



Course Syllabus

Course title: Introduction to Periodontology

Class section: DHYG - 222 - X01

Term: 2025W

Course credits: 1.5

Total hours: 34

Delivery method: In-Person

Territorial Acknowledgement

Camosun College respectfully acknowledges that our campuses are situated on the territories of the Łək̓ʷəŋən (Songhees and Kosapsum) and W̱SÁNEĆ peoples. We honour their knowledge and welcome to all students who seek education here.

Instructor Details

Name: Leta Zaleski

Email: zaleskil@camosun.ca

Instructor Statement

As your course instructor, I endeavour to provide an inclusive learning environment. However, if you experience barriers to learning in this course, do not hesitate to discuss them with me. Camosun College is committed to identifying and removing institutional and social barriers that prevent access and impede success.

Instructor Office Hours

Office:	Hours:
Room #	Hours:
D006	By Appointment

Course Description

Course Description:

Students will learn the science behind select periodontal diseases. They will learn to distinguish and understand the relevance of periodontal classification as it relates to the dental hygiene process of care.

Prerequisites:

All of:

- B- in BIOL 161

Pre or Co-requisites:

All of:

- B- in BIOL 260
- B- in DHYG 231

Course Delivery Hours

ACTIVITY	HOURS / WEEK	# OF WEEKS	ACTIVITY HOURS
Lecture	2	17	34
Seminar			
Lab / Collaborative Learning			
Supervised Field Practice			
		TOTAL HOURS:	34

ACTIVITY	HOURS / WEEK	# OF WEEKS	ACTIVITY HOURS
Final Exam			
		TOTAL HOURS:	34

Course Learning Outcomes / Objectives

Upon completion of this course a student will be able to:

- Determine the classification, etiology and risk factors for select gingival and periodontal diseases and acquired conditions.
- Define the characteristics of clinical oral health.
- Discuss the characteristics and relevance of microorganisms and host response in relation to gingival inflammation and select periodontal diseases and conditions.
- Describe the pathophysiology, histology, radiographic and clinical characteristics related to select periodontal diseases and conditions

Course Materials - Required

Gehrig, J.S., Shin, D.E., & Willmann, D.E. (2024). *Foundations of periodontics for the dental hygienist* (Enhanced 6th ed.). Jones & Bartlett Learning.

Learning Outcomes and Performance Indicators

Determine the classification, etiology and risk factors for select gingival and periodontal diseases and acquired conditions.

1. Discuss the function of the AAP/EFP.
2. Describe the AAP classification system.
3. Define the etiological factors of biofilm induced gingivitis, periodontitis, and select mucogingival deformities and conditions.
4. Describe the importance of etiology in the dental hygiene process of care.
5. Identify the relevance and limitations of assessment data used to determine classification of periodontitis.
6. Discuss past and current theories on the etiology of periodontitis including patterns of exacerbation and remission.
7. Define risk factors, risk indicators, and risk determinants.
8. Describe local predisposing factors and systemic risk factors for biofilm induced gingivitis and periodontitis.
9. Discuss the parameters used for staging and grading periodontitis.
10. Describe predisposing and risk factors for select mucogingival deformities and conditions, and

prosthesis related factors.

11. Discuss the implications of smoking and use of other tobacco products on periodontal health and treatment outcomes.
12. Discuss the implications of cannabis on the host response to periodontal disease.
13. Discuss smoking as a grade modifier for periodontitis.
14. Discuss diabetes as a grade modifier for periodontitis.
15. Explain how disease severity and complexity of management inform staging of periodontitis.
16. Describe the use of risk assessment in grading periodontitis.

Define the characteristics of clinical oral health.

1. Discuss the AAP definition of periodontal health.
2. Describe the clinical characteristics consistent with periodontal health.
3. Differentiate intact periodontium from reduced periodontium in a non-periodontitis patient, and in a stable periodontitis patient.
4. Discuss the oral microbiome.
5. Compare symbiosis and dysbiosis.

Discuss the characteristics and relevance of microorganisms and host response in relation to gingival inflammation and select periodontal diseases and conditions.

1. Apply knowledge of plaque biofilm in the etiology of biofilm induced gingivitis and periodontitis.
2. Identify and describe the characteristics of primary and secondary pathogens currently thought to be associated with periodontitis.
3. Describe the role of host response in biofilm induced gingivitis and periodontitis.
4. Apply knowledge of the general role of inflammation in biofilm induced gingivitis and periodontitis.
5. Describe significant inflammatory mediators involved in the host response to periodontal pathogens.
6. Describe host response to supragingival plaque biofilm accumulation.
7. Describe host response to dysbiotic subgingival plaque biofilm.
8. Describe the sequence of events in host response to periodontal pathogens (cellular, chemical, and immunological aspects) and potential result in controlling infection.
9. Discuss the impact of inflammatory periodontal disease on various systemic conditions.
10. Describe systemic conditions and their role in influencing inflammatory periodontal disease.

