

Course Description

DEA0020 | Pre-Clinical Procedures Theory | 3.00 credits

This course is an introduction to dentistry and the dental assisting profession including duties and responsibilities, orientation to the dental office, basic concepts of microbiology, introduction to the basic skills in dental assisting including, but not limited to infection control procedures, instrument identification and four-handed dentistry.

Course Competencies:

Competency 1: The student will demonstrate knowledge of the members of the dental team by:

- 1. Identifying the members of the dental team
- 2. Identifying the functions of the members of the dental team
- 3. Differentiating the scope of responsibilities of the members of the dental team

Competency 2: The student will demonstrate knowledge of microorganisms present in the dental operatory by:

- 1. Listing the microorganisms present in the dental operatory in aerosols, on surfaces, patients and operators, and infection control procedures necessary to prevent disease transmission
- 2. Identifying safety and waste disposal methods to prevent disease transmission
- 3. Describing the infectious disease process and prevention of disease transmission

Competency 3: The student will demonstrate knowledge of four handed dentistry and chair side assisting by:

- 1. Explaining the roles of the dental assistant during four handed dentistry
- 2. Identifying techniques (e.g., high-volume evacuation, retractions, isolation etc.) of instruments exchange and chairside assisting
- 3. Explaining four-handed dentistry via various dental procedures (e.g., restorative, oral and maxillofacial surgery, endodontics etc.)

Competency 4: The student will demonstrate knowledge of home care instructions by:

- 1. Identifying homecare instructions by selecting the appropriate tooth brushing method
- 2. Explaining the method for finger wrapping floss technique
- 3. Identifying various auxiliary aids for patients with various needs

Competency 5: The student will demonstrate knowledge of patient medical history by:

- 1. Describing the importance of a thorough medical history
- 2. Identifying important data necessary for a complete dental clinical examination
- 3. Discussing how the components of patient histories relate directly to the application of patient care

Learning Outcomes:

Solve problems using critical and creative thinking and scientific reasoning

Updated: Fall 2025