

Required Dental Hygiene Courses

Once accepted into the Dental Hygiene Program, a student must follow this two-year course sequence for a total of 64.5 dental hygiene units*.

<u>First Semester</u>	<u>Units</u>
DH 310 Oral Biology	3
DH 311 Oral Radiology	3
DH 312 Head and Neck Anatomy	2.5
DH 313 Dental Health Education Seminar	1
DH 314 Introduction to Dental Hygiene Practice	3
DH 315 Introduction to Pre-Clinic/Clinic	2
COMM 316 Organizational Communication	3
Total	17.5

<u>Second Semester</u>	<u>Units</u>
DH 320 Local Anesthesia and Nitrous Oxide	2
DH 321 General and Oral Pathology	4
DH 322 Pharmacology	2
DH 323 Clinical Practice I	3
DH 324 Clinic I Seminar	3
DH 325 Periodontics I	2
Total	16

<u>Third Semester</u>	<u>Units</u>
DH 430 Special Patients/Geriatrics	1
DH 431 Nutrition in Dentistry	1
DH 432 Dental Materials	2
DH 433 Clinic II Seminar	2
DH 434 Clinical Practice II	4
DH 435 Periodontics II	2
DH 436 Community Oral Health I	2
PSY 437 Research Design & Methodology	3
Total	17

<u>Fourth Semester</u>	<u>Units</u>
DH 440 Advanced Clinical Topics	2
DH 441 Practice Management	1
DH 442 Clinic III Seminar	2
DH 443 Clinical Practice III	4
DH 444 Community Oral Health II	1
DH 445 Ethics and Jurisprudence	1
HED 446 Optimizing Health Across the Lifespan	3
Total	14

**Subject to change without notice*

General Information (805) 678-5800

Oxnard College is a locally controlled, public comprehensive two-year college, part of the California state system of higher education. As such, and in keeping with the policies of both the Ventura County Community College District Board of Trustees and the State Legislature, the college exists to serve members of the community who are high school graduates or who are over the age of 18 and capable.

Financial Services (805) 678-5828

The student who is hesitant about attending college because the financial expenses involved in obtaining a college education may prove to be too much of a personal or family burden will find a welcome campus friend in the office of the Student Financial Services. This office offers a complete array of financial support services, which are designed to help Oxnard College students, cover some of the expenses involved in obtaining a college education. The Financial Aid office is located in the Student Services building. <https://www.oxnardcollege.edu/departments/student-services/financial-aid-office>

Transfer Center (805) 678-5837

The Transfer Center is designed to provide assistance to students planning to transfer to a four-year college or university. The Transfer Center provides current information, reference materials, college catalogs, applications, and support services necessary for planning and achieving a smooth transition between institutions. Transfer Center activities are scheduled and distributed monthly through the "Transfer Center Calendar." The Transfer Center is located in the Student Services building. <https://www.oxnardcollege.edu/departments/student-services/transfer-center>

General Counseling (805) 678-5816

Provides information on the program and requirements with review of transcripts. Can also assist in creating an education plan. <https://www.oxnardcollege.edu/departments/student-services/counseling>

Oxnard College does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, disability, age or sexual orientation

Oxnard College no discrimina por motivos de raza, color, origen nacional, sexo, discapacidad, edad u orientación sexual.

Oxnard College Dental Hygiene



Bachelor of Science Degree Program

Oxnard College
4000 S. Rose Avenue
Oxnard, CA 93033-6699
(805) 678-5800

Dental Department
(805) 678-5823

DENTAL HYGIENE

The Dental Hygiene Program prepares students for the practice of dental hygiene. A Registered Dental Hygienist (RDH) is a licensed dental professional who is part of the dental care team, performing services such as oral examination, oral prophylaxis (scaling, root planing, soft tissue curettage and polishing the teeth), exposing dental x-rays, and administering local anesthesia and nitrous oxide sedation for pain control. They also apply preventive treatments such as topical fluorides and dental sealants along with educating patients in oral health care, nutrition, and the connection between oral health and general health.

Successful Dental Hygiene Program students are eligible to take the National Board Dental Hygiene Examination (written) in their final year. Upon completion of the program, graduates qualify to take a regional practical exam and the California Law & Ethics exam (written) to gain licensure.