Describe the pathophysiology, histology, radiographic and clinical characteristics related to select periodontal diseases and conditions.

1. Discuss the general and clinical characteristics of biofilm induced gingivitis and periodontitis.
2. Correlate the clinical characteristics of gingival inflammation with the underlying histological changes.
3. Describe the pathological and histological changes that occur in biofilm induced gingivitis.
4. Define clinical attachment loss.
5. Discuss the extent and progression of periodontitis.

6. Discuss the pathogenesis of periodontal pockets, and the histopathology of the soft tissue, root surface and alveolar bone.
7. Describe radiographic changes that occur in periodontitis.
8. Discuss the rationale for preventive and non-surgical periodontal therapy.
9. Discuss therapeutic endpoints when treating periodontitis.
10. Define compromised periodontal therapy and maintenance.
11. Discuss healing and factors that delay healing following periodontal therapy.
12. Discuss the goals of periodontal maintenance and how to establish an appropriate maintenance interval.
13. Define recurrent and refractory as descriptors for periodontitis.
14. Discuss guidelines for referral to a periodontist.
15. Discuss various traumatic occlusal forces.
16. Describe the clinical and radiographic signs of various traumatic occlusal forces.
17. Describe the physiological adaptations of the periodontium to various occlusal forces.
18. Identify and discuss the effects of insufficient occlusal force on the periodontium.
19. Describe periodontal response to traumatic occlusal forces in both the absence and presence of biofilm induced gingivitis and periodontitis.

Course Schedule, Topics, and Associated Preparation / Activity

The following schedule and course components are subject to change with reasonable advance notice, as deemed appropriate by the instructor. Course days, times and locations can be found on MyCamosun.

Week or Date Range	Activity or Topic	Other Notes
Week 1	Course Introduction & Intro to AAP/EFP	
Week 2	Oral Biofilm & Dysbiosis	
Week 3	Biofilm Induced Gingivitis	
Week 4	Mucogingival Conditions	
Week 5	Term Exam 1	
Week 6	Determining Risk	Webinar Assignment Due
Week 7	READING BREAK - NO CLASS	
Week 8	Determining Risk	

Week or Date Range	Activity or Topic	Other Notes
Week 9	Periodontitis	
Week 10	Periodontitis	
Week 11	Periodontitis	
Week 12	Term Test 2	Risk Assessment Assignment Due
Week 13	Tobacco, Smoking & Periodontitis	
Week 14	Diabetes, Obesity and Periodontitis	
Week 15	Traumatic Occlusal Forces	
Week 16	Catch Up & Review	
Week 17	Final Exam - Date and Time TBA	

Evaluation of Learning: Weighted

DESCRIPTION	WEIGHTING
Term Exam 1	20
Term Exam 2	20
Webinar Assignment	10
Risk Assessment Assignment	20
In-class participation	10
Final Exam	20
TOTAL:	100%

NOTE: Minimum passing grade for this course is a B- of 70%

See Camosun's Grading Systems for Details

<https://camosun.ca/registration-records/student-records/camosun-grading-systems>

Grade Reviews and Appeals

If you have a concern about a grade you have received for an evaluation, please come and see me as soon as possible. Refer to the **Grade Review and Appeals policy** for more information.

<http://camosun.ca/about/policies/education-academic/e-1-programming-and-instruction/e-1.14.pdf>

The Centre for Accessible Learning (CAL) is part of Camosun's Student Affairs unit. CAL coordinates academic accommodations and provides related programs and services to students with documented disabilities.

Students who require academic accommodations are expected to request and arrange accommodations through CAL in a timely fashion. While we understand that not all accommodation needs are known to students at the beginning of a course, accommodations cannot be provided unless the proper process is followed through CAL and an accommodation letter has been released to the instructor. Students are responsible for providing CAL with the proper documentation prior to the beginning of a course.

Students registered with the Centre for Accessible Learning (CAL) who complete quizzes, tests, and exams with academic accommodations have booking procedures and deadlines with CAL where advanced notice is required.

Deadlines can be reviewed on the CAL exams page

<https://camosun.ca/services/academic-supports/accessible-learning/academic-accommodations-exams>

Please consult the CAL webpage for more information:

<https://camosun.ca/services/academic-supports/accessible-learning>

Artificial Intelligence: A Guide for Students

Generative Artificial Intelligence (GenAI) is an evolving technology that brings potential benefits but also substantial risks. While GenAI tools have the ability to transform how we work and learn, it is essential for the college community to adapt to these changes in a thoughtful and secure way.

When using GenAI tools, students should ensure proper citation and attribution guidelines are followed. This includes acknowledging AI assistance in reports, presentations, or any external communications. Clear citation helps build trust, ensures ethical use, and reduces the risk of misinformation or copyright issues.

For citation support visit the college's citation style guide.

