

University of Arkansas – Fort Smith
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General Syllabus
DHYG 4542 Public Health Dentistry

Credit Hours: 2 Lecture hours: 2

Prerequisites: DHYG 4122 Clinic II Theory, DHYG 4224 Dental Hygiene Clinic II, DHYG 4142 Advanced Dental Hygiene Theory for Special Needs Patients, DHYG 4311 Periodontology II, DHYG 4372 Dental Nutrition, DHYG 4463 Dental Materials, DHYG 4512 Local Anesthesia and Nitrous Oxide, or current dental hygiene licensure

Corequisites: DHYG 4132 Clinic III Theory, DHYG 4234 Dental Hygiene Clinic III, DHYG 4522 Ethics and Practice Management, DHYG 4533 Community Dentistry and Dental Health Education

I. Course Information

A. Catalog Description

Prepares the dental hygienist to provide services in the area of public health dentistry. Legal issues, coalition development, and integration of oral health into general and public health settings.

B. Additional Information

This is an online course. Learning materials, discussions, quizzes, exams, notes, chat and/or accessory materials will be on the Blackboard Learning System (BLS). Students must view the orientation videos to help navigate the BLS program. Students are required to check the website routinely for online learning materials and general course announcements. Additionally, email communication will be used requiring frequent monitoring of campus mail. Email and phone messages will be answered within 24 hours during normal business days and within 48 hours on weekends.

II. Student Learning Outcomes

A. Subject Matter

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

1. Define the dental hygiene program planning paradigm for dental public health interventions.

2. Describe the mechanism of program evaluation.
3. Develop a dental public health program plan for delivery of care based on the planning models in a selected target population.
4. Define oral epidemiology and relate to evidence-based practice.
5. Apply surveillance data to planning strategies for a dental public health program.
6. Discuss the impact that ethnicity, age, financial resources, and gender have in relation to dental health care.

Refer to *Graduate Competencies* in the Policy and Procedures Manual. These objectives increase knowledge in competencies: 1, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 10, and 11.

B. University Learning Outcomes

This course enhances student abilities in the following areas:

Global and Cultural Perspectives

Students will identify cultural differences and individual perspectives in community oral health program assessment, planning, implementation, and evaluation as part of completing a needs assessment and program-planning project.

Communications Skills (written and oral)

Students will present oral health education to target population groups when implementing program-planning activities.

Analytical Skills

Students will analyze the incidence and prevalence of dental diseases.

Ethical Decision Making

Students will compare dental related websites as a means of discerning evidence-based practice decisions and current standard of care.

III. Major Course Topics

- A. Social Determinants of Health
- B. Levels of Preventive Care
- C. Program planning and evaluation
- D. Epidemiology of Dental Diseases
- E. Biostatistics
- F. Ethics and law in public health practice