

## College of Health Professions Dental Hygiene

### **Bachelor's Degree Completion Program**

The bachelor's degree completion program (BSDH) at Wichita State University consists of the associate degree dental hygiene courses, the University's General Education requirements, and 21 BSDH credit hours. These 21 credit hours consist of 5 required courses and 2 electives.

The required courses are:

- DH 420 Teaching Methods in Dental Hygiene,
- DH 452 Community Oral Health Management,
- DH 468 Field Externship,
- DH 470 Issues in Dental Hygiene, and
- HMCD 320 Overview of Health Services Delivery.

Electives include:

- DH 462 Special Projects in Dental Hygiene,
- DH 481 Cooperative Education,
- PHS 308 Leadership in Self and Society,
- HS 400 Pathophysiology and
- CESP 704 Intro to Educational Statistics.

### **Dental Hygiene Courses at a Distance**

**DH 420** - is on Blackboard, but also has a student teaching requirement of 16 clock hours. If it is not possible to do the student teaching at WSU, it can be done at a dental assisting program or dental hygiene program provided you can make arrangements with a program where you can complete your student teaching.

**DH 452** - is also a Blackboard course. In this course, we study how oral health is managed in community settings, particularly for those who have difficulty accessing care in a dental office. The focus groups studied in this course are young children, the elderly, those with disabilities, indigent or dentally indigent, and isolated due to living in a rural area without a dentist or culturally isolated. This course involves projects in the community to find out how oral health is managed for members of the focus groups, which may include field trips and interviews. These can be done in your community; they do not have to be done in Wichita.

**DH 468** - must be taken after completion of DH 452. In the Field Externship, you plan a project, which must be approved by the course instructor, do the project, evaluate the results or outcomes, and write a report of the project. The project can be a community project, such as a fluoride varnish program in a local Head Start, or can be a clinical project in your dental office. Some of the clinical projects students have done in dental offices have involved evaluating the

results of local antimicrobial therapy in treating periodontal disease, and a caries control program.

**DH 470** - is offered in the fall semester as a seminar course. For those unable to attend class at WSU on Thursday mornings, a distance education version is available.

### **WSU Requirements for a Bachelor's Degree Completion Program**

A total of 124 credit hours:

- 45 credit hours in 300 and 400 level courses,
- at least 30 credit hours must be taken at WSU, and
- 24 out of the last 30 or 50 of the last 60 hours must be taken at WSU.

For those who have graduated from another dental hygiene program, WSU has approved our department's proposal for retroactive credit. Students in the BSDH program may receive up to 25 upper division WSU credit hours for dental hygiene coursework taken at another accredited dental hygiene program. These credit hours will be given in the final semester of the BSDH program, and will count toward the upper division credit hour requirement as well as the WSU credit hour requirement.

For information about admission to WSU, call the University Admissions Office, 1-800-362-2594.

The WSU Application for Admission is available on line at [www.wichita.edu](http://www.wichita.edu) under the Student Resources Admissions link. For academic advising and information about the General Education requirements, and which of your courses would transfer as general education courses, contact the College of Health Professions Student Services Office at 1-800-340-7472.