

DENTAL HYGIENE, BACHELOR OF SCIENCE IN DENTAL HYGIENE (BSDH)

Program Mission and Goals

Mission

The mission of the Bachelor of Science in Dental Hygiene (BSDH) online degree completion program is to enhance the educational experiences of dental hygienists who graduated with an associate degree. This is accomplished by providing a liberal arts and broad-based general education component that includes critical thinking, research, writing, cultural sensitivity, and ethical judgment. Graduates of this program gain practical experience intrinsic to the various expanded roles and scopes of practice in the profession of dental hygiene. The BSDH program prepares students to interact effectively with other health professionals in a competent, collaborative, and ethical manner.

BSDH Degree Completion Program Goals

The following goals direct the design, purpose and philosophy of the EWU BSDH Degree completion program.

1. Compel individuals who possess moral and ethical values/ behaviors to be effective participants in an increasingly complex and interdisciplinary health care system.
2. Foster dental hygienists who are culturally sensitive and possess a strong theoretical base in the humanities, psychosocial sciences, and dental sciences.
3. Encourage dental hygienists to be life-long learners who critically think, analyze and solve problems, make sound judgments, and lead others to do the same.
4. Cultivate the communication and leadership skills of dental hygienists to enhance their functional role of practitioner as well as the expanded roles of researcher, manager, change agent, consumer advocate, and health promoter/educator.
5. Instill a commitment to contribute actively to the betterment of the dental hygiene profession through professional involvement, continued education, and advanced professional or graduate education.

BSDH Degree Completion Program

BSDH degree completion opportunities are for licensed dental hygienists who desire a baccalaureate degree and have associate degrees from two-year community colleges accredited by the Commission on Dental Accreditation and regional higher education accrediting bodies. EWU accepts a maximum block transfer of 74 quarter credits from an Associate in Applied Science dental hygiene degree program accredited by the Commission on Dental Accreditation and regional higher education accrediting bodies. In addition, to fulfill the EWU requirements for the EWU BS in Dental Hygiene, students must complete the required Dental Hygiene courses including Cornerstone and Capstone (40 semester credits/60 quarter credits) and any other degree requirements, as identified by a program advisor after transcript evaluation. All courses are taught via Canvas, an online Learning Management System that allows students to submit assignments, contact the course instructor, collaborate with fellow students, participate in discussions, and even videoconference from virtually anywhere.

General Admission Requirements for the Online BSDH Degree Completion Program.

- Associate degree from an accredited dental hygiene program in the U.S. or Canada
- Successful completion of the Dental Hygiene National Board examination or its Canadian equivalent
- A current dental hygiene license in the U.S. or Canada

Transcripts and inquiries should be directed to Ann O'Kelley Wetmore, director of the BSDH degree completion program or Emilie Crawford, Program Specialist at the Dental Hygiene (<https://www.ewu.edu/chsph/programs/dental-hygiene>) department web page.

Required Courses

DNHY 467S	CAREER STRATEGIES	1
DNHY 469S	APPLIED STATISTICS AND EVIDENCE-BASED DECISION MAKING FOR THE HEALTH SCIENCES	4
DNHY 471S	PRINCIPLES OF RESEARCH AND SCIENTIFIC WRITING	4
DNHY 485S	ORAL HEALTH PROMOTION	3
DNHY 486S	CONTEMPORARY ISSUES IN DENTAL HYGIENE	3
DNHY 487S	PRINCIPLES AND POLICIES OF ORAL HEALTHCARE MANAGEMENT	3
DNHY 488S	RELATIONSHIP, ETHICS AND COMMUNICATION IN HEALTHCARE	3
DNHY 489S	PRINCIPLES OF DENTAL PUBLIC HEALTH	3
DNHY 490S	DENTAL HYGIENE CAPSTONE	4
DNHY 491S	FOUNDATIONS OF DENTAL HYGIENE	5
DNHY 492S	EDUCATION/HEALTH PROMOTION PRACTICUM	3
DNHY 494S	MYTHOLOGY, FOLKLORE AND HEALTHCARE	4
Total Credits		40

The Bachelor of Science in Dental Hygiene Degree Completion program is designed for students to meet EWU's General Education Core Requirements. All students accepted to the Bachelor of Science in Dental Hygiene Degree Completion program must meet University proficiencies and competencies in Math and English. English 201 or its equivalent (English proficiency) is required, along with a college algebra proficiency. Students who do not have completed coursework are permitted to start the program. *Please plan accordingly when creating your education plan with the BSDH Program Director.*

Student Learning Outcomes—students will

- exemplify critical thinking skills, self-assessment, ethical, legal, and moral responsibility to strengthen professional effectiveness in all roles of the dental hygienist;
- synthesize theoretical and empirical knowledge from dental hygiene, scientific, and humanistic disciplines and integrate it into clinical, academic, and leadership roles;
- embody leadership and advocacy skills to enhance the quality of dental hygiene and health care;
- evaluate research and apply findings to evidence-based practices in the roles of the dental hygienist;
- collaborate with other professionals and the public to promote the health and well-being of a diverse society;
- engage in lifelong learning through graduate education and/or specialty training, as appropriate.