

**El Paso Community College**  
**Syllabus**  
**(Part II)**  
**Official Course Description**

<b>SUBJECT AREA</b>	<u>Dental Hygiene</u>						
<b>COURSE RUBRIC AND NUMBER</b>	<u>DHYG 1261</u>						
<b>COURSE TITLE</b>	<u>Clinical-Dental Hygiene/Hygienist I</u>						
<b>COURSE CREDIT HOURS</b>	<table border="0" style="width: 100%; text-align: center;"> <tr> <td><b>2</b></td> <td><b>0:</b></td> <td><b>12</b></td> </tr> <tr> <td><b>Credits</b></td> <td><b>Lec</b></td> <td><b>Lab</b></td> </tr> </table>	<b>2</b>	<b>0:</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>Credits</b>	<b>Lec</b>	<b>Lab</b>
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**I. Catalog Description**

Provides a health-related work-based learning experience that enables the student to apply specialized occupational theory, skills, and concepts. Direct supervision is provided by the clinical professional. A grade of “C” or better is required in this course to take the next course. **Prerequisite: DHYG 1103 and DHYG 1201 and DHYG 1219 and DHYG 1239 and DHYG 1304 and DHYG 1431. Corequisites: BIOL 2420 or BIOL 2421 and DHYG 1211 and DHYG 1235 and DHYG 2201. (0:12). Lab fee. Professional Practice Insurance required. Dental Hygiene Discipline.**

**II. Course Objectives**

Upon satisfactory completion of the course, the student will be able to:

- A. Unit 1. The Dental Hygiene Profession**
  1. Understand dental hygienists are licensed preventive oral health professionals who provide education, clinical services, and consultation to individuals and populations of all ages in many settings and capacities.
  2. Understand the dental hygienist persuades behavior change that will support optimum health while recognizing health is an investment and all persons have the right to be healthy.
  3. Support the dental hygiene profession through student *American Dental Hygienists’ Association (ADHA)* membership.
  4. Understand dental hygienists are guided by ethical principles and core values as defined in the *American Dental Hygienists’ Association Code of Ethics* regarding autonomy, beneficence, nonmaleficence, justice, veracity, confidentiality and societal trust.
  5. Understand and discuss the *Dental Hygiene Process of Care* meeting the accepted standards for clinical patient care however, realize each state has its own rules and regulations concerning the treatment and scope of practice that dental hygienists can provide.
  6. Understand what is meant by the term dental hygiene scope of practice.
  7. Comply and consistently utilize appropriate infection control protocols following OSHA, EPA, FDA, CDC, and EPCC guidelines and regulations.
  8. Understand the EPCC Dental Hygiene Clinic protocols for medical emergencies.
  9. Consistently initiate and display critical thinking skills.
  10. Utilize evidence-based decision-making skills while integrating the best research evidence with our clinical expertise and our patient’s unique values and circumstances.
  11. Demonstrate appropriate use and knowledge concerning Electronic Medical Records (EMR).
  12. Demonstrate proper methods for legal documentation concerning patient’s recording keeping.
  13. Describe and demonstrate concepts related to ensuring confidentiality and privacy of patient information.

**B. Unit II. Patient Selection**

1. Students must provide all patients for course requirements.
2. Patients must meet all criteria for DHYG 1261. (refer to Instructor Syllabus Part I)
3. Patients must be 18 years or older.
4. Each patient requires a complete medical and dental screening by clinical dentist and/or clinical instructor before Clinic I students are to begin with patient treatment.
5. Each patient must medically meet the EPCC's Dental Hygiene Policies for patient treatment. (refer to EPCC Dental Hygiene Policies and Procedures)
6. Each patient is required to have current dental radiographs from personal dentist or from El Paso Community College Dental Programs.
7. Each patient is "Typed" according to the classification system established by the *American Academy of Periodontology* and "Coded" according to the amount of calculus accumulation.
8. Patients typed with gingivitis, no periodontal disease or early periodontal disease O, I, and II (III at Instructor of Record's discretion) and coded A or B will qualify for DHYG 1261.

**C. Unit III. Ergonomics and Equipment**

1. Comply and modify operator, patient, and equipment positioning based on ergonomic principles.
2. Consistently employ and demonstrate the correct modified pen grasp on non-dominant hand and dominant hand.
3. Understand and recognize correct ergonomic principles reduce risk of repetitive strain injury (RSI).
4. Understand and recognize patient positioning is dependent on clinician positioning.
5. Understand and practice regular strengthening and stretching exercises increase the flexibility and strength of muscles and tendons, reducing the risk of RSI.
6. Understand and discuss the EPCC policies and procedures concerning usage, care, and maintenance of dental equipment and units.
7. Consistently comply and respect the operating procedures of dental equipment in the clinic.
8. Complete the radiology NOMAD Pro 2 training session and obtain the required certification for operation during clinic sessions.
9. Students are responsible for purchasing and maintaining their personal required equipment, instruments, and supplies.
10. Understand and sign the *EPCC Unsafe Practice* contract which holds the student liable for their actions and decisions to maintain a safe clinical environment.

