

DENTAL CHAIRSIDE ASSISTANT CERTIFICATE

COURSE CODE	COURSE TITLE	CREDITS
Program Courses		
DEN102	DENTAL SCIENCES	2
DEN105	DENTAL SPECIALTIES W/LAB	3
DEN106	PREVENTION W/LAB	2
DEN107	DENTAL MATERIALS W/LAB	3
DEN108	DENTAL OFFICE PROCEDURES	2
DEN109	PRECLINICAL ORIENTATION W/LAB	3
DEN113	GENERAL AND ORAL HEALTH SCIENCES	2
DEN124	CHAIRSIDE ASSISTING I	4
DEN126	CHAIRSIDE ASSISTING II	1
DEN257	DENTAL RADIOLOGY W/LAB	3
General Education		
FYS101	FIRST-YEAR SEMINAR	1
COM200	PUBLIC SPEAKING	3
ENG103	ENGLISH COMPOSITION I	3
<i>Minimum total credits required</i>		32

DEPARTMENT CHAIR

Carmen Hufcut, M.S.D.H., R.D.H.

Email: chufcut@LincolnCollegeNE.edu

Campus Extension: 40921; Administrative Assistant: 40929; Dental Clinic (patients only): (860) 426-0467

PROGRAM ACCREDITATION: The dental chairside assistant program is accredited by the Commission on Dental. The Commission on Dental Accreditation is a specialized accrediting body recognized by the United States Department of Education. The Commission may be contacted at (312) 440-4653 or at 211 East Chicago Avenue, Chicago, IL 60611.

PROGRAM OVERVIEW: This program prepares the student to become a highly skilled dental chairside assistant and to function effectively as an integral member of the dental team. The student is taught dental chairside assisting and related office and laboratory procedures under direct professional supervision.

PROGRAM OUTCOMES

- Demonstrate desirable, ethical attitudes and work habits, oral and written communication skills, creative thinking, problem solving, ethical judgment, self-reliance, team cooperation, acceptance of change, commitment to life-long learning, and support of diversity and technology usage.
- Become efficient at infection control techniques, four-handed dentistry, and intra-oral radiographs and radiation safety.
- Secure an entry level chair-side assisting position within a dental healthcare setting.

DEN102 Dental Sciences

2

This course is a basic approach to dental sciences: oral microbiology, oral pathology, and dental pharmacology. Topics include various systemic and local conditions that have direct influence on oral conditions. Special coverage is given to the dental assistant's role in the identification, and management of various dental and medical emergencies.

Prerequisite: DEN101, DEN111, and MED207; or DEN109 and DEN113*

DEN105 Dental Specialties W/Lab

3

This course is an introduction to general and specialty dental procedures and appropriate dental instrumentation. An overview of dental specialties enables students to develop an understanding of prosthodontics, endodontics, periodontics, pediatric dentistry, oral, and maxillofacial surgery. Supervised laboratory practice enables the student to acquire the necessary skills for proficient chairside assisting in each dental specialty.

Co-requisites: DEN101, DEN111, DEN109; or DEN109 and DEN113*

DEN106 Prevention W/Lab

2

This course defines the intricate role of the dental assistant in patient education and the prevention of various dental diseases. Topics highlighted include plaque control, dietary analysis, and the development and implementation of age appropriate dental lesson plans. Laboratory and clinical sessions enable the student to develop assisting skills during oral physiotherapy, dental prophylaxis, dental fluoride treatments, and dental sealants.

*Prerequisite: DEN109, MED207, DEN105 or DEN105 and DEN109**

DEN107 Dental Materials w/ lab

3

This introductory level course examines the basic composition and properties of laboratory and clinical dental materials used in the field of dentistry. Instructional practice will enable the dental assisting student to acquire the necessary skills in the preparation and manipulation of various dental materials. Special considerations surrounding the dental assistant's role during procedures that involve the use of dental materials will be presented in both the dental laboratory and clinical setting.

*Co-requisites: DEN109, DEN105, MED207; or DEN105 DEN109**

DEN108 Dental Office Procedures**2**

This course introduces basic dental administrative office procedures; and reviews appropriate communication skills in the dental business office environment. Dental patient management skills are taught by learning to navigate various dental software that encompasses patient record keeping, patient scheduling, patient billing, and various insurance payment plans. Topics will include general inventory, and ordering of dental equipment and supplies for the dental office.

Prerequisite: DEN105, DEN109

DEN109* Preclinical Orientation W/Lab**3**

This introductory course orients students with their role as dental assistants in a clinical environment. The student is taught the guidelines for infection and hazard control in a dental health care setting. Emphasis is placed on appropriate patient care delivery, and the dental assistants' role in the patient clinical assessment process. The course includes training and completion of cognitive and skill set evaluations in accordance with the curriculum of the, American Heart Association, BLS for Healthcare Providers (CPR and AED Program). Clinical practice includes the use of proper personal protective equipment, appropriate dental room disinfection procedures, and complete instrument sterilization techniques. Clinical procedures include demonstration of dental equipment preparation, care, and function. Chairside student procedures are limited to practice on dental manikins. Supervised instruction is provided for students during all procedures.

Co-requisites: DEN1105, DEN113

DEN113 General and Oral Health Sciences**2**

This introductory course presents an overview of the structure and function of cells, tissues, organs, and systems in the human body. Emphasis is placed in the study of the head and neck, as topics include the bones and muscles of the skull, and the blood and nerve supply to these regions. Students are taught tooth developmental stages, eruption patterns, histology and embryology of tooth structures and anatomical landmarks of the head and neck, the effects of prenatal development on the development of oral structures, dental terminology, various tooth identification techniques, and tooth numbering systems for both the primary and permanent dentitions. Study includes the relationship of various physical conditions to oral health and oral treatment.

DEN124 Chairside Assisting Practice I**4**

Students are assigned internships at various community dental healthcare facilities. Dental healthcare facilities provide an environment that links the dental chairside assisting students to their role in the patient dental care delivery system. Supervised clinical and laboratory instruction is conducted during a 12-week internship process (252 clinical hours). This internship site provides an environment to further develop the knowledge, skills, and responsibilities of the dental assistant in the public sector. Faculty members assess students' progress in the review of clinical evaluation logs pertaining to professionalism, communication and dental chairside assisting skills. Seminar sessions are scheduled between the faculty/clinical coordinator and students to review procedural case studies and individual progress during internship process. *Prerequisite: Completion of all first term courses*

DEN126 Chairside Assisting Practice II**1**

Students are assigned internships at private dental practices. Supervised clinical and laboratory instruction is conducted during a 2-week internship process (64 clinical hours). This internship site provides an environment that reinforces the theory and practice of the dental chairside assistant in the private sector. Faculty assesses the students' clinical observation evaluations, and determines if requirements are fulfilled for program completion.

Prerequisite: DEN124

DEN257 Dental Radiology w/ Lab**3**

This course defines the role of the dental radiographer. Topics include X-ray characteristics, radiation biology, infection control protocol, quality assurance, and legal considerations for the dental radiographer. Emphasis is placed on achieving successful intra and extra oral radiography using the paralleling, bisecting angle, panoramic and occlusal techniques. Students are taught to expose, process, mount, and evaluate dental radiographs both traditional and digitally. The dental hygiene student is taught to identify and compare normal and abnormal anatomical conditions and oral diseases through dental radiographic interpretation. Dental Hygiene Students' laboratory practice requires the usage of dental radiology manikins and patient requirements. Supervised instruction is provided for students during all dental radiographic procedures including patient care

Prerequisite: SC1122