

# DENTAL HYGIENE – B.S.

Dental hygiene—a profession dating back to 1913—is largely concerned with preventive health services. The hygienist works in cooperation with the dentist in private practice offices, industrial organizations, schools, hospitals, state or federal public health services, and the armed forces.

The B.S. degree is organized as a four-year college curriculum. The freshman and sophomore years of largely prescribed, preprofessional study may be taken at any institutionally accredited college. The professional curriculum begins with the junior year in the School of Dentistry. The curriculum is approved by the Commission on Dental Accreditation of the American Dental Association. The first class at this University graduated in 1961.

## Institutional learning outcomes

Students who graduate with the Bachelor of Science degree in dental hygiene will meet the University outcomes (<http://llucatalog.llu.edu/about-university/institutional-learning-outcomes/>).

## Dental hygiene's ten core competencies

The curriculum is designed to ensure that, by graduation, all students will have been equipped with the knowledge, skills, and attitudes to successfully enter the practice of dental hygiene. By the end of the program, graduates should be able to:

1. Apply a professional code of ethics in all patient and professional interactions.
2. Adhere to the federal/state legal and regulatory framework in the provision of oral health care.
3. Apply critical-thinking and problem-solving skills in the provision of oral health care to promote whole-patient health and wellness.
4. Use evidence-based rationales and emerging treatment modalities to evaluate and incorporate accepted standards of care.
5. Incorporate self-assessment and professional growth through lifelong learning.
6. Advance oral health services through affiliations with professional organizations, service activities, and research.
7. Apply quality-assurance processes to ensure a continued commitment to accepted standards of care.
8. Communicate effectively with diverse individuals and groups, serving all persons without discrimination by acknowledging and appreciating diversity.
9. Provide accurate, consistent, and complete assessment, planning, implementation, evaluation, and documentation for the provision of all phases of the dental hygiene process of care.
10. Provide collaborative, individualized patient care that is comprehensive and compassionate.

## Accreditation

The entry-level B.S. degree curricula is accredited by the Commission on Dental Accreditation of the American Dental Association, 211 East Chicago Avenue, Chicago, IL 60611-2678; telephone: 312/440-250; email: [accreditation@ada.org](mailto:accreditation@ada.org); website: <http://www.ada.org>.

## Admissions

The entry-level dental hygiene applicant must meet the following minimum requirements:

- 96 quarter or 64 semester units of accredited college coursework. *NOTE:* Loma Linda University requires all students who graduate with a baccalaureate degree to complete a minimum of 68 quarter units of general education, which is integrated into the entire undergraduate program.
- A grade point average of 2.7 or higher in science and nonscience coursework, averaged separately; a minimum grade of C for all pre-entrance coursework to be transferred to the University. The entering grade point average is typically 3.2 or higher.
- A personal interview with a representative designated by the School of Dentistry. This interview will assess personal qualities such as, values, spiritual heritage, communication skills, service orientation, and volunteer experience. The interview is by invitation only.
- Three personal letters of reference.
- A minimum of 20 hours observation with a dental hygienist. Completion of observation hours prior to an interview is recommended. Dental assisting experience is also highly recommended.
- Dental hygiene applicants are expected to complete all general education requirements before matriculating in the School of Dentistry. A student may be accepted with a deficiency in one or more of the areas but is expected to eliminate deficits before registering for the Dental Hygiene Program. Courses are to be completed at an institutionally accredited college or university.
- Required science courses must be completed within five years prior to the desired date of matriculation.

For further details, please see the application procedures tab in the School of Dentistry undergraduate section (<http://llucatalog.llu.edu/dentistry/undergraduate/>) of this catalog.

## Dental hygiene general education requirements

### Domain 1: Religion (5 quarter units)

(completed during enrollment at LLU)

### Domain 2: Arts and humanities (minimum 16 quarter units)

Units must be selected from at least three of the following content areas: civilization/history, art, literature, language, philosophy, religion, or general humanities electives. A minimum of 3 quarter units in an area is required to meet a "content area."

### Domain 3: Scientific inquiry and quantitative reasoning (minimum 12 quarters units)

- One full year of chemistry covering inorganic, organic, and biochemistry—*each* with laboratory
- Human anatomy and human physiology with laboratory (may be two separate courses or sequential courses)
- Microbiology with laboratory
- Nonremedial college mathematics or statistics

### Domain 4: Social social sciences (minimum 12 quarter units)

- Select from two of the following content areas: anthropology, economics, geography, political science, psychology, and sociology
- One course (or components integrated into several courses) dealing specifically with issues of human diversity.

**Domain 5: Written and oral communication (minimum 9 quarter units)**

- English composition, complete sequence that meets the baccalaureate degree requirements of a four-year college or university
- Additional courses may include courses in computer information systems, critical thinking, and public speaking.

**Domain 6: Health and wellness (minimum 2 quarter units)**

- A didactic course in health or nutrition (e.g., personal health, personal nutrition, population health, global health, and community nutrition) minimum of 2 units

- Physical education. Must include at least two separate physical activity courses totaling a minimum of one quarter unit.

