Course Syllabus
Wayne County Community College District
DA 110 Clinical Dental Assisting

CREDIT HOURS: 3.00

CONTACT HOURS: 60.00

COURSE DESCRIPTION:

This is a lecture and laboratory course with emphasis on infection control and chair side four-handed dental assisting skills. Lecture: Presents concepts of the oral health team including the history of dentistry and the allied dental career fields, dental equipment and maintenance, infection control management, team positioning, medical histories and vital signs, basics of four-handed technique (four-handed transfer, tissue retraction, irrigation, illumination, and evacuation), and dental charting. 15 hour seminar in addition to the field experience. Laboratory: Includes experience in working with and maintaining dental equipment, managing asepsis, infection and hazard control protocol consistent with published professional guidelines; team and patient positioning; completing histories, vital signs and dental charting, and practice in four-handed technique and instrument tray setups.

EXPECTED COMPETENCIES

Upon successful completion of this course, the student will:
1. Explain the responsibilities of the dental health team
2. Become oriented to the safety features of the dental lab
3. Identify the components of a modern dental office
4. Discuss care and operation of dental equipment
5. Apply infection control protocols in the dental setting according to OSHA guidelines
6. Obtain medical/dental history including vital signs
7. Demonstrate the proper seating and dismissal of the patient
8. Identify the various hand and rotary dental instruments and their functions
9. Discuss and apply the concepts of 4 handed dentistry
10. Describe various isolation techniques including intraoral mouth mirror
11. Record and chart the oral examination finding including restorations and missing teeth
12. Describe the composition and application of topical and local anesthetics
13. Load and unload an anesthetic syringe following proper precautions for protection of the dental team
14. Become familiar with assembly of matrix band and wedges
15. Articulate dental terminology

ASSESSMENT METHODS

Student performance may be assessed by examination, quizzes, case studies, oral reports, group discussion, written reports or presentations. The instructor reserves the option to employ one or more of these assessment methods during the course.

GRADING SCALE

90%-100% = A
80%-89.9% = B
70%-79.9% = C
60%-69.9% = D
<60% = E