**D. Unit IV. Oral Hygiene Management**

1. Define, recognize, and understand the concepts of oral hygiene, oral biofilm, calculus, gingivitis, periodontal disease, and dental caries disease.
2. Discuss and demonstrate methods of how to identify the soft and hard deposits found in the oral cavity.
3. Understand and explain the host response to these deposits found in the oral cavity.
4. Understand and explain the daily removal of biofilm, bacteria, and debris from the teeth, tongue, and oral tissues are important to prevent or to control oral diseases.
5. Understand and explain selection of dental products and oral self-care devices are the most common means for plaque/biofilm daily removal.
6. Understand and explain mechanical removal of oral biofilms via tooth brushing and interdental devices are the most effective means of prevention.
7. Understand and explain the importance of individualized home care instruction.
8. Understand and explain what is the significance of biofilm management as part of disease prevention and nonsurgical periodontal therapy.
9. Understand and explain the connection of oral health and total health wellbeing.

**E. Unit V. Dental Hygiene Process of Care**

1. Understand the *American Dental Hygienists' Association Standards for Clinical Dental Hygiene Practice* outlines criteria for competency in dental hygiene care, as illustrated by the

components of the *Dental Hygiene Process of Care*.

2. Define the Dental Hygiene Process of Care and identify the six steps.
3. Discuss the components of the Dental Hygiene Process of Care while understanding dental hygienists identify risk factors and causes of a condition or disease that can be reduced, eliminated, or prevented through dental hygiene interventions.
4. Manage the patient and their needs in a professional and ethical manner following the *ADHA Code of Ethics*.

**HEALTH HISTORIES:**

5. Demonstrate skills necessary to obtain complete and thorough personal, medical, and dental health histories as taught in DHYG 1431, PRECLINICAL DENTAL HYGIENE.
6. Describe contraindications and complications for dental care presented by various medical conditions, diseases and medications.
7. Demonstrate skills necessary to obtain vital signs and recognize findings that have implications and contraindications in planning dental treatment.
8. Demonstrate the knowledge of taking a comprehensive pharmacologic history and explain EPCC's criteria for compiling and utilizing the drug cards as taught in DHYG 1235, PHARMACOLOGY FOR THE DENTAL HYGIENIST.
9. Understand and describe the possible risk factors gathered during the Health Histories and provide appropriate referral to a physician when findings indicate the need for further medical evaluation.

**EXTRAORAL, INTRAORAL, AND HARD TISSUE EXAMINATIONS:**

10. Conduct, describe, and document normal findings, abnormal deviations, and significant findings during the Extraoral Clinical Examination using appropriate terminology and descriptive terms as taught in DHYG 1239, GENERAL AND ORAL PATHOLOGY.
11. Conduct, describe, and document normal findings, abnormal deviations, and significant findings during the Intraoral Clinical Assessment using appropriate terminology and descriptive terms as taught in DHYG 1239, GENERAL AND ORAL PATHOLOGY.
12. Conduct, describe, and document normal findings, deviations, and significant findings during the Hard Tissue Examination using appropriate medical and dental terminology as taught in DHYG 1201, ORAFACIAL ANATOMY, HISTOLOGY AND EMBRYOLOGY.

**RADIOGRAPHIC EXAMINATION:**

13. Understand and follow the existing Radiographic Examination protocols for obtaining prescription for survey(s), exposing, grading, dentist's pathology report, evaluating, and documenting radiographic findings using appropriate medical and dental terminology as taught in DHYG 1304, DENTAL RADIOLOGY.
14. Consistently follow established federal and state Radiation Safety regulations.
15. Consistently demonstrate proper radiology techniques and produce superior diagnostic-quality radiographs.
16. Explain and discuss preventive measures, causes, and corrective actions for radiographic errors whether film, images or hand-held devices.
17. Radiographs are required for all patient treatment and must be displayed during patient care.

