully demonstrate, with or without reasonable accommodation, competence of clinical skills in both laboratory and clinical settings.

Source: O*Net OnLine Summary Report for Dental Hygienists,
<https://www.onetonline.org/link/summary/29-1292.00>

Signature Page for Technical Standards for Dental Hygiene and Essential Abilities:

I have no physical or health condition that would keep me from carrying out the indicated responsibilities of a dental hygiene student. I understand that falsifying information may be grounds for dismissal from the Dental Hygiene Program.

Signed: _____

Date: _____

**Shawnee State University
Dental Hygiene Program**

This is to verify that I, (print name) _____ have received a copy of the policies and procedures for the Dental Hygiene Program at Shawnee State University covering the following courses:

DTHY 1102, DTHY 1112 DTHY 1113, DTHY 1116, DTHY 1111, DTHY 1103, DTHY 1104, DTHY 1114, DTHY 2211, DTHY 2202, DTHY 2204, DTHY 2206, DTHY 2218, DTHY 1115, DTHY 2201, DTHY 2210, DTHY 2212, DTHY 2215, DTHY 2203, DTHY 2214, DTHY 2216, DTHY 2205, DTHY 2217.

Acknowledgement of Student Manual Review:

I have reviewed, understand, and agree to abide by the policies and requirements outlined in the Student Manual for the Dental Hygiene Program.

Student Signature _____ Date _____

Student Id number: _____

Witness: _____

Any new addendums to the Dental Hygiene Student Manual will be presented to the student and require an additional signature of understanding and compliance with the addendum.