



Program Description:

The A.S. degree in Dental Hygiene prepares you for licensure as a dental hygienist so you may provide quality oral health care to the public. You will master competencies of the dental profession such as patient assessment, dental hygiene instrumentation, and direct patient care services including debridement, taking and interpreting diagnostic radiographs, oral hygiene education, special population dental care, expanded functions, office management, infection control, ethics, and jurisprudence. Upon successful completion of the program, you will be eligible to sit for take the National Dental Hygiene Board Examination and the Florida State Clinical Licensure Examination. The South Florida State College Dental Hygiene Program is accredited by the American Dental Association (ADA) Commission on Dental Accreditation.

Length: 88 credit hours

Contacts:

GPS Coach: Mr. Rob Hampton

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Academic Advisor: Ms. Danielle Ochoa

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Program Navigator: Dr. Deborah Milliken

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Program Map to choose courses, with your program navigator's assistance, and track your progress toward milestones and the completion of the program. Plans can be modified to fit the needs of part-time students.

Pre-Degree Requirements / Recommendations for Success

- A. Completed online SFSC application with Dental Hygiene selected as the major/program
- B. Demonstrate competency in English, reading, and math, as prescribed in the SFSC Catalog
- C. Submission of all official transcripts, including high school/GED transcript and official transcript from each college attended
- D. Verification from a licensed general dentist or dental hygienist, substantiating completion of at least 40 hours of observation, volunteer service, or work experience on the required form
- E. Once accepted into the program, you will receive instructions to complete the following:
 - a. Record of physical health exam and immunizations from a licensed physician or nurse practitioner (forms will be provided after contingent acceptance into the program).
 - b. Florida Department of Law Enforcement fingerprinting (will be scheduled prior to enrollment).

Recommended Soft Skills

- Communication
- Compassion
- Critical Thinking
- Teamwork
- Commitment
- Integrity

Required for admission to the program					
Seq. #	Check when complete	Course Number	Title	Credits	Prerequisites/Notes
1	<input type="checkbox"/>	BSC 1085C	Human Anatomy and Physiology I	4	Corequisite: BSC 1085L General Education Course
2	<input type="checkbox"/>	ENC 1101	Freshman English I	3	General Education Course
3	<input type="checkbox"/>	MAC 1105	College Algebra	3	General Education Course Prerequisite MAT 1033 with a grade of C or higher or satisfactory placement test score
4	<input type="checkbox"/>	BSC 1086C	Human Anatomy and Physiology II	4	Corequisite: BSC 1086L General Education Course
5	<input type="checkbox"/>	CHM 1020C	Introducing General Chemistry	3	General Education Course
6	<input type="checkbox"/>	CHM 1020L	Introducing General Chemistry Lab	1	Corequisite: CHM 1020C General Education Course
7	<input type="checkbox"/>	MCB 2010C	Microbiology	4	General Education Course
Total Credit Hours =				10	

Required Courses for Dental Hygiene

Term 1					
Seq. #	Check when complete	Course Number	Title	Credits	Prerequisites/Notes
8	<input type="checkbox"/>	DEH 1002	Introduction to Dental Hygiene	2	Corequisite: DEH 1002L
9	<input type="checkbox"/>	DEH 1002L	Dental Hygiene Pre-Clinic	2	Corequisite: DEH 1002
10	<input type="checkbox"/>	DES 1020	Orofacial Anatomy	2	Corequisite: DES 1020L
11	<input type="checkbox"/>	DES 1020L	Orofacial Anatomy Lab	1	Corequisite: DES 1020
12	<input type="checkbox"/>	DES 1200	Dental Radiology	2	Corequisite: DES 1200L
13	<input type="checkbox"/>	DES 1200L	Dental Radiology Lab	2	Corequisite: DES 1200
14	<input type="checkbox"/>	SPC 2608	Fundamentals of Speech Communication	3	General Education Course
15	<input type="checkbox"/>	AMH 1020	Intro to Survey Since 1877	3	General Education Course
Term 2					
16	<input type="checkbox"/>	DEH 1130	Oral Embryology and Histology	2	Prerequisite: DES 1200 Corequisite: DES 1100
17	<input type="checkbox"/>	DEH 1600	Medical Emergencies	2	Prerequisite: DEH 1002
18	<input type="checkbox"/>	DEH 1800	Dental Hygiene Theory I	2	Prerequisite: DEH 1002 Corequisite: DES 1800L
19	<input type="checkbox"/>	DEH 1800L	Dental Hygiene Clinic I	3	Prerequisite: DEH 1002L Corequisite: DES 1800
20	<input type="checkbox"/>	DES 1100	Dental Materials and Expanded Duties	2	Prerequisite: DEH 1002 Corequisite: DEH 1130 AND DES 1100L
21	<input type="checkbox"/>	DES 1100L	Dental Materials and Expanded Duties Lab	1	Prerequisite: DEH 1002 Corequisite: DEH 1130 AND DES 1100



