



INSTRUCTIONAL PACKAGE

DAT121
Dental Health Education

Effective Term
Spring 2026

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Part I: Course Information

Effective Term: Spring 2026

COURSE PREFIX: DAT121

COURSE TITLE: Dental Health Education

CONTACT HOURS: 2

CREDIT HOURS: 2

RATIONALE FOR THE COURSE:

This course introduces the Expanded Duty Dental Assistant to oral health and preventive techniques. They will also learn how to Communicate and understand patients from various cultural backgrounds. Gain a better understand of nutrition and how it impacts overall health.

COURSE DESCRIPTION:

This course defines the responsibilities of the dental assistant in individual and community dental health education with emphasis on the etiology of dental disease, methods for prevention, and principles of nutrition in relationship to oral health and preventive dentistry.

PREREQUISITES/CO-REQUISITES:

PREREQUISITES:

DAT 113Dental Materials

DAT 118Dental Morphology

DAT 127Dental Radiology

DAT 154 Clinical Procedures I

DAT 174 Office Rotations

CO-REQUISITES:

DAT 115 Ethics Professionalism

DAT 122 Dental Office Management

DAT 123 Oral Medicine/Oral Biology

DAT 174 Dental Office Rotations

DAT 183 Specialty Functions

REQUIRED MATERIALS:

Please visit the [BOOKSTORE](#) online site for most current textbook information.

Enter the semester, course prefix, number and section when prompted and you will be linked to

the correct textbook.

ADDITIONAL REQUIREMENTS:

Basic calculator- \$1.25 (a cell phone or tablet calculator cannot be used)

TECHNICAL REQUIREMENTS:

Access to Desire2Learn (D2L), HGTC's learning management system (LMS) used for course materials.

Access to myHGTC portal for student self-services.

College email access – this is the college's primary official form of communication.

STUDENT IDENTIFICATION VERIFICATION

Students enrolled in online courses will be required to complete identity verification. Please refer to your Instructor Information Sheet for information regarding this requirement.

CLASSROOM ETIQUETTE:

As a matter of courtesy to other students and your professor, please turn off cell phones and other communication/entertainment devices before class begins. If you are monitoring for an emergency, please notify your professor prior to class and switch cell phone ringers to vibrate.

* PLEASE REFER TO THE HGTC DENTAL SCIENCES PROGRAM MANUAL FOR ADDITIONAL POLICES ON CLASSROOM ETIQUETTE.

NETIQUETTE: is the term commonly used to refer to conventions adopted by Internet users on the web, mailing lists, public forums, and in live chat focused on online communications etiquette. For more information regarding Netiquette expectations for distance learning courses, please visit [Online Netiquette](#).

Part II: Student Learning Outcomes

COURSE LEARNING OUTCOMES and ASSESSMENTS*:

Upon completion of DAT 121 Dental Health Education, the student will be able to demonstrate competency of the following:

1. Discuss and demonstrate the use of a variety of oral health aids.
2. Identify the appropriateness of an aid based on patient need, including aids relating to removable and permanently affixed dental appliances.
3. Explain the role of soft and hard deposits in the progression of dental and periodontal diseases.
4. Explain tobacco use, cessation, cessation initiatives, and relevance regarding dental

health.

5. Identify and discuss oral abnormalities/variants which possibly reflect nutritional deficiencies and/or other such related nutritional health risks.
6. Discuss and demonstrate specialized oral health instruction as it relates to a patient's nutritional status and its relationship with the existing dental status by providing analysis of current dietary intake and recommended changes towards health.

LECTURE LEARNING OUTCOMES

Module 1

Material Covered: Halstead & Phinney, Ch. 2 Psychology, Communication, and Multicultural Interaction

Assessments: Quizzes, Tests, Homework, Projects

Objectives:

1. Define psychology and paradigm.
2. Differentiate the terms used in verbal and nonverbal communication.
3. Demonstrate how the following body language is used in nonverbal communication behavior: spatial, posture, facial expression, gestures, and perception.
4. Discuss how Maslow's hierarchy of needs is used, and how it relates to communication in today's dental office.
5. Discuss how defense mechanisms can inhibit communication.
6. Identify and explain dental patient phobias and concerns.
7. Describe how different generations communicate and how that affects.
8. Discuss techniques to communicate with people from different cultures.

