

Dental Hygiene

Our Dental Hygiene program is one of the premier programs in the country and is the only Bachelor's degree program in the State of Illinois.

Dental Hygiene at Southern

The Dental Hygiene (DH) program at SIU offers a challenging, professional level of education for students who intend to enter the oral health profession of dental hygiene.

The curriculum is designed to incorporate advances in technology in the oral health field and is composed of 120 hours of academic course work to be completed in four years.

Our program provides students with the opportunity for an excellent education and preparation for a successful professional career.

Admissions

Due to a variety of circumstances, including rules of accreditation, limitations of facilities, and faculty-student ratio, enrollment in the program is limited. Following admission to the University, a prospective student must submit a separate Dental Hygiene application packet to the Admissions Clerk. This application packet is available at the program website. It is important to complete all application procedures by the deadline listed at the program website.

Making the Choice to Come to Southern

Our Dental Hygiene program is one of the premier programs in the country and is the only Bachelor's degree program in the State of Illinois. Hands-on dental hygiene experiences in the on-site dental hygiene clinic and in extramural rotations develop professional skills of students and provide care to the community.

On Campus

You will find state of the art dental/dental hygiene clinical and laboratory facilities as well as the SIUC Community Dental Center.

Community Outreach

The SIU Community Dental Center provides dental and dental hygiene services to Medicaid recipients.

The Dental Sealant Grant Program provides oral exams and dental sealants to children enrolled in free or reduced school lunch programs, as well as children who are eligible for Medicaid.

Give Kids a Smile Day partners with community volunteer dentists and dental hygienists to provide dental treatment to area children.

Students provide fluoride varnish and parent education programs for Head Start and Early Head Start programs.

Scholarships and Awards

Students who major in Dental Hygiene are eligible for a variety of scholarship opportunities through the University, the College of Applied Sciences and Arts, and from several local and national dental organizations.

Professional Associations

Student American Dental Hygienists' Association

Students have the opportunity to attend the Chicago Midwinter Dental Conference, the Illinois Dental Hygienists' Association Annual Session, and the American Dental Hygienists' Annual Session.

Dental Hygiene Majors

Possess the following characteristics or traits:

- Interested in helping people
- Very good organizational habits
- Friendly and outgoing personality
- Detail-oriented

Career Opportunities

Employment opportunities for our students are excellent. All students who graduate and pass board examinations are able to find work. A licensed dental hygienist may be employed in the following settings:

- Dental Offices
- Health Maintenance Organizations
- Hospitals
- Long Term Care Facilities
- Public Health Departments
- School Systems
- Military Installations
- Health Care Product Companies
- Research Facilities
- Faculty and Clinicians

Accreditation and Licensure

The Dental Hygiene program is accredited by the Commission on Dental Accreditation of the American Dental Association. Eligibility for licensure requires graduation from a nationally accredited educational program and successful completion of both a written national board dental hygiene examination and a state or regional clinical examination.

Sample Course Sequence for Dental Hygiene Students

Fall Semester	Spring Semester
Year 1	
ENGL 101 3 English Composition I MATH 3 Math 108 or Math 101 UCOL 101U 1 University College 101 CHEM 106 3 Chemistry AH 105 2 Medical Terminology Soc 108 3 Introduction to Sociology	ENGL 102 3 English Composition II MICR 201 4 Elementary Microbiology PSYC 102 3 Introduction to Psychology AH 241 4 Anatomy and Physiology CMST 101 3 Intro to Oral Communications HND 101 2 Personal Nutrition
Year 2	
DH 200 2 Orientation to Dental Hygiene DH 206 1 Oral Anatomy and Tooth Morphology DH 206 L 1 DH Oral Anatomy & Tooth Morphology DH 207 2 Instrumentation DH 207 C 2 Instrumentation Pre-Clinic DH 210 2 Patient Assessment Techniques DH 210 L 1 Patient Assessment Pre-Clinical Lab DH 218 2 Dental Radiology I DH 218 L 1 Dental Radiology I Practicum DH 226 2 Anatomy of Head and Neck	DH 212 2 Med Emer. In Dental Office and Gen Disease DH 219 2 Dental Radiology II DH 219 L 1 Dental Radiology II Practicum DH 220 2 Dental Hygiene Clinic I Seminar DH 220 C 2 Dental Hygiene Clinic I DH 233 2 Histology and Embryology DH 247 2 Preventive Oral Care Seminar DH 247 L 1 Preventive Oral Care Practicum
Year 3	
DH 320 2 Dental Hygiene Clinic II DH 320 C 2 Dental Hygiene Clinic II DH 340 3 Dental Pharmacology and Pain Control DH 341 2 Periodontics and Local Anes Seminar DH 341 L 1 Periodontics & Local Anes Practicum DH 349 3 Gen & Oral Pathology UC Elective 3 Humanities Elective	DH 322 1 Operative Oral Care and Adj. Proc. DH 322 L 1 Operative Oral Care and Adj. Proc. DH 347 2 Community Oral Health DH 355 2 Dental Hygiene Clinic III DH 355 C 2 Dental Hygiene Clinic III UC Elective 3 University Core-Humanities UC Elective 3 Fine Arts Elective
Year 4	
DH 413 2 Dental Hygiene Seminar *DH 417 3 Multicultural Applied Experience in DH *DH 417I 1-3 Multicultural Applied Experience in DH DH 440 3 Research Methodology DH 448 1 Community Oral Health Practicum DH 448 L 1 Community Oral Health Practicum	**DH 401 2 Dental Hygiene Practicum Seminar **DH 401 L 2 Dental Hygiene Practicum Lab DH 410 2 Ethics Juris. and Practice Management **DH 441 3 Advanced Periodontics Clinic IV Seminar **DH 441 C 3 Advanced Periodontics Clinic IV

^In order to enter the professional sequence at the sophomore level, all of the Year 1 courses must be completed.

Contact Information:

Robert Broomfield
Academic Advisor
broomr@siu.edu
(618) 453-7287

Faith Miller, RDH
Program Director
fymbags@siu.edu
(618) 453-8880

For more information, please visit our website: <http://www.sah.siu.edu/DH/home.htm>

**DH 200 will be taken in the fall or year 2 if you transfer in as a sophomore.*

**DH 417 and **DH 401/DH 441 may be taken either fall or spring semester of the senior year.*