**DENTAL CHART AND PERIODONTAL EXAMINATIONS:**

18. Verbalize, demonstrate, and document Dental Charting methods and nomenclature describing the existing location and condition of all teeth and restorations as taught in DHYG 1431, PRECLINICAL DENTAL HYGIENE.
19. Verbalize and demonstrate exploring techniques for the detection of dental caries.
20. Verbalize, demonstrate, and document correct periodontal probing technique and adaptation on facial, lingual, proximal surfaces and beneath the contact area of two adjacent teeth as taught in DHYG 1431 PRECLINICAL DENTAL HYGIENE.
21. Identify, explain, and document the components of a comprehensive Periodontal Examination as taught in DHYG 1211, PERIODONTOLOGY.

**RISK ASSESSMENTS: taught in DHYG 1431, PRECLINICAL DENTAL HYGIENE**

22. Understand, describe, and discuss the risk assessments discovered during the Extraoral and Intraoral Examinations, Hard Tissue Examination including Dental Chart, Radiographic Examination, and Periodontal Examination assessment phase while determining the patient's level of risk (high, moderate, low).
23. Develop and design individualized assessment strategies for preventing or limiting disease and for promoting health.
24. Identify the indications for fluoride and apply the appropriate method as taught in DHYG 2201, DENTAL HYGIENE CARE I.
25. Identify antimicrobial, buffering, calcium and phosphate products and indications.
26. Identify the indications for the application of the pit and fissure sealant material.
27. Understand and follow the existing protocols for obtaining the dentist's approval and technique for sealant application as taught in DHYG 1219, DENTAL MATERIALS.

**DIAGNOSIS: taught in DHYG 1431, PRECLINICAL DENTAL HYGIENE**

28. Discuss and develop the Dental Hygiene Diagnosis.

**IMPLEMENTATION AND PLANNING: taught in DHYG 1431, PRECLINICAL DENTAL HYGIENE**

29. Discuss, and develop the patient-centered Individualized Treatment Plan documenting the planned interventions, recommendations, and instructions of dental hygiene care.
30. Develop the written Oral Hygiene Instruction Plan for home reference.
31. Communicate to patient in terms they understand, the patient's condition or potential for risk(s), the treatment plan, and provide patient with appropriate written referrals.
32. Obtain Patient Informed Consent or Informed Refusal of Care.

**EVALUATION AND DOCUMENTATION: taught in DHYG 1431, PRECLINICAL DENTAL HYGIENE**

33. Review and assess the outcomes of dental hygiene care and homecare.
34. Recognize evaluating the outcome of treatment and goals is a necessary step to document evidence of oral health status.
35. Determine and apply the appropriate Recare and Prognosis or Evaluation interval to meet the patient needs.
36. Document the patient's chief complaint.
37. Compile and record verified and accurate documentation of all collected data on the *Record of Treatment* following Clinic I protocols.
38. Document treatment provided, recommendations, and any other information relevant to patient care and treatment.
39. Recognize accurate documentation is a management strategy to minimize the risk of litigation.

**F. Unit VI. Nonsurgical Periodontal Instrumentation**

**The following concepts and techniques are a continuation of Preclinical Dental Hygiene:**

1. Understand and demonstrate the functions of the mirror correctly.
2. Understand and demonstrate proper probing techniques.
3. Demonstrate exploring techniques for the detection of calculus.
4. Understand, and demonstrate the principles of instrumentation correctly and recognize how to correct problem(s).
5. Understand the relationship of finger rest and fulcrum during instrumentation.
6. Consistently employ the best selection of hand activated instruments for removing supragingival calculus and subgingival calculus.
7. Understand and discuss the objectives and rationales of nonsurgical periodontal instrumentation.
8. Understand and discuss why "tissue response" rather than "root smoothness" is the standard for successful subgingival instrumentation.
9. Understand and demonstrate the clinician should treat only as many teeth or quadrants as they can render calculus free in one appointment, recommending quadrants are on the same

side of the mouth.

10. Identify, discuss, and demonstrate solutions for difficulties in hand activated instrumentation.

**The following is introducing powered instrument technology:**

11. Discuss and understand the powered instrument design and function technology.
12. Discuss and understand the indications for the use of powered instrumentation.
13. Discuss and understand the medical and dental contraindications for powered instrumentation.
14. Discuss and demonstrate the ultrasonic powered instrumentation techniques including set up, break down and infection control procedures, adjustment of water flow, working-end adaptation and stroke, and patient fluid control for the removal of plaque biofilm.
15. Discuss and demonstrate the active ultrasonic working-end area as it pertains to removing plaque biofilm.
16. Identify, discuss, and demonstrate solutions for difficulties in powered instrumentation.