Module 2

Material Covered: Halstead & Phinney, Ch. 16 Oral Health and Preventive Techniques

Assessments: Quizzes, Tests, Homework, Projects

Objectives:

1. Describe how plaque forms and affects the tooth.
2. Identify oral hygiene tips that will aid each age group.
3. Identify the oral hygiene aids, including manual and automatic, available to all patients.
4. Demonstrate toothbrushing techniques.
5. Identify types of dental floss and demonstrate flossing technique.
6. Describe fluoride and its use in dentistry.
7. Define fluoridation and describe its effects on tooth development and the post-eruption stage.
8. List and explain the forms of fluoride. Describe how to prepare a patient and demonstrate a fluoride application.

Module 3

Materials Covered: Sroda and Reinhard, Ch. 1 and 2 Eating 101 and Carbohydrates

Assessments: Quizzes, Tests, Homework, Projects

Objectives:

1. Describe the difference between a food habit and food craving.
2. Explain the relationship between portion distortion and obesity.
3. Outline the journey of food as it makes its way through the body.
4. Name both chemical and nutritive classifications of carbohydrates and how it is digested.
5. Discuss the difference between a monosaccharide, disaccharide, and polysaccharide.
6. Explain the digestion of carbohydrates in the body.
7. Describe maintenance of blood glucose level and outline the steps involved in reducing excess blood glucose and releasing glucose when the level is low.
8. Differentiate between an insoluble fiber and soluble fiber

Module 4

Material Covered: Sroda & Reinhard, Ch. 3 & 4 Protein & Lipids

Assessments: Quizzes, Tests, Homework, Projects

Objectives:

1. Discuss the benefits of protein in the diet and how it effects the body.
2. Identity the essential and nonessential amino acids.
3. The primary role of lipids and phospholipids in the body.
4. Identify the three major categories of lipids.
5. Explain the process of hydrogenation and its relationship to trans fats.

Module 5

Materials Covered: Sroda & Reinhard, Ch. 5 & 6 Vitamins & Minerals

Assessments: Quizzes, Tests, Homework, Projects

Objectives:

1. Identify factors that distinguish between fat-soluble and water-soluble vitamins.
2. State the major functions of vitamins in the body.
3. Discuss the impact that medical conditions and medications can have on the absorption and effectiveness of vitamins.
4. State the five functions of minerals in the body.
5. Outline the digestive process of minerals and vitamins.

Module 6

Materials Covered: Sroda & Reinhard, Ch. 9 Diet and Dental Caries

Assessments: Quizzes, Tests, Homework, Projects

Objectives:

1. Discuss the caries process and factors that increase caries risk
2. Recognize oral symptoms of early childhood caries.
3. Name the bacterial most responsible for metabolizing carbohydrates and identify various acids created in the process.

4. Identify groups most at risk for dental caries

Module 7

Materials Covered: Sroda & Reinhard, Ch. 10 Nutrition and Periodontal Disease

Assessments: Quizzes, Tests, Homework, Projects

Objectives:

1. The link between obesity and periodontal disease
2. Explain the role of dental health care providers in addressing nutrition in the management of periodontal disease
3. Describe the proposed roles of micronutrients and macronutrients in periodontal disease.

Module 8

Materials Covered: Sroda & Reinhard, Ch. 11 Choosing Foods for Health and Fitness

Assessments: Quizzes, Tests, Homework, Projects

Objectives:

1. Explain why the typical American diet is called S.A.D.
2. Understand the food choices that help prevent disease
3. Explain the U.S. Department of Agriculture's (USDA) MyPlate graphic and discuss key points in using it as a resource for healthy eating.
4. Explain tobacco use, cessation, cessation initiatives, and relevance regarding dental health.

****Students – please refer to the Instructor's Course Information sheet for specific information on assessments and due dates.***

GENERAL EDUCATION OUTCOMES:

This course fulfills the following General Education Outcomes through the (list the appropriate assessment – programs should select which GELO applies). Upon completion of this course, students will be able to:

(Check all that apply.)

- ☒ Communication – Students will be able to communicate effectively, orally and/or in written format.
- ☐ Critical thinking – Students will be able to demonstrate higher order of thinking when problem solving.
- ☐ Career Readiness/Lifelong Learning – Students will be able to effectively engage in the professional world or transition to higher level learning.

Part III: Grading and Assessment

EVALUATION OF REQUIRED COURSE MEASURES/ARTIFACTS*:

Students' performance will be assessed, and the weight associated with the various measures/artifacts are listed below.

