



Course Prefix/Number/Title: DHYG 245 Clinic IV

Number of Credits: 6

Syllabus updated: K. Tate July 2026

Course Description:

The student will provide dental hygiene clinical patient care, under supervision, to individuals of all ages, including medically compromised patients. This course is a continuation of DHYG 139 Clinic II. Students will provide dental hygiene care to patients with Stage III or IV periodontitis, as well as periodontal health, gingivitis, or Stage I or II periodontitis. Emphasis will be placed on more challenging clinical skills and patient assessment. Appropriate infection control techniques and safety precautions required in dental settings will be implemented.

Pre-requisites:

DHYG 243 Clinic III, DHYG 242 Principles III, DHYG 141 Periodontology I

Co-requisites:

DHYG 241 Periodontology II

Course Objectives:

1. Collect data, record and assess a comprehensive health history, including social history.
2. Perform and record extraoral and intraoral examinations, clinical and radiographic assessment of the periodontium and dentition and assessment of occlusion.
3. Assess the need for, expose, develop, evaluate and interpret dental radiographs/images.
4. Formulate a dental hygiene diagnosis and supportive dental hygiene treatment plan.
5. Assess, plan, implement and evaluate a dental hygiene treatment plan for the prevention and/or treatment of oral diseases.
6. Assess the need for and perform a periodontal risk assessment, initial and supportive periodontal therapies.
7. Assess the need for and perform therapeutic manual and ultrasonic/sonic periodontal debridement therapies.
8. Perform care and maintenance of procedures for dental implants.
9. Assess the need for and perform extrinsic stain removal procedures.
10. Assess the need and apply adjunctive topical chemotherapeutic and controlled released agents.
11. Assess the need for and apply pain and anxiety management strategies.
12. Assess the caries risk and plan appropriate interventions and therapies.
13. Assess the need for and application of professional topical fluorides and/or self-applied fluoride.

14. Apply principles of nutritional and/or tobacco cessation counseling to the management of oral and systemic health.
15. Perform recontouring and polishing of existing restorations.
16. Take impressions for, pour and trim study models.
17. Assess the need for and place pit and fissure sealants.
18. Assess, plan and perform patient oral self-care education.
19. Apply standard precautions for the prevention of disease transmission.
20. Follow all state and federal regulatory requirements when rendering patient care.
21. Apply principles of comprehensive record keeping.
22. Apply principles of professional and ethical behavior.
23. Apply principles of evidence-based decision-making.
24. Demonstrate critical thinking and problem-solving skills when providing patient care.
25. Demonstrate professional communication skills in all aspects of patient care that includes interacting with diverse populations and other members of the health care team.
26. Demonstrate concern and understanding of a variety of patient needs based on overall health, oral health, cultural, social and economic circumstances.
27. Complete Case Study Patient Project

Dental Hygiene Student Learning Outcomes addressed in this course:

1. Demonstrate clinical competence to provide patient centered, comprehensive, dental hygiene care for diverse population of patients.
2. Demonstrate ethical and professional behavior consistent with professional standards in dental hygiene.
3. Promote oral health through interprofessional community health promotion.
4. Communicate effectively with patients, coworkers, and other healthcare professionals.

Dental Hygiene Program Outcomes:

1. Prepare highly qualified dental hygiene professionals by providing up-to-date, high quality academic and clinical dental hygiene education.
2. Provide a competency-based education.
3. Provide students with opportunities for interprofessional community health promotion.
4. Earn and maintain full accreditation status according to the Commission on Dental Accreditation.
5. Incorporate emerging technologies to enhance quality dental hygiene care.
6. Prepare students to engage in professional activities and lifelong learning.

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Instructor: Joanie Houser

Adjunct Instructors: Amber Steffen, Michelle Schwan

Course Schedule: This clinical course meets for 12 hours per week for 16 weeks. This course has a total of 192 contact hours.