**G. Unit VII. Stain Management**

1. Discuss and define the terms extrinsic and intrinsic stain and give examples of each.
2. Make evidence-based decisions on a case-by-case basis for including polishing into a patient's treatment and for selection of cleaning or polishing agents.
3. Discuss and understand the primary importance of stain management is the preservation of the tooth surfaces and the restorations.
4. Discuss and understand the polishing procedures and abrasive agents must be selected based on the patient's individual needs such as the type and amount of stain present and if restorations are present.
5. Discuss and understand the various cosmetic polishing methods and procedures available for stain removal.
6. Discuss and understand the medical and dental indications and contraindications of each polishing method.
7. Determine and demonstrate the correct polishing technique(s) indicated for individualized patient care.
8. Determine and demonstrate the correct selection of cleaning/polishing agents.
9. Identify the indications for and the application methods of desensitizing agents.

**III. THECB Learning Outcomes**

As outlined in the learning plan, apply the theory, concepts, and skills involving specialized materials, tools, equipment, procedures, regulations, laws, and interactions within and among political, economic, environmental, social, and legal systems associated with the occupation and the business/industry and will demonstrate legal and ethical behavior, safety practices, interpersonal and teamwork skills, and appropriate written and verbal communication skills using the terminology of the occupation and the business/industry.

**IV. Evaluation**

**A. General Guidelines**

1. There are no makeup clinics and no clinic the week of finals.
2. Each student will agree to and sign the EPCC *Unsafe Practice* contract which will hold the student liable for their own actions and decisions to maintain a safe clinical environment.
3. Failure to practice *Unsafe Practice* EPCC protocols may result in immediate dismissal from the program.
4. Each student will comply with Clinic I, DHYG 1261 clinic policies and procedures as specified in the DHYG 1261 Course Syllabus (Part I) Instructor's Course Requirements and the EPCC Dental Hygiene Program Manuals.
5. Each student will complete all assignments, clinical and patient requirements as specified in the EPCC Dental Hygiene Program Manuals and the DHYG 1261 Instructor's Course Requirements Syllabus Part I by the end of their last clinic session.

6. Failure to complete ALL clinic requirements and assignments in DHYG 1261 will result in an “Incomplete” or an “F” for the course.

**B. Course Grading Scale**

A = 100 – 93  
B = 92 - 83  
C = 82 - 75  
D = 74 - 70  
F = 69 and below

The minimum acceptable grade is a “C” or “75” points as by the program’s promotion and graduation policies.

If the final numerical number for the course is .5 or higher, the number will be rounded up to the next number.

**C. Grading scale used for Minimum Patient Requirements**

Grading scale and weight for Patient Requirement Points:

20 points = A translates into 97 for grading weight (65%) of the course  
19 - 16 points = B translates into 89 for grading weight (65%) of the course  
15 - 12 points = C translates into 79 for grading weight (65%) of the course

**D. Grading Weights**

Each of the following areas is a component of the clinical course requirements:

Patient Requirements	65%
Clinical Assessments/Competencies	15%
Clinical Assistant	3%
Radiology	10%
Other Requirements (clinic rotation, patient education notebook, time management, and patient care competencies)	7%

*The weights may change upon the discretion of the Instructor of Record.*

**E. Evaluation Critical Areas**

1. Professionalism includes unsafe practice, abandonment or failure to complete patient.
2. Asepsis
3. Health History/Vital Signs
4. Informed Consent

There are two ways in which a student can be penalized under critical areas: failure and point deduction. A student who receives a failure will fail the patient (grade zero), will receive no credit toward patient requirements, but will be required to complete the patient.

**F. Criteria for Course Pursuit**

Students must follow the standards established in the current edition of the Health Career & Technical Education, Math & Science Programs STUDENT CLINICIAN’S HANDBOOK and or program addendum. The student must appear for examinations, presentations, or other required class activities and submit required papers, projects, and reports as identified in the course syllabus/calendar. The failure of the student to appear for clinic sessions and meet clinic requirements will be benchmarks for the Instructor of Record to determine if the student has ceased to pursue the criteria for the course.

**G. Remediation**

Assistance for individual remediation is available through the Instructor of Record.

## **V. Disability Statement (American with/Disabilities Act [ADA])**

EPCC offers a variety of services to persons with documented sensory, mental, physical, or temporary disabling conditions to promote success in classes. If you have a disability and believe you may need services, you are encouraged to contact the Center for Students with Disabilities to discuss your needs with a counselor. All discussions and documentation are kept confidential. Offices located: VV Rm C-112 (831-2426); TM Rm 1400 (831-5808); RG Rm B-201 (831-4198); NWC Rm M-54 (831-8815); and MDP Rm A-125 (831-7024).