EVALUATION*

Tests	50%
Oral Health Edu. Presentation	20%
Homework	10%
Quizzes	17%
Professionalism	3%
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	100%

****Students, for the specific number and type of evaluations, please refer to the Instructor's Course Information Sheet.***

****Please refer to your Dental Sciences Program Manual for further information about grading and testing.***

GRADING SYSTEM:

A=90-100

B=80-89

C=77-79

D=70-76

F=69 and below

Grades earned in courses impact academic progression and financial aid status. Before withdrawing from a course, be sure to talk with your instructor and financial aid counselor about the implications of that course of action. Ds, Fs, Ws, WFs and Is also negatively impact academic progression and financial aid status.

The Add/Drop Period is the first 5 days of the semester for **full term** classes. Add/Drop periods are shorter for accelerated format courses. Please refer to the [academic calendar](#) for deadlines for add/drop. You must attend at least one meeting of all your classes during that period. If you do not, you will be dropped from the course(s) and your Financial Aid will be reduced accordingly.

Part IV: Attendance

Horry-Georgetown Technical College maintains a general attendance policy requiring students to be present for a minimum of 80 percent (80%) of their classes in order to receive credit for any course. Due to the varied nature of courses taught at the college, some faculty may require up to 90 percent (90%) attendance. Pursuant to 34 Code of Federal Regulations 228.22 - Return to Title IV Funds, once a student has missed over 20% of the course or has missed two (2) consecutive weeks, the faculty is obligated to withdraw the student, and a student may not be permitted to reenroll. **Instructors define absentee limits for their class at the beginning of each term; please refer to the Instructor Course Information Sheet.**

For online and hybrid courses, check your Instructor's Course Information Sheet for any required on-site meeting times. Please note, instructors may require tests to be taken at approved testing sites, and if you use a testing center other than those provided by HGTC, the center may charge a fee for its services.

Part V: Student Resources



THE STUDENT SUCCESS AND TUTORING CENTER (SSTC):

The SSTC offers to all students the following free resources:

1. Academic tutors for most subject areas, Writing Center support, and Academic Coaching for college success skills.
2. Online tutoring and academic support resources.
3. Professional and interpersonal communication coaching in the EPIC Labs.

Visit the [Student Success & Tutoring Center](#) website for more information. To schedule tutoring or coaching, contact the SSTC at sstc@hgtc.edu or self-schedule in the Penji iOS/Android app or at www.penjiapp.com. Email sstc@hgtc.edu or call SSTC Conway, 349-7872; SSTC Grand Strand, 477-2113; and SSTC Georgetown, 520-1455, or go to the SSTC [Online Resource Center](#) to access on-demand resources.



STUDENT INFORMATION CENTER: TECH Central

TECH Central offers to all students the following free resources:

1. Getting around HGTC: General information and guidance for enrollment, financial aid, registration, and payment plan support!
2. In-person and remote assistance are available for Desire2Learn, Student Portal, Degree Works, and Office 365.
3. Chat with our staff on TECH Talk, our live chat service. TECH Talk can be accessed on the student portal and on TECH Central's website, or by texting questions to (843) 375-8552. Visit the Tech Central website for more information. Live Chat and Center locations are posted on the website. Or please call (843) 349 – TECH (8324), Option # 1.



HGTC LIBRARY:

Each campus location has a library where HGTC students, faculty, and staff may check out materials with their HGTC ID. All three HGTC campus libraries have librarians and staff who can aid with research, computers to support academic research and related school-work, and individual/group study rooms. Printing is available as well at each location. Visit the [Library](#) website for more information or call (843) 349-5268.

STUDENT TESTING:

Testing in an **online/hybrid** course and in **make-up exam** situations may be accomplished in a variety of ways:

- Test administered within D2L.
- Test administered in writing on paper.
- Test administered through Publisher Platforms (which may have a fee associated with the usage)

Furthermore, tests may have time limits and/or require a proctor.

Testing candidates must make their appointments 24 hours in advance.

Students must bring a physical ID in order to take a test.

Proctoring can be accomplished either face-to-face at an approved site or online through our online proctoring service. To find out more about proctoring services, please visit the [Online Testing](#) section of the HGTC's Testing Center webpage.

The **Instructor Information Sheet** will have more details on test requirements for your course.

