

## **Dental Hygiene**

### **AAS in Dental Hygiene**

#### **Competencies**

##### **General Education Competencies:**

##### **I. Communicate Effectively**

1. Read and listen with comprehension.
2. Speak and write clearly using standard English.
3. Interact cooperatively with others using both verbal and non-verbal means.
4. Demonstrate information processing through basic computer skills.

##### **II. Think Critically**

1. Make connections in learning across the disciplines and draw logical conclusions.
2. Demonstrate problem solving through interpreting, analyzing, summarizing, and/or integrating a variety of materials.
3. Use mathematics to organize, analyze, and synthesize data.

##### **III. Learn Independently**

1. Use appropriate search strategies and resources to find, evaluate, and use information.
2. Make choices based upon awareness of ethics and differing perspectives/ideas.
3. Apply learning in academic, personal, and public situations.
4. Think creatively to develop new ideas, processes, or products.

##### **IV. Examine Relationships in Diverse and Complex Environments**

1. Recognize the relationship of the individual to human heritage and culture.
2. Analyze the relationship of the individual to the biological and physical environment.
3. Develop an awareness of self as an individual member of a multicultural global community.

#### **Dental Hygiene Competencies:**

Upon completion of the program, the graduate should be able to:

1. Provide for the oral health needs of individuals and communities by assessing, developing, implementing and evaluating a plan of care.
2. Provide oral health care that is tailored to the specific needs of persons with a variety of medical, physical or emotional conditions.
3. Recognize and assist in the management of medical and dental emergencies.
4. Perform oral prophylaxis including periodontal debridement, scaling, root planing, and selective polishing.
5. Utilize concepts of preventive dental care.
6. Utilize aseptic technique and universal (standard) precautions.
7. Participate in health-related activities in the community.
8. Demonstrate behavior in the best interest of the patient.
9. Perform decision-making and management skills.
10. Recognize the need for, expose, process and mount diagnostically acceptable radiographs.
11. Recognize normal landmarks and conditions as well as pathological entities that appear on radiographs.
12. Describe the properties and demonstrate the utilization of dental materials.
13. Acknowledge that dental hygiene practice is governed by individual state practice acts.
14. Identify professional goals and activities.
15. Recognize the need to update professional skills and knowledge.