<https://camosun.libguides.com/cite>

Artificial Intelligence: A Guide for Students

Visit the following website to learn about AI use in academic settings.

<https://camosun.libguides.com/artificialintelligence/home>

Course Guidelines & Expectations

Regular attendance and engagement with course material is necessary to understand and apply the theoretical content and concepts from this course into clinical practice. Students are expected to internalize and integrate the knowledge, skills and expectations for professional behaviour from this course to safely deliver dental hygiene care. Absence from class and lack of preparation increases

the risk for students to be unsuccessful in meeting the learning outcomes for this course. Students are responsible to acquire all information given during a missed class, including notes, handouts, schedule changes, etc

School or Departmental Information

Students are required to read and are accountable for the College policies (outlined in the section below).

If relevant, students are required to read and are accountable for the guidelines noted on the HHS Clinical and Practice Placements website.

<https://camosun.ca/programs-courses/school-health-and-human-services/hhs-programs/practicums>

In addition students are required to follow the guidelines as described in the School of Health & Human Services (HHS) and program handbooks, including information on supplemental exams.

School of Health & Human Services (HHS) Handbook

<https://camosun.ca/programs-courses/school-health-and-human-services/information-health-and-human-services-students-1#top>

Dental Hygiene Handbook

<https://camosun.ca/programs-courses/school-health-and-human-services/information-health-and-human-services-students-4>

Student Responsibility

Enrolment at Camosun assumes that the student will become a responsible member of the College community. As such, each student will display a positive work ethic, assist in the preservation of College property, and assume responsibility for their education by researching academic requirements and policies; demonstrating courtesy and respect toward others; and respecting expectations concerning attendance, assignments, deadlines, and appointments.

College Policies

Academic Integrity

Students are expected to follow the college's [Academic Integrity policy](#), and be honest and ethical in all aspects of their studies. To help you understand these responsibilities review the online [Academic Integrity guide](#).

The college's [Academic Integrity policy and supporting documents](#) detail the process for addressing and resolving matters of academic misconduct.

Academic Accommodations for Students with Disabilities

If you have a documented disability and need accommodations contact the Centre for Accessible Learning (CAL). CAL will arrange the appropriate academic accommodations so you can participate in all academic activities. Visit the [CAL website](#) for more information

Academic Progress

The [Academic Progress policy](#) details how the college monitors students' academic progress and what steps are taken if a student is at risk of not meeting the college's academic progress standards.

Acceptable Technology Use

The [Acceptable Technology Use](#) policy outlines how students are expected to use college technology resources, this includes using your own devices on the college's network. The use of the college resources in a way that violates a person's right to study in an environment free of discrimination, harassment or sexual violation is prohibited.

Course Withdrawals Policy

For details about course withdrawal see the [Course Withdrawals policy](#). Be aware of the [deadlines for fees, course drop dates, and tuition refunds](#).

Grading Policy

To learn more about grading see the [Grading Policy](#).

Grade Review and Appeals

The process to request a review of grades is outlined in the [Grade Review and Appeals policy](#).

Medical / Compassionate Withdrawals

If you have experienced a serious health or personal issue, you may be eligible for a [medical/compassionate withdrawal](#). The [Medical / Compassionate Withdrawal Request form](#)

outlines what is required.

Sexual Violence

If you have experienced sexual violence on or off campus, you can get support from the Office of Student Support. The Office of Student Support is a safe and private place to talk about what supports are available and your options for next steps. Visit the [sexual violence support and education site](#) to learn more or email oss@camosun.ca or phone: 250-370-3046 or 250-370-3841.

Student Misconduct (Non-Academic)

Camosun expects students to conduct themselves in a manner that contributes to a positive, supportive, and safe learning environment. Review the [Student Misconduct Policy](#) to understand the college's expectations of conduct.

Looking for other policies? See [Camosun College Policies and Directives](#)

Services and Supports

Services are free and available to all students.

Academic Supports	Enrollment Supports
Centre for Accessible Learning	Academic Advising
English, Math and Science Help Centres	Financial Aid and Awards
Library	Registration
Writing Centre & Learning Skills	Tuition and Fees
Health and Wellness	Applied learning
Counseling	Co-operative Education and Career Services
Fitness and Recreation	Makerspace
Office of Student Support	

The [Centre for Indigenous Education Centre and Community Connections](#) provides cultural and academic supports for Indigenous students.

[Camosun International](#) provides supports to international students.

[The Ombudsperson](#) provides an impartial, independent service to ensure students are treated fairly. The service is a safe place for students to voice and clarify concerns and complaints.

If you have a mental health concern, contact Counselling. Counselling sessions are available at both campuses during business hours. If you need urgent support after-hours, contact the Vancouver Island Crisis Line at 1-888-494-3888 or call 911.

Changes to this Syllabus

Every effort has been made to ensure that information in this syllabus is accurate at the time of publication. The College reserves the right to change the course content or schedule. When changes are necessary the instructor will give clear and timely notice.