DISABILITY SERVICES:

HGTC is committed to providing an accessible environment for students with disabilities. Students seeking accommodations are encouraged to visit HGTC's [Accessibility and Disability Service webpage](#) for detailed information.

It is the student's responsibility to self-identify as needing accommodations and to provide appropriate documentation. Once documentation is submitted, the student will participate in an interactive process with Accessibility and Disability Services staff to determine reasonable accommodations. Students may begin the accommodations process at any time; however, accommodations are **not retroactive** and will only be applied from the point at which they are approved. Students must contact the office **each semester** to renew their accommodations.

For assistance, please contact the Accessibility and Disability Services team at disabilityservices@hgtc.edu or 843-796-8818 (call or text).

COUNSELING SERVICES:

HGTC Counseling Services strives to optimize student success through managing personal and academic concerns that may interfere with achieving educational goals. Staff are available to every student for assistance and guidance on personal matters, academic concerns and other areas of concern. HGTC offers free in-person and telehealth counseling services to students. For more information about counseling services, please reach out to counseling@hgtc.edu or visit the website the [Counseling Services webpage](#).

STATEMENT OF EQUAL OPPORTUNITY/NON-DISCRIMINATION STATEMENT:

Our sincere commitment to both effective business management and equitable treatment of our employees requires that we present this Policy Statement as an embodiment of that commitment to the fullest.

Discrimination is conduct that includes unjust or prejudicial treatment based upon an individual's sex, race/color, religion, national origin, age, disability, service in the uniformed services (as defined in state and federal law), veteran status, political ideas, marital or family status, pregnancy, childbirth, or related medical conditions, including, but not limited to, lactation, genetic information, genetic identity, gender expression, or sexual orientation that excludes an individual from participation in, denies the individual the benefits of, treats the individual differently, or otherwise adversely affects a term or condition of a person's working or learning environment. This includes failing to provide reasonable accommodation, consistent with state and federal law, to persons with disabilities.

INQUIRIES REGARDING THE NON-DISCRIMINATION/TITLE IX POLICIES:

Student and prospective student inquiries concerning Section 504, Title II, Title VII, and Title IX and their application to the College or any student decision may be directed to the Vice President for Student Affairs.

Dr. Melissa Batten, VP Student Affairs

Title IX, Section 504, and Title II Coordinator
Building 1100, Room 107A, Conway Campus
PO Box 261966, Conway, SC 29528-6066
843-349-5228
Melissa.Batten@hgtc.edu

Employee and applicant inquiries concerning Section 504, Title II, and Title IX and their application to the College may be directed to the Vice President for Human Resources.

Jacquelyne Snyder, VP Human Resources

Affirmative Action/Equal Opportunity Officer and Title IX Coordinator
Building 200, Room 205B, Conway Campus
PO Box 261966, Conway, SC 29528-6066
843-349-5212
Jacquelyne.Snyder@hgtc.edu

TITLE IX REQUIREMENTS:

Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972 protects students, employees, applicants for admission and employment, and other persons from all forms of sex discrimination.

HGTC prohibits the offenses of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, and stalking and will provide students, faculty, and staff with necessary information regarding prevention, policies, procedures, and resources.

Any student, or other member of the college community, who believes that they have been a victim of sexual harassment, domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, or stalking may file a report with the college's Title IX Coordinator or campus law enforcement*.

*Faculty and Staff are required to report these incidents to the Title IX Coordinator when involving students. The only HGTC employees exempt from mandatory reporting are licensed mental health professionals (only as part of their job description such as counseling services).

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PREGNANCY ACCOMMODATIONS

Under Title IX, colleges must not exclude a pregnant student from participating in any part of an educational program. Horry-Georgetown Technical College is committed to ensuring that pregnant students receive reasonable accommodations to ensure access to our educational programs.

Students should advise the Title IX Coordinator of a potential need for accommodations as soon as they know they are pregnant. It is extremely important that communication between student, instructors, and the Title IX Coordinator begin as soon as possible. Each situation is unique and will be addressed individually.

Title IX accommodations DO NOT apply to Financial Aid. Financial Aid regulations do not give the College any discretion in terms of Financial Aid eligibility.

Certain educational programs may have strict certification requirements or requirements mandated by outside regulatory agencies. Therefore, in some programs, the application of Title IX accommodations may be limited.

To request pregnancy accommodations, please complete the *Pregnancy Intake Form* that can be found [here](#).