DENTAL HYGIENE - ASSOCIATE OF APPLIED SCIENCE

Doña Ana Community College 2026-2027 Catalog
(102 credits)

Note: Students must earn a final grade of C- or better in ENGL 1110G Composition I and MATH 1220G College Algebra per DACC guidelines; however, the Dental Hygiene program strongly recommends students earn a C or better in those courses. Students must earn a C or better in all other required General Education and Core Requirements. In addition, students admitted to the program must receive a final grade of 77% or higher to remain in the program. Clinical courses have additional requirements that must be met in addition to the minimum grade of 77%.

Students must complete all University degree requirements, which include: General Education requirements and elective credits to total at least 101 credits. (See footnote 6) Developmental coursework will not count towards the degree requirements and/or elective credits but may be needed to take the necessary English and Mathematics coursework.

All General Education and Core Requirements must be met before formally applying to the program.

Prefix	Title	Credits
General Education		
Select one course from four of the following six content areas for a total of 12-14 credits [1,2]		
This degree requires courses from Areas I, II, III and IV; students do not need to take additional courses to complete the General Education requirements.		
Area I: Communications		
ENGL 1110G	Composition I [3]	4
or ENGL 2130G	Advanced Composition	
or ENGL 2221G	Writing in the Humanities and Social Science	
Area II: Mathematics		
MATH 1220G	College Algebra (or Higher (Core Requirement)) [3]	3
or MATH 1350G	Introduction to Statistics	
or MATH 1250G	Trigonometry & Pre-Calculus	
Area III: Laboratory Sciences		
CHEM 1120G	Introduction to Chemistry Lecture and Laboratory (non majors) (Core Requirement) [3]	4
or CHEM 1215G	General Chemistry I Lecture and Laboratory for STEM Majors	
or CHEM 1225G	General Chemistry II Lecture and Laboratory for STEM Majors	
Area IV: Social/Behavioral Sciences		
PSYC 1110G	Introduction to Psychology (Core Requirement) [3]	3
General Education Elective		
COMM 1130G	Public Speaking (Core Requirement (either)) [3]	3
or COMM 1115G	Introduction to Communication	
or ACOM 1130G	Effective Leadership and Communication in Agriculture	
Core Requirements		
SOCI 1110G	Introduction to Sociology	3
BIOL 2310 & 2310L	Microbiology and Microbiology Lab [3]	4
or BIOL 311 & 311 L	General Microbiology and General Microbiology Laboratory	
or BIOL 2320 & BIOL 2310L	Public Health Microbiology and Microbiology Lab	
or BIOL 479 & 479 L	Medical Microbiology and Medical Microbiology Laboratory	
BIOL 2210	Human Anatomy and Physiology I [3]	4
or BIOL 353 & 353 L & BIOL 354 & BIOL 354 L	Pre-Professional Human Anatomy and Pre-Professional Human Anatomy Laboratory and Physiology of Humans and Laboratory of Human Physiology	
or SPMD 2210	Anatomy and Physiology I	
BIOL 2225	Human Anatomy and Physiology II [3]	4
or BIOL 353 & 353 L & BIOL 354 & BIOL 354 L	Pre-Professional Human Anatomy and Pre-Professional Human Anatomy Laboratory and Physiology of Humans and Laboratory of Human Physiology	
or SPMD 2225	Anatomy and Physiology II	
CHEM 2120	Integrated Organic Chemistry and Biochemistry [3]	3
or CHEM 313 & BCHE 395	Organic Chemistry I and Biochemistry I	
or CHEM 314 & BCHE 396	Organic Chemistry II and Biochemistry II, Lecture and Laboratory	
Major Requirements		
Technical Requirements [4]		
DHYG 2210	Preclinical Dental Hygiene Seminar	3
DHYG 2212	Preclinical Dental Hygiene	3
DHYG 2213	Oral Histology and Embryology	2
DHYG 2214	Head and Neck Anatomy	3
DHYG 2215	Tooth Anatomy and Morphology	2
DHYG 2216	Dental Radiology [5]	2
or DAST 1123	Dental Radiology	
DHYG 2216L	Dental Radiology Lab [5]	1
or DAST 1123L	Dental Radiology Laboratory	
DHYG 2220	Clinical Dental Hygiene Seminar I	3
DHYG 2222	Clinical Dental Hygiene I	4
DHYG 2223	General and Oral Pathology	3
DHYG 2224	Periodontology	3
DHYG 2225	Dental Materials [5]	2
or DAST 1111	Dental Materials	
DHYG 2225L	Dental Materials Laboratory [5]	1
or DAST 1111L	Dental Materials Laboratory	
DHYG 2226	Medical and Dental Emergencies	2
DHYG 2227	Clinical Dental Hygiene II	2
DHYG 2228	Pain and Anxiety Management	2
DHYG 2228L	Pain and Anxiety Management Clinical	1
DHYG 2230	Clinical Dental Hygiene Seminar III	3
DHYG 2232	Clinical Dental Hygiene III	5
DHYG 2233	Pharmacology	3
DHYG 2234	Research Methodology	2
DHYG 2996	Special Topics in Dental Hygiene [6]	1
DHYG 2240	Clinical Dental Hygiene Seminar IV	3
DHYG 2242	Clinical Dental Hygiene IV	5
DHYG 2243	Principles of Practice	2

DHYG 2244	Dental Public Health Education	3
Total Credits		**101**

1. Each course selected must be from a different area and students cannot take multiple courses in the same area.
2. See the General Education (https://catalogs.nmsu.edu/dona-ana/general-education-and-transfer-options/transfer-new-mexico-institutions/) section of the catalog for a full list of courses.
3. Courses are identical to those offered at New Mexico State University Las Cruces (main) Campus.
4. All DHYG classes are restricted to students who have been accepted into the Dental Hygiene program.
5. Substitution of DAST 1123 Dental Radiology/DAST 1123L Dental Radiology Laboratory and DAST 1111 Dental Materials/DAST 1111L Dental Materials Laboratory permitted for students who completed the DACC DAS program spring/summer 2024 and thereafter, and those who completed the courses in Fall 2026 or after and are transfers from Central New Mexico (CNM), Luna Community College (LCC), UNM-Gallup, and Santa Fe Community College (SFCC).
6. This is a clinical externship course that is taken twice, once in the fall and once in the spring semesters of the student's last year in the program. (This will result in a total of 102 credits).