OVERVIEW

WHY CHOOSE DENTAL HYGIENE?
Dental Hygiene is a specialized field requiring knowledge, critical thinking and competent clinical skills to provide comprehensive patient-centered dental hygiene care. Dental hygienists in a clinical role assess, diagnose, plan, implement, evaluate and document treatment for prevention, intervention and control of oral diseases, while practicing in collaboration with other health professionals. The field is above average in industry growth, and the specialized skills give students varied employment options.

DESCRIPTION
Dental hygienists provide preventative oral health care by assessing patient risk for oral diseases and providing appropriate patient-centered education and treatment.
The Dental Hygiene Program curriculum includes topics such as:
- Oral Anatomy
- Microbiology
- Pathology
- Periodontology
- Pharmacology
- Instrumentation
- Dental Materials
- Radiology
- Patient Education and Motivational Interviewing
- Pain Management
- Professional Standards
- Preventive Concepts
- Community Dental Health

CAREERS IN DENTAL HYGIENE

Projected Job Growth

Ongoing research linking oral health to general health will continue to spur demand for preventative dental services, which are often provided by dental hygienists.

Click here for further information from the Bureau of Labor Statistics.

Types of Jobs
Individuals who study in Dental Hygiene typically pursue careers in the field of:
- Clinical Dental Hygienists
- Dental Hygiene Educators
- Community Health Dental Hygienists

Average State Pay
According to the Bureau of Labor Statistics, in 2015, dental hygienists earned an annual median salary of $72,330 nationally ($34.77).

Careerwise Education lists the median annual income for dental hygienists in the state of Minnesota as $71,010 ($34.14 per hour).

For further information please see occupational employment statistics from the Bureau of Labor Statistics.

DEGREES IN DENTAL HYGIENE
- Associate of Science Degree in Dental Hygiene
- Students can receive a four-year degree on Normandale's campus through dual admission program with Metropolitan State University

YOU MAY ALSO LIKE
Students in Dental Hygiene may also like:
- Dental Therapy/Advanced Dental Therapy
- Dental Assisting
- Dental Laboratory Technology
- Prosthodontics
- Dentistry
- Advanced Dentistry and Oral Surgery

REQUIREMENTS
This program provides academic and clinical educational opportunities for capable individuals to acquire the knowledge, skills, and attitudes necessary for the professional practice of dental hygiene. The curriculum focuses on sciences, as well as essential technical and clinical skills in preparation for providing preventive dental hygiene services.
services to the public. Dental hygienists are preventive oral healthcare professionals, licensed in dental hygiene, which provide educational, clinical, and therapeutic services supporting a patient's total health through the promotion of optimal oral health.

The mission of the Dental hygiene Program at Normandale Community College is to prepare dental hygiene students in the provision of comprehensive dental hygiene care, while emphasizing professionalism, communication, social responsibility, and lifelong learning.

Program goals:
- Prepare graduates who will be competent to provide quality comprehensive dental hygiene care
- Promote admission of a qualified and diverse student population
- Participate in interprofessional community health promotion
- Engage in professional activities and lifelong learning
- Maintain a program that reflects current and advancing dental hygiene practice
- Incorporate emerging technologies to enhance quality dental hygiene care.

Normandale Community College offers the Associate of Science (AS) degree in Dental Hygiene as a two-year program located within the health sciences division. NOTE: Most students complete their required science and liberal arts courses prior to acceptance into the program. The dental hygiene coursework requires four semesters to complete and begins each fall semester. Graduates will be eligible to take the National Board Dental Hygiene Examination, Central Regional Dental Testing Examination and the Minnesota Board of Dentistry Jurisprudence Examination for licensure in the State of Minnesota.

Following graduation and licensure requirements of the State Board of Dentistry, the dental hygienist becomes a primary healthcare professional, oral health educator and clinician who may choose to work in a variety of settings.

Dual Admission and Enrollment Option

B.S. in Dental Hygiene

Through a partnership with Metropolitan State University, we offer the option of a dual admission and enrollment program. This means that there is simultaneous admittance to the Normandale Associate Degree program and Metropolitan State University Bachelor of Science in Dental Hygiene (BSDH) program if an applicant chooses this option. For those who are anxious to obtain a BSDH, this can be accomplished within one to two semesters after completion of the Associate Degree Program. More information about this option is available by meeting with the Health Sciences Enrollment Manager, Kiara Taylor.

Accreditation

The program in dental hygiene is accredited by the Commission on Dental Accreditation. The Commission is a specialized accrediting body recognized by the United States Department of Education. The Commission on Dental Accreditation may be contacted at (312) 440-4653 or at 211 East Chicago Avenue, Chicago, IL 60611. The Commission's web address is http://www.ada.org/en/cda

CORE COURSES - 50 CREDITS

Note: Courses are web-supplemented and web-enhanced, requiring computer and internet access.

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<thead>
<tr>
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<td>DENH 1150</td>
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<td>DENH 1160</td>
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ADDITIONAL REQUIRED COURSES - 38 CREDITS

Progression through the program is dependent upon a grade of C or higher for each of the following courses:

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<td>CHEM 1000</td>
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<td>Human Physiology</td>
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<td>BIOL 2043</td>
<td>Microbiology</td>
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<td>HLTH 1107</td>
<td>Principles of Nutrition</td>
<td>3</td>
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<tr>
<td>PSYC 1110</td>
<td>Introduction to Psychology</td>
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<td>SOC 1104</td>
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<tr>
<td>MATH 0700</td>
<td>Intermediate Algebra</td>
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MnTC Electives - Choose two courses (at least 3 credits each) from 2 of the following MnTC Goal areas: 4, 6, 7, 8, 9 or 10. "

*Note: Students who are considering a bachelor's degree completion program are strongly encouraged to complete their Minnesota Transfer Curriculum (MnTC) electives by taking MATH 1080 (Goal 4) and one class from Goal 6 and/or 10. These courses will meet bachelor degree completion requirements at Metropolitan State University.

