

COURSE SYLLABUS



COURSE TITLE: DHYG 245 Professional Practice 1

CLASS SECTION: X01

TERM: F2024

COURSE CREDITS: 3.0

DELIVERY METHOD(S): Lecture

Camosun College campuses are located on the traditional territories of the Ləkʷəŋən and W̱SÁNEĆ peoples. We acknowledge their welcome and graciousness to the students who seek knowledge here. Learn more about Camosun's [Territorial Acknowledgement](#).

INSTRUCTOR DETAILS

NAME: Michelle Meunier

EMAIL: meunierm@camosun.ca

OFFICE: Dental 004

HOURS: By appointment

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.

CALENDAR DESCRIPTION

Learners are introduced to the profession of dental hygiene as primary oral health care providers guided by principles of social justice. Students examine current concepts of practice, with an emphasis on self-regulation, roles, responsibility and accountability of the dental hygienist. Students explore medical, legal, ethical principles, laws, and practice standards together with concepts of inclusion, diversity, and professional communication.

PREREQUISITE(S): n/a

CO-REQUISITE(S): n/a

PRE/CO-REQUISITE(S): n/a

COURSE DELIVERY

ACTIVITY	HOURS / WEEK	# OF WEEKS	ACTIVITY HOURS
Lecture	3	15	45
Seminar			
Lab / Collaborative Learning			
Supervised Field Practice			
Workplace Integrated Learning			
Online			
		TOTAL HOURS	45

COURSE LEARNING OUTCOMES / OBJECTIVES

Upon completion of this course students will be able to:

1. Describe the history of professional dental hygiene practice.
2. Discuss the characteristics, roles, and responsibilities of self-regulating professions, with an emphasis on dental hygiene.
3. Discuss the dental hygiene profession from a social justice perspective.
4. Discuss the dental professional organizations, relevant legal considerations, and current practice standards for the dental hygiene profession.
5. Discuss the medical, legal, and ethical principles related to oral health care.
6. Practice professional communication and interpersonal skills in relation to dental hygiene practice.
7. Discuss inclusion and diversity in the context of dental hygiene.

REQUIRED MATERIALS & RECOMMENDED PREPARATION / INFORMATION

Gadbury-Amyot C., & Pieren J.A. (2025). *Darby and Walsh dental hygiene: Theory and practice* (6th ed.). Elsevier

Attendance at IDOL Seminar Sunday November 17 12-4 Location TBD

COURSE SCHEDULE, TOPICS, AND ASSOCIATED PREPARATION / ACTIVITY / EVALUATION

The following schedule and course components are subject to change with reasonable advance notice, as deemed appropriate by the instructor.

Lectures: Tuesdays 3:00-4:20pm Dental 015
 Fridays 10:00-11:20am Dental 015

WEEK or DATE RANGE	ACTIVITY or TOPIC	OTHER NOTES
	Refer to course schedule on D2L	
Week 1-2	Unit 1 – The Dental Hygiene Profession	
Week 3-4	Unit 2 – The Discipline of Dental Hygiene	

WEEK or DATE RANGE	ACTIVITY or TOPIC	OTHER NOTES
Week 5-6	Unit 3 – Regulation and Legal Framework of Dental Hygiene in BC and Canada	
Week 7-8	Unit 4 – Medical, Legal, and Ethical Principles Related to Oral Care	
Week 9-13	Unit 5 – Inclusion and Diversity in Oral Care	
Week 13-14	Unit 6 – Communication and Interpersonal Skills	

Upon completion of this course students will be able to:

1. Describe the history of professional dental hygiene practice.

- Describe the history of the dental hygiene profession and landmark events
- Discuss the historical conceptual models of dental hygiene practice
- Occupational, collaborative, professional models

2. Discuss the characteristics, roles, and responsibilities of self-regulating professions, with an emphasis on dental hygiene.

