DENTAL HYGIENE — B.S. (COMPLETION)

Program director
Kristi J. Wilkins

The online Dental Hygiene—B.S. (Completion) Program in dental hygiene is designed for licensed dental hygienists who graduated from an Associate in Science degree program, or its equivalent, and wish to complete the baccalaureate (B.S.) degree in dental hygiene. This curriculum is the equivalent of one full academic year. In addition to the degree-completion courses in either education or public health, the student will need to complete any remaining general education requirements needed to earn a baccalaureate degree.

The B.S. degree completion curriculum in dental hygiene is designed to be primarily online, with a requisite teaching or public health component that may be accomplished in the geographical area of the student. This program offers the challenge and quality of a traditional classroom, yet provides the flexibility to fit education into the life of the busy dental professional. Students can study at their own convenience, learn in small groups with expert faculty, and meet career goals at their own speed.

Students who tend to be the most successful in this type of program are self-directed, computer literate, and self-motivated in their learning and study habits.

Two areas of focus are included in this curriculum. The first is teaching, which prepares the student to instruct in a dental hygiene program. The second is a public health focus, which will either allow graduates to work in a community/dental public health program or enable them to teach in a dental hygiene program.

- Dental Hygiene—Education Track
- Dental Hygiene—Public Health Track

Program goals

The Loma Linda University B.S. degree completion curriculum in dental hygiene offers an opportunity for dental hygienists to further their education beyond the certificate or associate degree level. This online program is designed to guide students in developing the knowledge, skills, attitudes, and values necessary for positions of responsibility in a variety of health-care, educational, research, and community settings.

The curriculum will:

1. Provide the student with knowledge to successfully apply critical thinking and evidence-based decision making in all aspects of dental hygiene practice.
2. Equip the student with the skills to teach in public/community health or educational settings.
3. Prepare the student to effectively communicate in diverse settings, utilizing a variety of methods.
4. Advance student awareness of wholeness and ethics in educational or public/community health settings.
5. Foster student commitment to lifelong learning and career development.

Student learning outcomes

Students who graduate with a Bachelor of Science degree in dental hygiene will meet the University outcomes (http://llucatalog.llu.edu/about-university/institutional-learning-outcomes), as well as the following student learning outcomes (SLOs) for the B.S. degree in dental hygiene completion program.

Graduating Dental Hygiene—B.S. (Completion) Program students will be able to:

1. Retrieve, interpret, and evaluate research for evidence-based decision making.
2. Utilize the principles of adult learning in allied dental or public/community health education settings.
3. Demonstrate skills in communication practices, including the gathering, integrating, and conveying of information in written and oral forms.
4. Recognize the language of ethics that incorporates social and cultural diversity and professional responsibility.
5. Integrate a lifelong learning approach through self-reflection and through academic and professional achievements.

Accreditation

Loma Linda University is regionally accredited by the WASC Senior College and University Commission (WSCUC), 985 Atlantic Avenue, Suite 100, Alameda, CA 94501; telephone: 510/748-9001; fax: 510/748-9797; Web site: <http://www.wascsenior.org> or <http://www.wascsenior.org/contact>.

Admissions

Application for admission to this online curriculum must be submitted by February 1 for the class beginning the following Autumn Quarter. The curriculum may be completed on a full- or part-time basis. Basic requirements and credentials for admission include:

- Graduation from a dental hygiene A.S. degree program accredited by the Commission on Dental Accreditation.
- Successful completion of the Dental Hygiene National Board Examination.
- Successful completion of a state or regional clinical board examination.
- Current RDH license in any U.S. state.

All applicants must provide the following:

- All college transcripts.
- Applications submitted starting September 15. The application is available at <http://www.adea.org>.
- Three letters of reference, including one from the director of the accredited dental hygiene program from which the applicant graduated.

Program requirements

All students graduating from Loma Linda University with a B.S. degree in dental hygiene must have completed all of the prerequisites, including the four domains for general education. Should any prerequisite be lacking, it must be completed at a four-year college or university before or during the degree completion curriculum at Loma Linda University School of Dentistry.