Textbook(s): Textbooks used in the program will be used as reference texts for this course.

Tentative Course Outline:

Fall Semester	
Week 1	Northland Dental Orientation, Course Overview Review of Syllabus, Review DCB Emergency Protocol Hu Friedy Presentation on Air Polisher and Piezo, Calc Detection Competency, Chart Audit
Week 2	LA Review, LA Quiz, Instrument Competencies, Peer Patients
Weeks 3 - 16	Dental Hygiene Clinical Patient Care
Finals Week	Case Patient Presentations

Course Requirements:

- The student must earn at least a 75% to pass this course with a “C” or above.
- The dental department administrative assistant will be available to assist in scheduling patient appointments, however, each student is responsible for having a patient for each clinic session.
- The student must complete all assignments to fulfill course requirements.

Table represents clinic patient requirements for program.

Dental Hygiene Program Patient Population Categories Requirements over the course of the program

Age Group	Definition	Required number
0-11	Child	3
12-17	Adolescent	4
18 – 59	Adult	18
60 +	Geriatric	8
Special Needs	Any age	4
Total		37

Of these 37 patients, additional requirements include:

5 patients with a moderate calculus deposit level
3 patients with a heavy calculus deposit level
2 patients with a Stage I periodontal classification
2 patients with a Stage II periodontal classification
2 patients with a Stage III/IV periodontal classification

Other program requirements: 2 sealants on peer or patient

LA Requirements are to be practiced on each other- No patient requirements

Calculus Deposit Debridement Skill Levels		
Class 0	No Calculus – Slight Calculus	Little or no scaling
Class I	Simple	Supra extending only slightly below the free gingival margin
Class II	Light/ Moderate	Moderate amount of supra + sub calculus, or sub only, 1-6 deposits
Class III	Moderate	Abundance of supra + sub calculus, or sub calculus only, 7-13 deposits
Class IV	Heavy	Generalized supra + sub ledges around cervical thirds of crowns and bands on most root surfaces, >13 deposits

PERIODONTITIS: STAGING Staging intends to classify the severity and extent of a patient's disease based on the measurable amount of destroyed and/or damaged tissue as a result of periodontitis and to assess the specific factors that may attribute to the complexity of long-term case management. Initial stage should be determined using clinical attachment loss (CAL). If CAL is not available, radiographic bone loss (RBL) should be used. Tooth loss due to periodontitis may modify stage definition. One or more complexity factors may shift the stage to a higher level. See perio.org/2017wwdc for additional information.					
	Periodontitis	Stage I	Stage II	Stage III	Stage IV
Severity	Interdental CAL (at site of greatest loss)	1 – 2 mm	3 – 4 mm	≥5 mm	≥5 mm
	RBL	Coronal third (<15%)	Coronal third (15% - 33%)	Extending to middle third of root and beyond	Extending to middle third of root and beyond
	Tooth loss (due to periodontitis)	No tooth loss		≤4 teeth	≥5 teeth
Complexity	Local	- Max. probing depth ≤4 mm - Mostly horizontal bone loss	- Max. probing depth ≤5 mm - Mostly horizontal bone loss	In addition to Stage II complexity: - Probing depths ≥6 mm - Vertical bone loss ≥3 mm - Furcation involvement Class II or III - Moderate ridge defects	In addition to Stage III complexity: - Need for complex rehabilitation due to: - Masticatory dysfunction - Secondary occlusal trauma (tooth mobility degree ≥2) - Severe ridge defects - Bite collapse, drifting, flaring < 20 remaining teeth (10 opposing pairs)
Extent and distribution	Add to stage as descriptor	For each stage, describe extent as: - Localized (<30% of teeth involved); - Generalized; or - Molar/incisor pattern			

PERIODONTITIS: GRADING

Grading aims to indicate the rate of periodontitis progression, responsiveness to standard therapy, and potential impact on systemic health.