## **VI. Drop Rule**

Students who began attending Texas public institutions of higher education for the first time during the Fall 2007 semester or later are subject to a 6-Drop limit for all undergraduate classes. Developmental, ESL, Dual Credit and Early College High School classes are exempt from this rule. All students should consult with their instructor before dropping a class. Academic assistance is available. Students are encouraged to see Counseling Services if dropping because exemptions may apply. Refer to the EPCC catalog and website for additional information.

## **VII. Title IX and Sex Discrimination**

Title 9 (20 U.S.C. 1681 & 34 C.F.R. Part 106) states the following "No person in the United States shall, on the basis of sex, be excluded from participation in, be denied the benefits of, or be subjected to discrimination under any educational program or activity receiving Federal financial assistance." The Violence Against Women Act (VAWA) prohibits stalking, date violence, sexual violence, and domestic violence for all students, employees and visitors (male and female). If you have any concerns related to discrimination, harassment, or assault (of any type) you can contact the Assistant to the Vice President for Student and Enrollment Services at 915-831-2655. Employees can call the Manager of Employee Relations at 915-831-6458. Reports of sexual assault/violence may also be reported to EPCC Police at 915-831-2200.

## **VII. Dental Hygiene Entry-Level Competencies**

Upon satisfactory completion of the curriculum, the dental hygiene student must be able to:

- C.1 Apply a professional code of ethics in all endeavors
- C.2 Adhere to state and federal laws, recommendations and regulations in the provision of health care
- C.3 Use critical thinking skills and comprehensive problem solving to identify oral health care strategies that promote patient health and wellness.
- C.5 Assume responsibility for professional actions and care based on accepted scientific theories, research, and the accepted standard of care.
- C.6 Continuously perform self-assessment for lifelong learning and professional growth.
- C.9 Apply quality assurance mechanisms to ensure continuous commitment to accepted standards of care.
- C.10 Communicate effectively with diverse individuals and groups, serving all persons without discrimination by acknowledging and appreciating diversity.
- C.11 Record accurate, consistent, and complete documentation of oral health services provided.
- C.12 Initiate a collaborative approach with all patients when developing individualized care plans that are specialized, comprehensive, culturally sensitive, and acceptable to all parties involved in care planning.
- C.13 Initiate consultations and collaborations with all relevant health care providers to facilitate optimal treatment.

- C.14 Manage medical emergencies by using professional judgment, providing life support, and utilizing required CPR and any specialized training and knowledge.
- HP.2 Respect the goals, values, beliefs, and preferences of the patients.
- HP.3 Refer patients who may have physiological, psychological, or social problems for comprehensive evaluation.
- HP.5 Evaluate factors that can be used to promote patient adherence to disease prevention or health maintenance strategies.
- HP.6 Utilize methods that ensure the health and safety of patient and the oral health professional in the delivery of care.
- CM.1 Assess the oral health needs and services of the community to determine action plans, and availability of resources to meet the health care needs.
- CM.2 Provide screening, referral and educational services that allow patient to access the resources of the health care system.
- PC.1 Systematically collect, analyze, and record diagnostic data on the general, oral, and psychosocial health status of a variety of patients using methods consistent with medicolegal principles.
- PC.2 Recognize predisposing and etiologic risk factors that require intervention to prevent disease.
- PC.3 Recognize the relationships among systemic disease, medications and oral health that impact overall patient care and treatment.
- PC.4 Identify patients at risk for a medical emergency, and manage the patient care in a manner that prevents an emergency.
- PC.5 Use patient assessment data, diagnostic technologies, and critical decision-making skills to determine a dental hygiene diagnosis, a component of the dental diagnosis, to reach conclusions about the patient's dental hygiene care needs.
- PC.6 Utilize reflective judgment in developing a comprehensive patient dental hygiene care plan.
- PC.7 Collaborate with the patient and other health professionals as indicated to formulate a comprehensive dental hygiene care plan that is patient-centered and based on the best scientific evidence and professional judgment.
- PC.8 Make referrals to professional colleagues and other health care professionals as indicated in the patient care plan.
- PC.9 Obtain the patient's informed consent based on a thorough case presentation.
- PC.10 Provide specialized treatment that includes educational preventive, and therapeutic services designed to achieve and maintain oral health. Partner with the patient in achieving oral health goals.
- PC.11 Evaluate the effectiveness of the provided services, and modify care plans as needed.
- PC.12 Determine the outcomes of dental hygiene interventions using indices, instruments, examination techniques, and patient self-reports as specified in patient goals.
- PC.13 Compare actual outcomes to expected outcomes, reevaluating goals, diagnoses, and services when expected outcomes are not achieved.