Education

Core
### Dental Hygiene — B.S. (Completion)

Minimum grade of C- required on all the following courses including those in the concentration:

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course Code</th>
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<tbody>
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<td>Introduction to Grant Writing</td>
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<tr>
<td>DNHY 421</td>
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<td>DNHY 444</td>
<td>Teaching Practicum</td>
<td>3</td>
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<tr>
<td>DNHY 446</td>
<td>Principles of Clinical Instruction</td>
<td>3</td>
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<tr>
<td>DNHY 464</td>
<td>Evidence-based Decision Making</td>
<td>2</td>
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<td>DNHY 478</td>
<td>Advanced Clinical Concepts</td>
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<td>DNHY 498</td>
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<td>2</td>
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<tr>
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<td>Research Writing</td>
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<tr>
<td>RELE 457</td>
<td>Christian Ethics and Health Care</td>
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**Total Units:** 39

1. Variable-unit course: minimum 2 units required. Additional units may be added.

2. LLU DH AS graduates will substitute RELR 475.

3. LLU DH AS graduates will substitute RELT 436.

**NOTE:** Consult advisor regarding other courses that may be applied to the curriculum.

### Normal time to complete the program

2 years (6 academic quarters) based on half-time enrollment

### Comparison

See the comparison (http://llucatalog.llu.edu/dentistry/dental-hygiene-completion/comparison) of the Education and Public Health tracks of this program.

### Public Health

#### Core

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**Total Units:** 39

1. Variable-unit course: minimum 2 units required. Additional units may be added.

2. LLU DH AS graduates will substitute RELR 475.

3. LLU DH AS graduates will substitute RELT 436.
Courses

DNHY 216. Oral Health and Preventive Dentistry. 2 Units.
Introduces preventive dentistry concepts, including the history of dentistry and dental hygiene in oral health promotion and disease prevention. Emphasizes the prevention of oral diseases through effective patient education and motivation, including current theories and principles of psychology as they relate to learning and teaching, personality development and change, and interpersonal processes and dynamics in oral health-care education. Includes instruction in oral health-care techniques for clinical application during concurrent preclinical laboratory sessions.

DNHY 217. Community Oral Health Theory. 2 Units.

DNHY 218. Community Oral Health Practicum. 2 Units.
Fieldwork in local schools and the community.

DNHY 290. Research Design and Biostatistics. 3 Units.
Introduces research methodology. Fundamentals of statistical analysis and critique of research data in scientific literature. Student reviews literature and designs proposal in preparation for community oral health practicum.

DNHY 303. Dental Materials and Techniques. 2 Units.
Materials and equipment used in dentistry. Practice in the manipulation and use of common materials. Includes a laboratory component.

DNHY 305. Oral Anatomy Lecture. 2 Units.
Anatomy of the teeth and surrounding tissues.

DNHY 305L. Oral Anatomy Laboratory. 1 Unit.
Laboratory for DNHY 305, Oral Anatomy Lecture.

DNHY 309. Radiology I. 3 Units.

DNHY 310. Radiology II. 3 Units.
Continues laboratory techniques. Intraoral and extraoral radiographic interpretation—including anatomy, pathology, and interpretation of the disease process of the oral hard tissues. Basic fundamentals of radiographic selection criteria. Includes laboratory component.

DNHY 321. Preclinical Dental Hygiene I Lecture. 2 Units.
Preclinical phases of dental hygiene, including instrumentation techniques, patient management, intra- and extraoral soft-tissue assessment, charting procedures, disease processes, patient-health assessment, basic operatory preparation, clinical asepsis, and oral health-care techniques.

DNHY 321L. Preclinical Dental Hygiene I Laboratory. 2 Units.
Laboratory course for DNHY 321, Preclinical Dental Hygiene I.

DNHY 322. Preclinical Dental Hygiene II Lecture. 2 Units.
Continues DNHY 321. Prerequisite: DNHY 321.

