

Northwest Arkansas Community College

Health Professions Division

Discipline Code

DNTA

Course Number

1213

Course Title

Dental Assisting Procedures I

Catalog Description

Provides background knowledge of clinical practice and prepares students to become competent in performing assignments in general dentistry including an introduction to the dental specialty practices. An introduction to basic dental terminology, dental equipment, instruments, infection control processes, and procedures associated with the dental office. Students learn the process of four handed dentistry through demonstrations and hands on practice. The study of therapeutics includes a brief history of drugs, methods of administration, drug effects, and commonly used drugs in the treatment of oral lesions, anxiety, and pain control.

Prerequisites

Acceptance into program by interview with program director

Credit Hours

3 credit hours

Contact hours

25 lecture contact hours; 25 lab contact hours

Load hours

3 load hours

Semesters Offered

Fall

ACTS Equivalent

None

Grade Mode

A-F

Learning Outcomes

Upon successful completion of this course the student will be able to:

- Demonstrate effective infection control procedures
- Correctly care for dental equipment

- Assist in the delivery of dental care
- Identify and care for dental handpieces and accessories
- Identify and explain the uses of dental hand instruments
- Assist in moisture control
- Recognize and express principles of pharmacology
- Assist in pain management and control
- Identify examples of child maltreatment and explain process for reporting child abuse
- Demonstrate proficiency in coronal polishing
- Demonstrate proficiency in sealant placement

General Education Outcomes Supported

- Students develop higher order thinking skills.
- Students can employ a variety of sources to locate, evaluate, and use Information.

Standard Practices

Topics list

- Infection Prevention Protocols
- Disinfection and Sterilization Standards
- Equipment maintenance and repair
- Procedural set-ups with instruments and materials
- Grasp importance of moisture control while performing restorative procedures
- Anesthetic and pain management
- Coronal polishing procedure and theories of use
- Sealant placement procedure and theories of use

Learning activities

- Didactic instruction will be delivered either in the classroom setting or through virtual systems.
- Didactic instruction will include models, manikins, videos, and diagrams to reinforce topics discussed.
- Laboratory exercises will align with the didactic portion of the course.
- Infection Prevention Protocols will be of primary importance and will be integrated into each and every lab process.
- Laboratory exercises will utilize models, manikins, and classmates to locate and identify oral and dental structures.
- Disinfection and sterilization laboratories will utilize standard dental equipment for training and will include equipment safety training.
- Students will learn new terminology and experience varied learning methods to reinforce the General Education outcomes of higher order thinking skills and information literacy.

Assessments

- Final grade will be based on the average of all exams, quizzes, homework, and labs.
- Examinations: Final written exam is comprehensive and scored on a percentage basis. Final Practical exam is comprehensive of all skills/topics covered during course.
- Quizzes: A quiz may be given at any time during the course. Make-up quizzes are at the instructor's discretion.

- Homework: Assignments may be given at any time during the course and will be due when designated by the instructor. Material turned in after designated time/date will not be accepted and will result in a grade of "0".
- Labs: Designed for student to gain skill with new procedures. Labs are scored on a Pass/Fail basis. Students must achieve a Pass in order to advance in course.

Grading guidelines

- A=90-100%
- B=80-89%
- C=70-79%

*You must maintain a grade of C or higher to progress in the Dental Assisting Program.