Clinicians should initially assume grade B disease and seek specific evidence to shift to grade A or C.

See perio.org/2017wwdc for additional information.

	Progression		Grade A: Slow rate	Grade B: Moderate rate	Grade C: Rapid rate
Primary criteria <i>Whenever available, direct evidence should be used.</i>	Direct evidence of progression	Radiographic bone loss or CAL	No loss over 5 years	<2 mm over 5 years	≥2 mm over 5 years
	Indirect evidence of progression	% bone loss / age	<0.25	0.25 to 1.0	>1.0
		Case phenotype	Heavy biofilm deposits with low levels of destruction	Destruction commensurate with biofilm deposits	Destruction exceeds expectations given biofilm deposits; specific clinical patterns suggestive of periods of rapid progression and/or early onset disease
Grade modifiers	Risk factors	Smoking	Non-smoker	<10 cigarettes/day	≥10 cigarettes/day
		Diabetes	Normoglycemic/no diagnosis of diabetes	HbA1c <7.0% in patients with diabetes	HbA1c ≥7.0% in patients with diabetes

General Education Competency/Learning Outcome(s) OR CTE Competency/Department Learning Outcome(s):

Employs industry-specific skills for workplace readiness.

Relationship to Campus Focus: Nature, Technology, and Beyond

Dakota College Bottineau dental programs are designed to prepare students to meet the needs of communities by applying evidence-based decision making, using cutting-edge technology, and integrating quality and safety competencies into their dental programs. Each course within the program serves as a foundation for clinical Clinic in the dental assisting and dental hygiene professions. To meet the demands of the every-changing field of dentistry, students are taught to value life-long learning.

Classroom Policies: Attendance is mandatory in all lectures, labs and clinical sessions.

Students will be allowed NO MORE than 3 clinic days with no patient in their chair.

1 absence/ lack of patient will be excused.

During the other 2 scheduled clinic times with no patients, the student will be required to complete an assigned case study, continue education course, or other project chosen by the instructor.

Any additional days beyond the 3 allowed, the student will need to utilize one of the make-up clinic days at the end of the semester to see a patient or clinic points will be deducted.

Upon completion of your scheduled patient, you are required to remain in clinic until the scheduled end time of clinic.

Required clinic checks:

- **Medical History Check-** Upon completion of med history review, med list form completion, vitals taken, and type of radiographs determined
- **Initial Diagnostic Check-** Upon completion of all diagnostics- radiographs, IO/EO, HTC, Perio chart, Calc detection
- **Final Check-** Upon completion of all calculus and tartar removal

Time Allowances:

Medical history checks should be completed with-in 5-10 minutes of seating your patient

Initial checks should be completed:

- **1st year spring semester- 1hr 15minutes**
- **2nd year fall semester- 1 hr**
- **2nd year spring semester- 45 minutes**

Grading

Course and lab/clinic grades are based on a variety of activities and assignments designated by the faculty. The criteria by which grades for each lecture and clinical course are included in the course syllabus distributed to students. Students have access to and should review the learning management system grading calculation method.

Students are responsible to know what their grades are during the course. Please review the gradebook frequently. If an assignment or exam in the student's gradebook says the assignment or exam has not been submitted or has not been entered, it is then treated as a fact the student didn't do the assignment or exam as outlined in the directions. Make sure your assignments are submitted before the due date to assure timely submission. Please see your Dakota Dental Program handbook for grading policies, in addition to the policies listed below.

Grades

Students must earn a minimum grade of "C" with a maintained 2.0 GPA or better in all required dental program courses. Students who fail a theory or lab/clinical course will be dismissed from the dental assisting program. A final grade of "D" or "F" is considered to be a failed grade. If a student has unsatisfactory grades, he/she should contact the instructor as soon as possible for a remediation plan.

Assignments/Tests/Labs/Clinics: All assignments must be completed and submitted on time in the manner specified by the faculty. Students may fail the course if all assignments are not completed.