DNHY 322L. Preclinical Dental Hygiene II Laboratory. 2 Units.
Laboratory course for DNHY 322, Preclinical Dental Hygiene II Laboratory. Prerequisite: DNHY 321, DNHY 321L.

DNHY 323. Preclinical Dental Hygiene III. 2 Units.
Continues DNHY 322. site or concurrent*: DNHY 321, DNHY 322*, DNHY 321L, DNHY 322L*.

DNHY 323L. Preclinical Laboratory. 1 Unit.
Laboratory course for DNHY 323, Preclinical Laboratory. Prerequisite or concurrent*: DNHY 321L, DNHY 322L*. DNHY 321, DNHY 322*.

DNHY 328. Dental Hygiene Portfolio Practicum. 1 Unit.
Student develops a capstone project to show evidence of personal growth and success in the dental hygiene core competencies.

DNHY 375. Dental Hygiene Clinic. 1 Unit.
Clinical application of skills and techniques of dental hygiene. Prophylaxes on pediatric and adult patients.

DNHY 376. Dental Hygiene Clinic. 4 Units.
Continues DNHY 375. Prerequisite or concurrent: DNHY 375.

DNHY 380. Medically Compromised Patients. 2 Units.
Lectures dealing with the medically compromised patient relative to the use of local anesthetics, drug interactions, need for antibiotic premedication, and necessary modification in treatment planning. Repeated registrations required to fulfill total units.

DNHY 381. Pharmacology for the Dental Hygienist I. 2 Units.
Introduces the basic principles of pharmacology. Emphasizes the use, actions, and clinical implications/contraindications to medications used by dental patients.

DNHY 382. Pharmacology for the Dental Hygienist II. 2 Units.
Continues DNHY 381. Emphasizes application through the use of case studies.

DNHY 390. Introductory Statistics. 2 Units.
Fundamentals of statistical analysis and critique of research data in scientific literature and in student research projects. Inferential and descriptive statistics, frequency distribution, histograms, bar graphs, and statistical tests. Computer applications in preparing and analyzing research data. Domain II.

DNHY 391. Introduction to Grant Writing. 2 Units.
An overview of the basic principles and practice of effective public health and education grant writing. Introduces students to the processes, structures, factors, and essential skills required to develop competitive proposals. Familiarizes students with key elements in proposal preparation; differentiates foundation (private) and government (public) grants and grant making; identifies prospective funding sources; and engages students in the grant review process.

DNHY 392. Grant Writing II. 2 Units.
Continues DNHY 391, Introduction to Grant Writing I. Guides students through the development of a private (foundation) grant proposal, including project need and evaluation, design, and budget preparation. Familiarizes students with the key elements of preparing public (federal) grant applications. Prerequisite: DNHY 391.

DNHY 400. Oral Disease Management. 2 Units.
An overview of the role of the oral health professional in the management of individuals with oral disease. Explores the process of care, with a focus on the evidence-based pathophysiology of common oral disease conditions—such as, dental caries, periodontal diseases, and oral pathology.

DNHY 405. Introduction to Periodontics. 2 Units.
Reviews gross and microscopic anatomy of the periodontium in health and disease. Primary etiology of periodontal disease. Examines patient’s clinical periodontal status. Introduces the diagnostic and treatment-planning process.
DNHY 406. Orthodontics Concepts for Dental Hygiene. 1 Unit.

DNHY 408. Professional Ethics. 2 Units.
Develops understanding of hygienist’s obligations to the public and to his/her professional association. Defines the ethical and mature conduct expected of professional health-care providers. Compares and contrasts professional ethics and personal morality as they relate to dental hygiene practice.

DNHY 409. Jurisprudence and Practice Management. 2 Units.
Laws and regulations that govern the practice of dental hygiene, with special emphasis on California regulations. Standards of government regulations. Obligations of the hygienist to the public and to his/her profession.

DNHY 410. Cultural Competency in Health Care. 2 Units.
Explores cultural competency as it relates to the health, illness, and healing beliefs in caring for people from diverse backgrounds. Addresses Christian perspectives on wholeness.