Term 3					
22	<input type="checkbox"/>	DEH 1802	Dental Hygiene Theory II	2	Prerequisite: DEH 1800 Corequisite: DEH 1802L
23	<input type="checkbox"/>	DEH 1802L	Dental Hygiene Clinic II	3	Prerequisite: DEH 1800L Corequisite: DEH 1802
24	<input type="checkbox"/>	DEH 2400	General and Oral Pathology	3	Prerequisite: DEH 1800 Corequisite: DEH 1802
25	<input type="checkbox"/>	DEH 2602	Periodontology I	1	Prerequisite: DEH 1800 Corequisite: DEH 1802
Term 4					
26	<input type="checkbox"/>	DEH 2300	Pharmacology and Pain Control	3	Prerequisite: DEH 1802 Corequisite: DEH 2804
27	<input type="checkbox"/>	DEH 2604	Periodontology II	2	Prerequisite: DEH 2602 Corequisite: DEH 2804
28	<input type="checkbox"/>	DEH 2702	Community Dental Health	2	Prerequisite: DEH 2602
29	<input type="checkbox"/>	DEH 2804	Dental Hygiene Theory III	2	Prerequisite: DEH 1802 Corequisite: DEH 2804L
30	<input type="checkbox"/>	DEH 2804L	Dental Hygiene Clinic III	4	Prerequisite: DEH 1802L Corequisite: DEH 2804
31	<input type="checkbox"/>	PSY 2012	Introduction to Psychology	3	General Education Course
Term 5					
32	<input type="checkbox"/>	DEH 2702L	Community Dental Health Lab	1	Prerequisite: DEH 2602 AND DEH 2702
33	<input type="checkbox"/>	DEH 2710	Nutritional and Dental Health	2	Prerequisite: DEH 1802 AND DEH 2300
34	<input type="checkbox"/>	DEH 2806	Professional Development and Ethical Principles	2	Prerequisite: DEH 2804 Corequisite: DEH 2806L
35	<input type="checkbox"/>	DEH 2806	Dental Hygiene Clinic IV	4	Prerequisite: DEH 2804L Corequisite: DEH 2806
36	<input type="checkbox"/>		Humanities Core	3	
Total Program Credit Hours =				78	

Note: Students beginning the program in fall 2022 or after must pass the Florida Civic Literacy Exam (FCLE) course and exam.



Career Resources

SFSC's Career Development Center website provides detailed, guided information on career exploration and transfer programs: southflorida.edu/current-students/career-development-center.

Career Information

Common Job Titles

Dental Hygienist

Dental hygienists offer comprehensive oral hygiene care, their skills include: Removing tartar, stains, and plaque from teeth, applying sealants and fluoride, taking and developing dental x-rays, assessing patients oral health, and offering oral health education. Dental hygienists typically work under the supervision of a dentist and their scope of practice may vary by licensure state.

Regional Labor Market Information

- Higher than average job growth expected in Florida
- Service District
 - Average Hourly Wage: \$32.98
 - Average Annual Wage: \$68,600

Career and Labor Market Research Tools

[American Dental Association](#)

[American Dental Hygiene Association](#)

[Occupational Outlook Handbook](#)

[CareerOneStop](#)

Legend

GPS Coach = the individual who assists with your orientation to SFSC and gets you started on your path.

Academic Advisor = the individual who helps you plan your coursework and recommends the best path for you.

Program Navigator = the individual who keeps you on your path and leads you all the way to graduation.