

**University of Arkansas - Fort Smith
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General Syllabus

**SUBJ Number Title
DHYG 32103 Periodontology I**

Credit Hours: 3 Lecture Hours: 3 Laboratory or other types of Hours: 0

Prerequisite(s): DHYG 21101 Dental Anatomy And Occlusion, DHYG 23103 Radiology, DHYG 24302 Head And Neck Anatomy, DHYG 31002 Pre-Clinical Dental Hygiene, DHYG 31033 Pre-Clinical Dental Hygiene Theory, and DHYG 34102 Oral Embryology And Histology

Corequisite(s): DHYG 31103 Clinic I Theory, DHYG 32133 Dental Hygiene Clinic I, DHYG 34403 Pharmacology, and DHYG 34503 General and Oral Pathology

Effective Catalog: 2026-2027

I. Course Information

A. Catalog Description

Periodontal anatomy, physiology, and the etiology of periodontal diseases. Includes the clinical, histopathological, pathogenesis of gingivitis and periodontics, and the role of the host response, genetics, tobacco use, and systemic disorders. Preventive and therapeutic procedures associated with diagnosis, prognosis, treatment planning, and initial phase of periodontal therapy are discussed. Emphasis on bacterial induced oral diseases and their recognition.

B. Additional Information

This course provides information to assist students in promoting the goals of oral health by first understanding periodontal health, recognizing disease states and providing choices in treatment strategies. This course will further dive into the physiology of periodontology, periodontal disease classification, as well as the challenges, manifestations and implications of attachment loss.

II. Student Learning Outcomes

I. Subject Matter

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

1. Recognize and describe the clinical anatomy of the periodontium and be able to assess their appearance in health and disease. (C1,2,11)
2. List and describe the current (2017) American Academy of Periodontology categories of periodontal staging and grading of periodontal disease. (C1,3,11)
3. Discuss the epidemiology of periodontal diseases, their prevalence and distribution. (C1,11)
4. Distinguish the nonspecific and specific plaque hypothesis and the implication of each to plaque control and periodontal therapy. (C1,11)
5. Describe and classify the specific bacteria associated with the various periodontal diseases and their characteristics that contribute to their virulence. (C1,3,11)
6. List the factors that are linked to periodontal disease and health and explain the role of the dental hygienist in recognition and treatment. (C3,11)
7. Describe the interactions of the major elements involved in the host response. (C3,11)
8. Describe the progression of periodontal diseases. (C3,11)
9. Describe the clinical and histological features of gingival inflammation. (C2,11)
10. Explain the pathogenesis of periodontitis (C1,11)
11. Compare and contrast the classification of primary and secondary traumatic occlusion in periodontal diagnosis and treatment (C9,11)
12. Identify and describe the clinical and radiographic findings of abscesses of the periodontium. (C1,11)
13. List and explain five phases of the dental hygiene process for periodontal patient care. (C9,11)

Refer to *Graduate Competencies* in the Policy and Procedures Manual. These objectives increase knowledge in competencies listed above.

B. University Learning Outcomes (ULO)

Analytical Skills

Critical Thinking Skills

Students will draw conclusions and /or solve problems in researching and developing a care plan for a periodontal condition.

Communication Skills (written and oral)

Students will present the results of their research project in a classroom setting in front of their peers using visual aids to support their topic.

Global and Cultural Perspectives

Students will demonstrate knowledge of the periodontal risk factors implicated for people of all demographics; including socioeconomic status, genetics, culture, gender, age, and race.

III. Major Course Topics

- A. Epidemiology of periodontal diseases
- B. Microbiology of periodontal diseases: biofilms
- C. Pathogenesis of periodontitis
- D. Oral-systemic disease connection
- E. Occlusal trauma's relationship to periodontal disease
- F. Bacteria-host response
- G. Local contributory factors related to periodontal inflammation
- H. Classification of periodontal and gingival diseases
- I. Transfer the latest classification of staging and grading into patient treatment
- J. General principles of periodontology including the role of the dental hygienist
- K. Abscesses of the periodontium
- L. Anatomy of periodontal structures
- M. Dental hygiene process of care for periodontal patients
- N. Ethical considerations for managing patients with periodontal conditions