DNHY 411. Dental Hygiene Topics I. 2 Units.
Student develops advanced hygiene-care planning skills, with emphasis on knowledge synthesis. Topics cover aspects of patient care, including whole-patient care and patients with special needs.

DNHY 412. Dental Hygiene Topics II. 2 Units.
Continues instruction in advanced clinical skills. Areas covered include pulp vitality, dentinal hypersensitivity, esthetic whitening procedures, chemotherapeutic agents, and use of technology for the dental hygiene process of care.

DNHY 413. Dental Hygiene Topics III. 2 Units.
Topics related to employment for dental hygienists. Additional topics include various opportunities in the dental hygiene profession and educational advancement strategies.

DNHY 414. Personal Finance. 2 Units.
Personal finance topics, including credit, taxes, insurance, real estate, budgeting, housing, and inflation.

DNHY 415. Applied Nutrition. 2 Units.
Basic concepts of nutrition. Balance, adequacy, nutrient density, dietary choice, weight management, nutrition, and oral health. Addresses nutritional needs of children and the aged, and medically and dentally compromised patients. Dietary assessment and counseling.

DNHY 416. Dental Health Education I. 2 Units.
Current theories and principles of psychology as they relate to learning and teaching, personality development and change, and interpersonal processes and dynamics.

DNHY 417. Dental Health Education II. 2 Units.
Principles and practices involved in teaching dental public health. Fieldwork in local schools and community. Methods and practice of professional presentation.

DNHY 419. Essentials of Public Health for Dental Hygienists. 3 Units.
Public health background, issues and concepts—including history from ancient times to HMOs; definitions, organization and infrastructure; function, practices, programs, and services. Contributions of important public health practitioners. Political, social, and economic considerations of public health programs.

DNHY 421. Research I. 2 Units.
Introduces research methodology. Evaluates literature, emphasizing statistics adequate for interpretation of the literature. Student reviews literature and designs a research proposal in preparation for professional presentation of a table clinic or informational project. In progress (IP) given until completion of all units for this course.

DNHY 422. Research II. 2 Units.
Review and emphasis of research methodology. Develops literature review, emphasizing statistics adequate for interpretation of the literature. Student continues to develop a research proposal in preparation for professional presentation of a table clinic or informational project. Student conducts research experiment or project culminating in presentation of the results at a professional meeting. In progress (IP) given until completion of all units for this course.

DNHY 425. Educational Psychology for Health Professionals. 3 Units.
Fundamentals of psychological principles related to learning in professional and higher education. Major theories of learning and behavior change, as well as research in the areas of cognitive, social, emotional, and moral development. Emphasizes the nature of learning at all age levels, motivation, communication skills; and the influence of cultural, racial, gender, ethnic, and socioeconomic diversity; and stimulates high-level thinking and problem solving.

DNHY 428. Health-Care Management. 3 Units.
Management theory, planning, organizing, directing, and controlling (including budgetary controls). Department productivity and theories of work simplification. Preparation of resumes, interviewing skills, professional attitudes, group theory, and group dynamics. Students spend the last two-to-three weeks doing special projects designed and supervised by their department.

DNHY 431. Public Health Dentistry. 3 Units.
Philosophy, principles, language, and objectives of public health and public health dentistry. Critical review of the literature.

DNHY 435. Special Topics in Periodontal Therapy. 2 Units.
Studies advanced periodontal topics and special problems related to periodontal therapy.

DNHY 436. Ethical and Legal Principles in Education. 2 Units.
Discusses theoretical and practical applications of the ethical and legal principles and issues encountered in an educational setting.

DNHY 437. Ethical and Legal Principles in Public Health for the Dental Hygienist. 2 Units.
Discusses theoretical and practical applications of the ethical and legal principles and issues encountered in public health settings.

