

# Dental Hygiene

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## 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 and private paying patients.

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 and task-oriented

## Career Opportunities

Employment opportunities for our students are excellent. All students who graduate and pass board examinations are able to find employment. 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
<b>Year 1</b>	
UNIV 101U 1 Saluki Success ENGL 101 3 English Composition I MATH 3 Math 108 or Math 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 AH 241 4 Anatomy and Physiology CMST 101 3 Intro to Oral Communications HND 101 2 Personal Nutrition
<b>Year 2</b>	
DH 200 1 Orientation to Dental Hygiene DH 206 2 Oral Anatomy and Tooth Morphology DH 206 L 1 Oral Anatomy & Tooth Morphology Lab DH 207 2 Pre- Clinic DH 207 C 2 Pre- Clinic Instrumentation DH 210 2 Patient Assessment Techniques DH 210 C 1 Patient Assessment Pre-Clinic DH 218 2 Dental Hygiene Radiology I DH 218 L 1 Dental Hygiene Radiology I Practicum DH 226 2 Anatomy of the Head and Neck	DH 212 2 Med Emer. in the Dental Office and General Diseases DH 219 2 Dental Hygiene Radiology II DH 219 L 1 Dental Hygiene Radiology II Practicum DH 220 2 Dental Hygiene Concepts and Review DH 220 C 2 Dental Hygiene Clinic I DH 233 2 Histology and Embryology DH 247 2 Preventive Oral Care DH 247 L 1 Preventive Oral Care Practicum PSYC 102 3 Introduction to Psychology
<b>Year 3</b>	
DH 320 2 Treatment Planning, Nutrition and Review DH 320 C 3 Dental Hygiene Clinic II DH 340 3 Dental Pharmacology and Pain Control DH 341 2 Periodontics DH 349 3 Oral Pathology UC Elective 3 Humanities Elective	DH 322 1 Dental Materials DH 322 L 1 Dental Materials Lab DH 347 3 Community Oral Health DH 355 2 Treatment Planning and Review II DH 355 C 3 Dental Hygiene Clinic III UC Elective 3 University Core-Humanities UC Elective 3 Fine Arts Elective
<b>Year 4</b>	
DH 401 2 Dental Hygiene Practicum DH 440 3 Research Methods & Interpretation DH 441 3 Advanced Periodontics DH 441 C 3 Dental Hygiene Clinic IV *DH 417I 1-3 Multicultural Internship	**DH 401 L 2 Dental Hygiene Practicum Lab DH 410 3 Ethics, Practice Mgt. and Effective Communication DH 417 3 Multicultural/ Geriatrics / IPC DH 450C 3 Advanced Periodontics Clinic V

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

### Contact Information:

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For more information, please visit our website: <https://sah.siu.edu/undergraduate/dental-hygiene/>

***\*DH 417i may be taken either fall or spring semester of the senior year***

***\*\*DH 401L (half the students will take Fall, other half will take Spring)***