**Electives**

To meet the minimum requirement of 90 quarter units required for matriculation, electives may be selected from the previous six domains. For more information regarding GE requirements for graduation, see LLU general education requirements (<http://llucatalog.llu.edu/about-university/division-general-studies/>).

**Program requirements**

Code	Title	Clock Hours				Total Units
		Lec	Lab	Clinical	Total	
<b>Junior Year, Autumn Quarter</b>						
ANAT 301	Head and Neck Anatomy, DH	46			46	4.0
DNES 200	Curricular Practical Training <sup>1,2</sup>		75		75	0.0
DNHY 305	Oral Anatomy Lecture	22			22	2.0
DNHY 305L	Oral Anatomy Laboratory		30		30	1.0
DNHY 309	Radiology I	22	40		62	3.0
DNHY 321	Preclinical Dental Hygiene I Lecture	22			22	2.0
DNHY 321L	Preclinical Dental Hygiene I Laboratory		60		60	2.0
RELT 423	Loma Linda Perspectives	20			20	2.0
<b>Winter Quarter</b>						
ANAT 303	General and Oral Histology and Embryology	42			42	3.0
ANDN 314	Dental Anesthesia: Local Anesthesia and Inhalation Sedation	33	30		63	4.0
DNHY 310	Radiology II	22	40		62	3.0
DNHY 322	Preclinical Dental Hygiene II Lecture	22			22	2.0
DNHY 322L	Preclinical Dental Hygiene II Laboratory		60		60	2.0
DNHY 375	Dental Hygiene Clinic			40	40	1.0
DNHY 380	Medically Compromised Patients	22			22	2.0
DNHY 381	Pharmacology for the Dental Hygienist I	22			22	2.0
<b>Spring Quarter</b>						
DNHY 323	Preclinical Dental Hygiene III	22			22	2.0
DNHY 323L	Preclinical Laboratory		40		40	1.0
DNHY 376	Dental Hygiene Clinic			120	120	4.0
DNHY 380	Medically Compromised Patients	22			22	2.0
DNHY 382	Pharmacology for the Dental Hygienist II	22			22	2.0
DNHY 405	Introduction to Periodontics	22			22	2.0
DNHY 450	Junior Clinical Seminar	22			22	1.0
ODRP 311	General and Oral Pathology DH	40			40	4.0
RELE 457	Christian Ethics and Health Care	20			20	2.0
<b>Senior Year, Summer Quarter</b>						
DNES 200	Curricular Practical Training <sup>2</sup>		75		75	0.0
DNES 305	Etiology and Management of Dental Caries	22			22	2.0
DNHY 303	Dental Materials and Techniques	12	30		42	2.0
DNHY 328	Dental Hygiene Portfolio Practicum <sup>2</sup>	11			11	1.0
DNHY 376	Dental Hygiene Clinic			120	120	4.0
DNHY 390	Introductory Statistics	22			22	2.0
DNHY 406	Orthodontics Concepts for Dental Hygiene	12			12	1.0
DNHY 416	Dental Health Education I	22			22	2.0
DNHY 421	Research I	22			22	2.0
DNHY 450	Junior Clinical Seminar	22			22	1.0
<b>Autumn Quarter</b>						
DNHY 411	Dental Hygiene Topics I	22			22	2.0
DNHY 415	Applied Nutrition	22			22	2.0

DNHY 417	Dental Health Education II	22		22	2.0
DNHY 422	Research II	20		20	2.0
DNHY 435	Special Topics in Periodontal Therapy	22		22	2.0
DNHY 451	Clinical Seminar I	22		22	1.0
DNHY 475	Dental Hygiene Clinic I		176	176	4.0
DNHY 495	Dental Hygiene National Board Preparation	22		22	1.0-2.0
RELR 475	Whole Person Care	20		20	2.0
<b>Winter Quarter</b>					
DNHY 408	Professional Ethics	22		22	2.0
DNHY 431	Public Health Dentistry	33		33	3.0
DNHY 452	Clinical Seminar II	22		22	2.0
DNHY 476	Dental Hygiene Clinic II		176	176	4.0
DNHY 495	Dental Hygiene National Board Preparation	22		22	1.0-2.0
<b>Spring Quarter</b>					
DNHY 409	Jurisprudence and Practice Management	22		22	2.0
DNHY 413	Dental Hygiene Topics III	22		22	2.0
DNHY 414	Personal Finance	20		20	2.0
DNHY 453	Clinical Seminar III	22		22	1.0
DNHY 477	Dental Hygiene Clinic III		204	204	4.0
RELR 408	Christian Perspectives on Marriage and the Family	20		20	2.0
<b>Total Units</b>		<b>987</b>	<b>480</b>	<b>836</b>	<b>2303</b>
					<b>115-117</b>

<sup>1</sup> Fulfills service learning requirement

<sup>2</sup> Students register for zero (0) units in the autumn and winter terms and for one (1) unit in the spring.

### Normal time to complete the program

Four (4) years – Two (2) years (seven [7] academic quarters) at LLU – full-time enrollment required

NOTE: Consult advisor regarding other courses that may be applied towards graduation.