DNHY 441. Principles of Education I. 3 Units.
Introduces methods of effective instruction and curriculum design for adult learners. Topics include learning and teaching styles, development of course goals, learning outcomes and objectives, teaching methods and strategies for face-to-face and online instructional presentations, public education, in-service, and continuing education; and cultivation of respect for diversity in learning.
DNHY 442. Principles of Education II. 3 Units.
Integrates knowledge and skills related to educational methodology with emphasis on experiential teaching; outcomes assessments, including test construction and implementation; curriculum vitae and resume writing; accreditation, leadership in higher education; and promotion and tenure. Students prepare and present lectures and develop an examination for a didactic course. Prerequisite: DNHY 441.

DNHY 444. Teaching Practicum. 3 Units.
Develops the student teacher’s skills in the preparation and presentation of didactic material relevant to the education of dental hygiene students. Provides practical experience in teaching methods through active participation in all aspects of the assigned didactic or laboratory.

DNHY 446. Principles of Clinical Instruction. 3 Units.
Provides students experience in developing criteria and methods for teaching strategies and evaluation mechanisms to be used in preclinical and clinical instruction. Emphasizes clinical evaluation procedures and the skills and strategies utilized to promote interpersonal and psychomotor skill development in students.

DNHY 449. Treating the Special-Needs Patient. 3 Units.
Develops the student-teacher’s ability not only to identify patients with special care needs, but also to recognize and understand the appropriate care alternatives. Addresses the role of commonly prescribed medications used for treatment to determine if treatment modifications are appropriate.

DNHY 450. Junior Clinical Seminar. 1 Unit.
A two-quarter course that introduces topics and issues directly and indirectly related to the comprehensive practice of dental hygiene.

DNHY 451. Clinical Seminar I. 1 Unit.
Topics and issues related to clinical competency and development of critical-thinking skills through the use of patient-care examples and class discussion.

DNHY 452. Clinical Seminar II. 1 Unit.
Topics and issues related to clinical competency and preparation for the clinical board examination. Student development of advanced patient-care plans.

DNHY 453. Clinical Seminar III. 1 Unit.
Topics and issues related to clinical competency. Presentation of advanced patient-care plans. Prerequisite or concurrent: DNHY 452.

DNHY 455. Evidence-based Decision Making. 2 Units.
Introduces students to use of the Web for instructional purposes. Students evaluate the usefulness of various on-line journals and databases, as well as conduct productive database literature searches. Critical analysis of scientific publications provides practice applying formal rules of evaluating and ranking scientific evidence.

DNHY 475. Dental Hygiene Clinic I. 4 Units.
Integrates all components of oral health care into the clinical treatment of patients.

DNHY 476. Dental Hygiene Clinic II. 4 Units.
Integrates all components of oral health care into the clinical treatment of patients. Prerequisite or concurrent: DNHY 475.

DNHY 477. Dental Hygiene Clinic III. 4 Units.
Integrates all components of oral health care into the clinical treatment of patients. Prerequisite for concurrent*: DNHY 475, DNHY 476*.

DNHY 478. Advanced Clinical Concepts. 2 Units.
Reviews advanced skills in dental hygiene instrumentation needed as a clinical educator. Topics include alternative fulcrums and hand positions, uses of specialty instruments, and alternative techniques for instrumentation and clinician ergonomics.

DNHY 495. Dental Hygiene National Board Preparation. 1,2 Unit.
Lecture and case-based reviews of the entire dental hygiene curriculum, including, but not limited to: prerequisite basic sciences; preclinical, laboratory, and clinical sciences; and behavioral sciences. Reviews in preparation for the dental hygiene national board examination directly related to concurrent test-taking skill workshops based on standardized testing evidence for success.

DNHY 497. Advanced Shadowing Experience. 12 Units.
An elective course open to students seeking shadowing experience in dental hygiene. Credits do not count toward an academic degree.

DNHY 498. Dental Hygiene Directed Study. 1-10 Units.
Independent research on problems/topics related to dentistry, dental hygiene, and dental education; collaboration with researcher/faculty member. Written report required. Prerequisite: DNHY 421, DNHY 422, DNHY 390.

DNHY 499. Research Writing. 2 Units.
Elective course for students wishing to write their research study for submission to professional journals for possible publication.