Late/makeup work: Late work will not be accepted (student will receive a zero) unless previously arranged with the instructor or impacted by extenuating circumstances. Upon approval, if an assignment is turned in within one week of the due date, there will be a 5% deduction from the assignment grade. Extenuating circumstances will be evaluated by the faculty for the course.

Late tests: If the student fails to take a test on time, he/she will need to contact the instructor to arrange a time to take the exam. There will be a 10% deduction from the test grade, for tests taken late. If a test isn't taken within a week of the test date, you will receive a zero for that test. Extenuating circumstances will be evaluated by the faculty for the course.

Course Requirements:

Complete skill competencies at a level of 80% or higher
Clinic Assistant duties as assigned

This course is graded by the following items:

Skill Competencies/ Assignments/ Quizzes	Points Per Competency	Total Points
11/12 Explorer	16	16
Anterior Scaler	16	16
Posterior Scaler	16	16
Probe	16	16
1/2 Gracey Curet	16	16
11/12 or 15/16 Gracey Curet	16	16
13/14 Gracey Curet	16	16
Universal Curette	16	16
Instrumentation Self Evaluation	45	45
Calculus Removal	10	10
Calculus Detection	10	10
POH- Verbal	23	23
Study Models on a patient with self-evaluation	26	26
Study Models on a patient self-evaluation	5	5
Sealant on peer or patient	42	42
IA Injection on peer	10	10
PSA Injection on peer	10	10
LA Quiz	30	30
1 panoramic radiographs (85% or above)	100	100

1 FMX with self- evaluation	100	100
FMX Self Evaluation	5	5
4 BWX (2 sets)	20	40
2 Clinical Assistant Evaluation (95% or above to pass)	8	16
TalEval	100	100
Lab Safety Quiz	14	14
Total Points Possible		714

Case Study Assignment	Points Possible
Case Study Project and Presentation	130
Total Points Possible	130

This course will be evaluated by:

The student must pass this course with a 75% or above.

Category	Points Possible
TalEval, Clinical Assistant Evaluations, Radiographs, and Skill Evaluations	714
Case Study Patient Assignment	130
Total	844

The following grade scale will be used:

A	92 - 100
B	84 – 91
C	75 – 83
D	67 – 74
F	Below 68

Classroom Etiquette:

- Be punctual to lectures, labs and clinics/
- Avoid any activity that may cause distraction during class.
- Incivility will not be tolerated.
- Use of mobile devices and related applications and cameras are not allowed to be used unless it is for a class activity.
- Children are not allowed in the classroom.

Active Learning:

In addition to educational strategies such as reading, listening and reflecting, when appropriate this class makes use of learning techniques commonly known as active learning. Students should expect to participate in active learning techniques such as discussions and presentations, small group activities, writing, problem-solving, case studies, role-playing, etc. These activities

promote analysis, synthesis, and evaluation of class content in order to improve student learning outcomes.

Course Study Expectations:

Commitment to learning is important to success. For every semester credit you are taking in a class, (e.g., 3 credit course = 9 hours per week) the student should schedule three hours to read, study, and devote to your course, outside of class.

Attendance Policy:

The Dakota College Dental Programs support the college policy on attendance as stated in your college catalog. The dental programs implement strict attendance policies for classroom, lab and clinical experience. Students are expected to attend all lecture, lab and clinical hours. (See the Attendance Policy in the Dental Program Handbook)

Regular, punctual attendance demonstrates professional behavior and responsibility. Absences may make it impossible for a student to meet course objectives and result in failure of the course. A student may be excused from class, lab or clinic with the approval of the instructor. It is the student's responsibility to make arrangements to fulfill missed assignments with the appropriate faculty member. All makeup work may have a deduction in lecture, lab or clinic. All missed hours in lab or clinic must be made up with one hour for each hour missed. If a student has more than 25% absence in any classroom, lab or clinic session, it may result in course failure. **If you must be absent, (e.g., illness) please inform the instructor as soon as possible.** The instructor's contact information is on the first page of this syllabus.