2.1 Define self regulation as it applies to professions

- Public Trust
- Self-assessment
- Define what it means to be “governable”

2.2 Define the characteristics of a profession with an emphasis on the dental hygiene profession

- Define what a profession is
- List and describe attributes of a profession
- List and describe different approaches to a profession
- Analyze how dental hygiene compares to a profession
- List barriers to dental hygiene being describe as a profession
- Explore the perceptions of the Dental Hygiene profession
- Discuss characteristics of a professional as outlined in CDHA Entry to practice competencies
- Discuss and analyze avenues to promote dental hygiene as a profession
- Discuss accountability and responsibility of a professional
- Duty to client, employer, regulatory body, and the public
- Discuss professional image
- Social media presence
- Discuss the concept of being self-directed
- Describe the formal dental hygiene education in BC and Canada for dental hygiene

2.3 Describe the discipline of dental hygiene

- Explore and define the definition of dental hygiene process of care (ADPIE)
- Define the National Competencies of Dental Hygiene Practice and its impact on the culture of Dental Hygiene
- Discuss the foundation of dental hygiene practice
- Discuss core abilities of a dental hygienist
- Explain the scope of practice statement of dental hygiene practice
- Explain roles and responsibilities of the dental hygienist

3. Discuss the dental hygiene profession from a social justice perspective.

3.1 Define and Discuss the concept of social justice as it applies to the dental hygiene profession

- Fairness in healthcare
- Employment
- Housing
- Discrimination and racism
- Define social justice in the context of dental hygiene

3.2 Describe the essential components and goals of social justice including:

- Human rights
- Diversity
- Access
- Participation
- Equity vs equality
- Social safety net

3.3 Explore the context of social determinants of health (SDOH)

- Define the various SDOH that impact Canadians and why it impacts health outcomes in Canada
- Define population health and its application to health initiatives
- Role of advocacy for the dental hygienist to reduce inequities

3.4 Introduce the role of dental hygienists to achieve change through political action and involvement

- Describe factors that create influence and change
- Describe leadership and the change process
- Recognize the participation of dental hygienists in health initiatives, including the recent history of dental hygiene involvement in health initiatives
- Discuss possible roles dental professionals may assume in an inoculation program related to a pandemic outbreak

4. Discuss the dental professional organizations, relevant legal considerations, and current practice standards for the dental hygiene profession.

4.1 Describe the professional associations and organizations in the dental hygiene profession.

- Describe the difference between a regulatory body and a professional association
- Compare and list local, provincial, national, and international associations and their roles
- Describe the professional organizations influencing dental hygiene education
- Discuss how competency is outlined and maintained: Nationally and provincially
 - Policy Framework for Dental Hygiene Education
 - National Dental Hygiene Learning Outcomes
 - National and provincial Standards of Practice for Dental Hygiene
 - Requirements for Accreditation of Dental Hygiene Programs
 - Dental Hygiene Theories
- Discuss the value of membership in a professional association

- 4.2 Explain the mandate of the regulatory authority for dental hygiene as outlined in the BC Health Professions Act.
- Define Health Professions Act. (HPA) and Health Professions and Occupations Act
 - Discuss dental Hygiene Regulations and under the HPA (HPOA)
 - Define hygiene bylaws under the dental hygiene regulations
 - Define professional responsibility and accountability under the legislation of dental hygiene
 - Discuss the Cayton report and implication for amalgamation of oral health colleges in BC
 - Realignment of regulatory bodies in dental hygiene and other health professions in BC
 - Discuss Quality Assurance initiatives under the BCCOHP
 - education,
 - standards of practice
 - licensure
 - registration
 - accreditation
 - regulation
- 4.3 Explain how civil law and criminal law influence dental hygiene practice.
- Compare criminal law and civil law and professional regulation
 - Recognize the following terms: Tort law, negligence, contributory negligence, malpractice, technical battery, trespassing, libel, slander, express contract, implied contract, quasi contract, breach of contract, implied consent, express consent, informed consent
 - Discuss and define confidentiality and privacy laws and regulations
 - BCCOHP Requirements and regulations
 - PIPPA Act of BC
- 4.4 Explore our provincial practice standards and practice standard policies
- Explain pertinent aspects of the dental hygiene regulation and scope of practice
 - Describe a series of interpretation guidelines of BCCOHP practice standards.
 - Discuss BCCOHP requirements for documentation and referral process
 - Discuss the importance and legal requirements for consultation and collaboration with other health care professionals

