

Course Outline for: DENH 1112 Oral and Facial Anatomy**A. Course Description:**

1. Number of credits: 3
2. Lecture hours per week: 2
Lab hours per week: 2
3. Prerequisites: Acceptance into the Dental Hygiene program
4. Corequisites: None
5. MnTC Goals: None

Understanding the structures of the head, neck, and oral cavity is foundational for the dental hygienist. Detailed anatomy of the dentition, gingiva, and supporting periodontal structures, as well as the muscles, nerves, and blood vessels that influence oral health are all critical landmarks for proper patient care. Students learn to identify and describe the anatomical landmarks critical for dental hygiene practice. Emphasis is placed on understanding the relationship between oral and facial anatomy and common dental conditions. Through case studies, hands-on lab sessions, and lectures, the dental hygienists will be equipped with the knowledge to perform thorough assessments and provide high-quality patient care.

B. Date last reviewed/updated: May 2025**C. Outline of Major Content Areas:**

1. Orofacial Structures
2. Dental Embryology
3. Dental Histology
4. Dental Anatomy
5. Muscular System of Head and Neck
6. Skeletal System of Head and Neck
7. Nervous System
8. Vascular System
9. Lymphatic System of Head and Neck
10. Glandular Tissue of Head and Neck
11. Fasciae and Spaces of Head and Neck
12. Spread of Infection

D. Course Learning Outcomes:

Upon successful completion of the course, the student will be able to:

1. Use accurate dental terminology.
2. Relate tooth form to function.
3. Annotate using Universal, Palmer, and International systems.
4. Describe permanent and primary dentition by location, anatomy, morphology, and function.

5. Explain the eruption and exfoliation patterns of teeth.
6. Chart permanent, primary, and mixed dentitions accurately.
7. Classify normal and malocclusions.
8. Describe embryology, histology, and orofacial development.
9. Relate orofacial developmental disturbances to in utero events.
10. Identify stages and histologic features of tooth development.
11. Identify tooth anomalies and their developmental stages.
12. Explain the histology and function of human tissues.
13. Summarize the formation and function of oral tissues.
14. Correlate the formation and function of periodontium, enamel, dentin, and pulp.
15. Apply head and neck knowledge to dental hygiene practice.
16. Identify anatomical landmarks of the oral cavity and pharynx.
17. Locate significant osteological structures of the head and face.
18. Describe the features and functions of salivary and head/neck glands.
19. Describe the lymphatic system of the head and neck.
20. Connect the muscles of the head and neck to their functions.
21. Illustrate the vascular system of the head and neck.
22. Describe the nervous system of the head and neck.
23. Relate spaces and fasciae to dental infection spread.
24. Describe the temporomandibular joint and its disorders.

E. Methods for Assessing Student Learning:

Methods for assessment may include, but are not limited to, the following:

1. Lecture and Lab Participation
2. Quizzes
3. Assignments
4. Self-Reflection
5. Exams

F. Special Information:

None