Questions:

If you have questions or need clarification on anything to do with this course, please reach out to the instructor. The instructor can be reached by the contact information on the syllabus.

Student Email Policy:

Dakota College at Bottineau is increasingly dependent upon email as an official form of communication. A student's campus-assigned email address will be the only one recognized by the Campus for official mailings. The liability for missing or not acting upon important information conveyed via campus email rests with the student.

Academic Integrity:

According to the DCB Student Handbook, students are responsible for submitting their own work. Students who cooperate on oral or written examinations or work without authorization share the responsibility for violation of academic principles, and the students are subject to disciplinary action even when one of the students is not enrolled in the course where the violation occurred. The Code detailed in the Academic Honesty/Dishonesty section of the Student Handbook will serve as the guideline for cases where cheating, plagiarism or other academic improprieties have occurred.

Disabilities or Special Needs:

Students with disabilities or special needs (academic or otherwise) are encouraged to contact the instructor and Disability Support Services.

Title IX:

Dakota College at Bottineau (DCB) faculty are committed to helping create a safe learning environment for all students and for the College as a whole. Please be aware that all DCB employees (other than those designated as confidential resources such as advocates, counselors, clergy and healthcare providers) are required to report information about such discrimination and harassment to the College Title IX Coordinator. This means that if a student tells a faculty member about a situation of sexual harassment or sexual violence, or other related misconduct, the faculty member must share that information with the College's Title IX Coordinator. Students wishing to speak to a confidential employee who does not have this reporting responsibility can find a list of resources on the DCB Title IX webpage.

Topic Schedule

Fall Semester

Week and Course Objectives met	Specific Instructional Objectives At the end of this course the student will be able to:	Student Preparation and Learning Activities	Evaluation Methods
Week 1 Objectives 1 - 28	1. Participate in DCB emergency protocol scenario 2. Perform Dental hygiene process of care at the level of a second year first semester student 3. Perform clinical assistant duties	Northland Orientation @ 1pm on August 25th Course Overview, Review of Syllabus, Lab Safety Quiz, Review DCB Emergency Protocol, Electronic ES Forms Hu Friedy Presentation on Air Polisher & Piezo @ 12:30 on August 26 th Calc detection competency Chart Audits	TalEval Grading System Clinical Assistant Evaluations Radiographs and Skill Evaluations
Week 2 1 - 28	1. Perform Dental hygiene process of care at a level of	Administer IA & PSA LA Quiz	TalEval Grading System Clinical Assistant Evaluations

	second year first semester student Perform clinical assistant duties	Instrument Competencies Sharpening Review Peer Patients	Radiographs and Skill Evaluations
Weeks 3 – 16 Objectives 1 - 28	2. Perform Dental hygiene process of care at a level of second year first semester student 3. Perform clinical assistant duties	Dental Hygiene Clinical Patient Care	TalEval Grading System Clinical Assistant Evaluations Radiographs and Skill Evaluations
Finals Week Objective 29	1. Present a case study on a clinical patient	Case Patient Presentations	Case Presentation Rubric

Important Dates to Note

September 7th- No Clinic- Labor Day

September 8th- 1st day of single patients & Northland rotations start

September 14th- No patients- Lab on intra oral camers, oral/ facial photos, digital scanner, re-orientation

September 16th- Head Start Screenings

September 22nd- Head Start Screenings

October 5th- 1st day of double patients (recalls, reappoint, or under 18 only)

October 12th- No patients- Calc removal competency, LA practice, Sharpening practice

November 11th- No Clinic- Veteran's Day

November 25th- No Clinic- Thanksgiving Break

December 7th- Last day of rotations at Northland

December 8th- Make-up clinic, Shut down clinic for the semester, Individual conferences

December 9th- Case Study Presentations