5. Discuss the medical, legal, and ethical principles related to oral health care.

- 5.1 Discuss the dental hygienists' legal obligation as a professional
- Discuss responsibilities (to the client, employer, colleagues and the profession)
 - Discuss respect for colleagues
 - Describe the need for self-assessment and self-direction
- 5.2 Explore the ethics of dental hygiene care
- Discuss ethical perspectives
 - Discuss CDHA and BCCOHP Code of ethics
 - List and describe ethical Principles
 - Beneficence, autonomy, integrity, accountability, confidentiality
 - Define non-maleficence, justice, veracity, fidelity
 - Explore and define core values (autonomy, confidentiality, societal trust, utility)
 - Discuss and define ethical challenges
 - Discuss and practice the ethical decision-making process
 - Discuss rights and privileges of clients and clinician

- Practice ethical decision making utilizing the CDHA Ethical Guidelines
6. Practice professional communication and interpersonal skills in relation to dental hygiene practice.
- 6.1 Discuss and practice BCCOHP documentation guidelines and standards including
- Requirements for written referrals
 - Requirements for recommending dental exam
 - Requirements of standards of legal documentation
- 6.2 Discuss the influence of culture on communication
- 6.3 Discuss and practice professional client communication
- 6.4 Discuss teamwork and collaboration in dental hygiene practice, including the understanding of team roles
- Discuss the importance of team roles and understanding each role
 - Examine assertiveness versus aggressiveness and implicit and explicit coercion as it relates to interpersonal communication with peers and others
 - Discuss ways of problem-solving professional differences and conflict resolution
- 6.4 Learn the elements of proper presentation skills with individuals and groups
7. Discuss inclusion and diversity in the context of dental hygiene.
- 7.1 Discuss the role of cultural competence in dental hygiene
- Define cultural competence, cultural humility, and cultural sensitivity
 - Explore personal values and biases
 - Discuss the relationship between culture and health, and work toward developing cultural sensitivity through self-awareness and exploration of cultural self-identify and identity of others.
 - Understand the relationships among cultural competence, cultural humility, and patient-centered care.
 - Discuss the importance of cultural sensitivity when making shared decisions in the healthcare environment.
- 7.2 Explore pathways to achieve and maintain cultural competence
- 7.3 Introduce barriers to care for marginalized communities including:
- 2SLGBTQQA+
 - BIPOC

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 noticed is required. Deadlines can be reviewed on the [CAL exams page](https://camosun.ca/services/academic-supports/accessible-learning/academic-accommodations-exams). <https://camosun.ca/services/academic-supports/accessible-learning/academic-accommodations-exams>

DESCRIPTION	WEIGHTING
Camosun College Academic Integrity Module	5%
Exam #1	20%
Exam #2	20%
Exam #3 (Final)	20%
Assignment	15%
IDOL Exercise/Seminar	5%
Class Activities Attendance /Participation	15%
	TOTAL
	100%

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](https://camosun.ca/sites/default/files/2021-05/e-1.14.pdf) policy for more information.
<https://camosun.ca/sites/default/files/2021-05/e-1.14.pdf>

COURSE GUIDELINES & EXPECTATIONS

See D2L for further information

SCHOOL OR DEPARTMENTAL INFORMATION

Students are required to read and are accountable for following College policies and guidelines as described in the DHYG and HHS Student Handbooks.

[DHYG Student Handbook](#)

[HHS Student Handbook](#)

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.

SUPPORTS AND SERVICES FOR STUDENTS

Camosun College offers a number of services to help you succeed in and out of the classroom. For a detailed overview of the supports and services visit camosun.ca/services.