Career Opportunities

A baccalaureate degree prepares the dental hygienist to assume roles treating diverse populations in many different health care environments such as general and specialty practices, public schools, community settings, acute and extended care facilities, federal and state-run dental clinics, and hospitals. Other career opportunities exist in education, and with insurance companies and the health products industry.

About the Program

The Dental Hygiene Program begins each fall and enrolls one cohort of students. This is an intense program requiring a full-time commitment that may include evening and weekend classes and activities.

All dental hygiene didactic instruction is taught at Oxnard College. Practical clinical experience is gained through patient experience at the on-site dental hygiene clinic. In addition, students will have the opportunity to observe at dental specialty practices (i.e., Periodontal, Endodontic, Orthodontic, etc.) or other facilities located off campus. Students will also engage in a variety of enrichment activities such as community health fairs, dental society and dental hygiene society meetings, State and National Dental Professional Association Conventions, and community outreach activities.

Preparation

High school courses in algebra, biology and chemistry are recommended to prepare the applicant for the prerequisite college classes. Students must have one of the following general education patterns completed by the end of Spring before starting the OC Dental Hygiene Program: IGETC, CSU GE, Cal-GETC. Consult an OC Academic Counselor for details.

Program Recommended Courses

	<u>Units</u>
BIS R122 Microsoft Office	3
Spanish Course {SPAN R100, R110, R200, R210, R220H, or R230H}	4

Program Prerequisite Courses

	<u>Units</u>
ENGL R102 Critical Thinking through Composition and Literature	4
COMM R102 Introduction to Comm. Studies	3
ANAT R101 General Human Anatomy	4
CHEM R110 Elementary Chemistry	5
CHEM R112 Elem. Organic/Bio Chem.	5
MATH R105 Introductory Statistics	4
DH R001 Pre-Dental Hygiene	1
ENGL R101 College Composition	4
MICR R100 Principles of Microbiology	3
MICR R100L Prin. of Microbiology Lab	2
PHSO R101 Human Physiology*	5
PSY R101 General Psychology	3
SOC R101 Intro to Sociology	3
COMM R101 Intro to Oral Communication	3
ANTH R119 Introduction to Border Studies3**	
*No combined Anatomy/Physiology courses	
**Or accepted Ethnic Studies Class	

Costs Associated with the Program

Normal student expenses (textbooks, in-state tuition, college fees, etc.) are estimated to be about \$11,000. In addition to the normal student expenses, the dental hygiene program requires approximately another \$12,000 during the two years. These additional costs are associated with instruments, equipment, uniforms, fees for licensing examinations, professional dues, and course expenses. Students who anticipate a financial need should contact the College's Financial Aid Office at (805) 678-5828.

The VCCCD has adopted the state-mandated enrollment fee. The enrollment fee is \$130 per unit for the baccalaureate program. Other fees, including nonresident tuition, parking fees, and Health Center Fees remain in force. All fees are subject to change without notice.

Applicant Requirements & Selection

Application packets are available every December for the fall class and are accepted from January 1st to March 21st of the year entrance is desired. Applications and additional information is available online under the Dental Hygiene Banner on the OC website.

Applicant Selection is based on the following criteria:

As GPA calculations and course equivalencies can vary between institutions, please be sure to confirm your eligibility with an Oxnard College counselor prior to application, (805) 678-5816.

1. Completion of all prerequisites by the end of the Fall Semester prior to program entry*
2. Minimum cumulative college GPA of 3.0. (*All colleges ever attended must be reported*)
3. 3.0 or better GPA upon completion of all college science prerequisites; ANAT,CHEM, MICR, PHSO + Labs
4. Five-year recency requirement for all science prerequisites
5. High School Diploma, GED, or equivalent
6. Current BLS CPR AED certification with an in-person skills portion

**One science course and DH R001 may be in progress at the time of application. COMM 102 may be in progress for the 2025 application cycle only.*

Upon verification of program selection criteria, all qualified candidates will be included in a selection pool. A prioritized lottery selection process is utilized to select the entering students and alternates. There is currently no waiting list; therefore, students not accepted must reapply each year. Candidates taking 32 units of their prerequisites at Oxnard College, 14 of which must be in science prerequisites, are in the first pool. Candidates who take 32 units of prerequisites, with 14 units in science prerequisites at any of the VCCCD Colleges or SBCC, are in the second pool along with the first pool candidates. The remaining candidates are in the final pool along with the first and second pool candidates.