

DENTAL CAREERS

Course Code:

8328/8329

Course Description: Students are introduced to careers in dentistry, including dentist (general and specialist), dental hygienist, dental assistant (I & II), dental laboratory technician, and dental receptionist. Students practice and learn many of the skills utilized in these professions while attaining the skills necessary to become entry-level dental assistants. Study includes infection control, Centers for Disease Control (CDC) guidelines and Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) standards; anatomy and physiology; tooth morphology; oral histology; preventive dentistry; applied psychology; effective communication; office administration and management; use of dental software; operative dentistry techniques; and dental materials/laboratory skills.

Topics of Study:**Dental Careers I**

History of dentistry
Role of the Dental Assistant and the Healthcare Team
Ethics & Law
Dental Anatomy & Physiology
Delivering Dental Care
Principles of Pharmacology
Dental Instruments & Handpieces
Moisture Control
Anesthesia & Pain Control
Disease Transmission/Infection Control

Dental Careers II

Foundations of Radiology
Dental Film & Processing
Legal Issues/Quality Assurance
Radiography
Matrix Systems
Prosthodontics
Dental Implants
Endodontics & Periodontics
Oral & Maxillofacial Surgery
Pediatric Dentistry
Communication in the Dental Office
Business Operating Systems
Financial Management
Internship

Campus Location:

Butler Farm, Hampton

Sessions:

AM - Dental I

PM - Dental II

Class Size:

20 students

Credentials:

Dental Assisting NOCTI

Radiation Health & Safety Examination

Career & Technical Student Organization:

Health Occupations Students of America (HOSA)

Work-Based Learning Opportunities:

Paid Internship

Course Prerequisites:

Completed 10th grade English with a grade of "C" or better

Completed Biology with a grade of "C" or better and passed the Biology SOL

Mandatory clinical internship experience for all Dental II students

Clinical experience may require drug testing and Covid19 vaccination and/or testing

Instructor Bio:

Cynthia White

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Certified Dental Association (CDA) Nationally Registered Dental Association (NRDA)

Associate's Degree with Thomas Nelson in Education

20+ years of Dental teaching experience at New Horizons Regional Education Center

Postsecondary Instructor, Education in Dentistry with Tidewater Tech in Newport News

Projected Employment:

Employment of dental assistants is projected to grow 7 percent from 2022 to 2032, faster than the average for all occupations. "Dental Assistants." Occupational Outlook Handbook, US Bureau of Labor Statistics, 10 October, 2023.

<https://www.bls.gov/ooh/healthcare/dental-assistants.htm#tab-6>

Career Pathways:

Dental Lab Technician

Dental Hygienist

Dentist
Orthodontic Assistant

Program Flyer: ([linked](#))