Support Service	Website
Academic Advising	camosun.ca/services/academic-supports/academic-advising
Accessible Learning	camosun.ca/services/academic-supports/accessible-learning

Support Service	Website
Counselling	camosun.ca/services/health-and-wellness/counselling-centre
Career Services	camosun.ca/services/co-operative-education-and-career-services
Financial Aid and Awards	camosun.ca/registration-records/financial-aid-awards
Help Centres (Math/English/Science)	camosun.ca/services/academic-supports/help-centres
Indigenous Student Support	camosun.ca/programs-courses/iecc/indigenous-student-services
International Student Support	camosun.ca/international
Learning Skills	camosun.ca/services/academic-supports/help-centres/writing-centre-learning-skills
Library	camosun.ca/services/library
Office of Student Support	camosun.ca/services/office-student-support
Ombudsperson	camosun.ca/services/ombudsperson
Registration	camosun.ca/registration-records/registration
Technology Support	camosun.ca/services/its
Writing Centre	camosun.ca/services/academic-supports/help-centres/writing-centre-learning-skills

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

COLLEGE-WIDE POLICIES, PROCEDURES, REQUIREMENTS, AND STANDARDS

Academic Integrity

Students are expected to comply with all College policy regarding academic integrity; which is about honest and ethical behaviour in your education journey. The following guide is designed to help you understand your responsibilities: <https://camosun.libguides.com/academicintegrity/welcome>
Please visit <https://camosun.ca/sites/default/files/2021-05/e-1.13.pdf> for Camosun's Academic Integrity policy and details for addressing and resolving matters of academic misconduct.

Academic Accommodations for Students with Disabilities

The College is committed to providing appropriate and reasonable academic accommodations to students with disabilities (i.e. physical, depression, learning, etc.). If you have a disability, the [Centre for Accessible Learning](#) (CAL) can help you document your needs, and where disability-related barriers to access in your courses exist, create an accommodation plan. By making a plan through CAL, you can ensure you have the appropriate academic accommodations you need without disclosing your diagnosis or condition to course instructors. Please visit the CAL website for contacts and to learn how to get started:

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

Academic Progress

Please visit <https://camosun.ca/sites/default/files/2023-02/e-1.1.pdf> for further details on how Camosun College monitors students' academic progress and what steps can be taken if a student is at risk of not meeting the College's academic progress standards.

Course Withdrawals Policy

Please visit <https://camosun.ca/sites/default/files/2021-05/e-2.2.pdf> for further details about course withdrawals. For deadline for fees, course drop dates, and tuition refund, please visit <https://camosun.ca/registration-records/tuition-fees#deadlines>.

Grading Policy

Please visit <https://camosun.ca/sites/default/files/2021-05/e-1.5.pdf> for further details about grading.

Grade Review and Appeals

Please visit <https://camosun.ca/sites/default/files/2021-05/e-1.14.pdf> for policy relating to requests for review and appeal of grades.

Medical / Compassionate Withdrawals

Students who are incapacitated and unable to complete or succeed in their studies by virtue of serious and demonstrated exceptional circumstances may be eligible for a medical/compassionate withdrawal. Please visit <https://camosun.ca/sites/default/files/2021-07/e-2.8.pdf> to learn more about the process involved in a medical/compassionate withdrawal.

Sexual Violence and Misconduct

Camosun is committed to creating a campus culture of safety, respect, and consent. Camosun's Office of Student Support is responsible for offering support to students impacted by sexual violence. Regardless of when or where the sexual violence or misconduct occurred, students can access support at Camosun. The Office of Student Support will make sure students have a safe and private place to talk and will help them understand what supports are available and their options for next steps. The Office of Student Support respects a student's right to choose what is right for them. For more information see Camosun's Sexualized Violence and Misconduct Policy: <https://camosun.ca/sites/default/files/2021-05/e-2.9.pdf> and camosun.ca/services/sexual-violence-support-and-education. To contact the Office of Student Support: oss@camosun.ca or by phone: 250-370-3046 or 250-370-3841

Student Misconduct (Non-Academic)

Camosun College is committed to building the academic competency of all students, seeks to empower students to become agents of their own learning, and promotes academic belonging for everyone. Camosun also expects that all students to conduct themselves in a manner that contributes to a positive, supportive, and safe learning environment. Please review Camosun College's Student Misconduct Policy at <https://camosun.ca/sites/default/files/2021-05/e-2.5.pdf> to understand the College's expectations of academic integrity and student behavioural conduct.

Looking for other policies?

The full suite of College policies and directives can be found here: <https://camosun.ca/about/camosun-college-policies-and-directives>

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 courses if it becomes necessary so that course content remains relevant. In such cases, the instructor will give the students clear and timely notice of the changes.