

# DENTAL HYGIENE - BS

The Caruth School of Dental Hygiene is dedicated to delivering the most innovative techniques for educating future dental hygienists, as well as provide respectful public clinical services with the utmost integrity and ethical standards. Caruth fosters a sense of community, embraces a diverse group of students and faculty, and supports personal growth. Caruth School of Dental Hygiene is committed to being a national leader in dental hygiene education and with that our school takes pride in the students who choose to maintain a high level of diligence, are dedicated, and achieve success within our program.

The goals of the Dental Hygiene Program are:

- The curricular program will support student competency and prepare them for dental hygiene practice.
- The Dental Hygiene program facilitates student learning.
- The Dental Hygiene faculty will demonstrate participation in teaching, service and scholarly activity.
- The Dental Hygiene students will provide quality care to patients.

Dental hygiene offers an excellent opportunity to serve the community. The services of a dental hygienist are offered in private dental practices and clinics, public health agencies, school systems, hospitals, nursing homes and corporate health facilities. Dental hygienists also teach in dental and dental hygiene programs and participate in health research. The baccalaureate degree offered through the Caruth School of Dental Hygiene by Texas A&M University School of Dentistry satisfies the educational requirement for eligibility for state licensure. Graduates are provided with diverse experiences to prepare for a variety of employment settings and to pursue graduate education.

Registered dental hygienists assess a patient's oral condition in order to offer patient-specific preventive and educational services. In addition to providing tailored treatment plans, dental hygienists motivate their patients to understand and improve their current oral conditions. A major role of a dental hygienist is to perform periodontal therapy which includes evaluating the current state of the oral cavity through periodontal charting and providing treatment based upon the health of the gingival tissues and surrounding periodontium.

Dental Hygiene is an exciting career choice for anyone interested in promoting oral health. A dental hygienist is a licensed preventive oral health professional who provides educational, clinical and therapeutic services supporting total health through the promotion of optimal oral health.

This program in dental hygiene is accredited by the Commission on Dental Accreditation and has been granted the accreditation status of "approved without reporting requirements." The Commission is a specialized accrediting body recognized by the United States Department of Education. The Commission on Dental Accreditation can be contacted at (312) 440-4653 or at 211 East Chicago Avenue, Chicago, IL 60611-2678. The Commission's web address is <https://coda.ada.org/en> (<https://coda.ada.org/en/>).

The length of the program is two years. Application deadline is January 5 of the year of anticipated entrance into the program with a start term in the Fall.

The BS in Dental Hygiene is offered in Dallas, Texas.

## Program Requirements

Coursework totaling 60 semester credit hours, including core courses for BS degree.

Third Year		Semester
Fall		Credit Hours
DDHS 3110	Introduction To Dentistry	1
DDHS 3120	Dental Anatomy	2
DDHS 3160	Preclinical Dental Hygiene	6
DDHS 3220	Oral Radiology	
DDHS 3250	Biomedical Sciences I	5
DDHS 3425	Health Promotion and Disease Prevention	2.5
<b>Semester Credit Hours</b>		<b>16.5</b>
Spring		
DDHS 3020	Theory of Dental Hygiene Practice I	2
DDHS 3220	Oral Radiology	2
DDHS 3340	Biomedical Sciences II	4
DDHS 3310	Health Education and Behavioral Science	1
DDHS 3410	Introduction to Pathology	1
DDHS 3325	Microbiology	2.5
DDHS 3530	Applied Dental Materials	3
DDHS 3830	Clinical Dental Hygiene I	3
<b>Semester Credit Hours</b>		<b>18.5</b>
Summer		
DDHS 4110	Medical Emergencies	1
DDHS 4220	Comprehensive Care Seminar <sup>1</sup>	2
DDHS 4310	Oral Radiography <sup>1</sup>	1
DDHS 4510	Pediatric Dentistry	1
DDHS 4820	Clinical Dental Hygiene II	2
<b>Semester Credit Hours</b>		<b>7</b>
Fourth Year		
Fall		
DDHS 4015	Pharmacology	1.5
DDHS 4025	Oral Pathology	2.5
DDHS 4110	Medical Emergencies <sup>1</sup>	
DDHS 4140	Clinical Dental Hygiene III	4
DDHS 4210	Professional Ethics	1
DDHS 4220	Comprehensive Care Seminar	
DDHS 4310	Oral Radiography (continued) <sup>1</sup>	
DDHS 4410	Gerontology	1
DDHS 4530	Public and Community Health	
DDHS 4610	Periodontics	1
DDHS 4620	Theory of Dental Hygiene Practice II	2
DDHS 4715	Research Methods	1.5
<b>Semester Credit Hours</b>		<b>14.5</b>
Spring		
DDHS 4010	National Board Review	1
DDHS 4220	Comprehensive Care Seminar	
DDHS 4240	Clinical Dental Hygiene IV	4
DDHS 4310	Oral Radiography (continued) <sup>1</sup>	

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DDHS 4320	Perspectives in Dental Hygiene	2
DDHS 4530	Public and Community Health	3
DDHS 4710	Applied Research Methods	1
DDHS 4810	Local Anesthesia and Nitrous Oxide/ Oxygen Sedation	1
<b>Semester Credit Hours</b>		<b>12</b>
<b>Total Semester Credit Hours</b>		<b>68.5</b>

<sup>1</sup> Scheduled by course director