OTHER DEGREE REQUIREMENTS
Admission Requirements and Application Process

- Applicants who are new to Normandale must complete the online College application, found at www.normandale.edu/apply. Acceptance to the College does not imply acceptance into the dental hygiene program. A separate Normandale Health Sciences Dental Hygiene Program application must be submitted to be considered for acceptance into the dental hygiene program. The completed application is to be submitted to the Health Sciences Enrollment Manager (located in A204D) by December 31 of each year. The Dental Hygiene application can be found on the Dental Hygiene Apply page.
- An overall college GPA of 2.75 or higher is required.
- If the student earned credits in the fall semester, official transcripts with these fall grades must be submitted to the Health Sciences Enrollment Manager by January 15 to complete the application.
- All applicants will be notified of their dental hygiene program application status via US mail on or before April 30 of each year.

DENTAL HYGIENE APPLICATION REQUIREMENTS:

The requirements below must be completed before an application is processed. A grade of C or higher is required for each course.

- MATH 0700 or equivalent or higher
- ENGC 1101 or equivalent
- CHEM 1050 or equivalent
- BIOL 2041 with a lab or equivalent
- BIOL 2042 with a lab or equivalent or a shadow registration in this course for spring semester
- BIOL 2043 with a lab or equivalent

*NOTE: To increase their science ranking points on an application, students are strongly encouraged to complete this course prior to program application, although it may be completed during the first year of the dental hygiene program.

Additional Program Information

Visit www.normandale.edu/dental-hygiene. If you have further questions, please contact the Health Science Enrollment Manager, Klaire Taylor at klaire.taylor@normandale.edu or call 952-358-8417.

General Information

In addition to general fees and books, admitted dental hygiene students purchase uniforms, instruments, clinic supplies, software and textbooks. Each student is required to purchase dental professional liability insurance which is included in course fees each fall. Students will be required to pay additional fees to take the National Board Exam, Central Regional Clinical Board Exam and State Jurisprudence examination during the spring semester of the second year of study.

Due to the nature of the dental hygiene profession, students will be participating in a learning environment that has the potential of exposure to blood borne pathogens. Students accepted into the program are provided with written policies and instruction on infection control protocol to reduce the risk of disease transmission. The program complies with all institutional, local, state, and federal policies. Policies and procedures on the dental hygiene program's infection control protocol are available to applicants upon request. All students must complete the following prior to entry in fall semester of the first year of study and must be maintained throughout enrollment in the program.

- Physical examination
- Immunizations
- Optical examination
- Successful Minnesota Department of Human Services background study
- HIPAA training
- Cardiopulmonary Resuscitation (CPR) for the health care provider

Students entering the Dental Hygiene program are expected to meet the Technical Standards for Entry-Level Dental Hygiene Programs. These technical standards are required abilities for effective performance in the Minnesota State dental hygiene education program. The standards are compatible with the scope of practice as defined by the Minnesota Board of Dentistry.

Sequence of Courses:

FIRST YEAR FALL SEMESTER - 13 CREDITS

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FIRST YEAR SPRING SEMESTER - 18 CREDITS

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SUMMER SESSIONS 1 AND 2 - 8 CREDITS

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SECOND YEAR FALL SEMESTER - 18 CREDITS

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<td>DENH 2263</td>
<td>Pain Management</td>
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SECOND YEAR SPRING SEMESTER - 14 CREDITS

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<td>SOC 1104</td>
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Additional Information
For more information on advanced degrees, visit the Advanced Degrees page in the Dental Hygiene section.

COURSES

BIOL 2041 HUMAN ANATOMY | 4 CR
Prereq: CHEM 1050, or CHEM 1061, (C or higher) or concurrent registration and eligible for READ 1106
A rigorous and demanding study of the human body, intended for students pursuing careers in the health professions. Emphasis includes both gross and microscopic anatomy. Laboratory includes small mammal dissection, basic histology, and the gross and microscopic study of the human organ systems. Small mammal dissection is required for course completion. Lecture 3 hours. Lab requires a minimum of 3 hours per week of self-directed lab work.

Credits: 4 Semesters: Fall, Spring

BIOL 2042 HUMAN PHYSIOLOGY | 4 CR
Prereq: BIOL 2041, (C or higher), CHEM 1050, or CHEM 1061, (C or higher) MnTC Goals: 3
Examination of the principles of human biological function with emphasis on homeostatic mechanisms of the body. Lecture and laboratory experiences include EMG, ECG, pulmonary function, hormone studies, exercise studies, and independent investigations. Lecture 3 hours. Lab requires a minimum of 3 hours per week of scheduled and/or self-directed lab work.

Credits: 4 Semesters: Fall, Spring

BIOL 2043 MICROBIOLOGY | 4 CR
Prereq: BIOL 1100, or BIOL 1501, or BIOL 2041, (C or higher), CHEM 1050, or CHEM 1061, (C or higher) MnTC Goals: 3
A rigorous lab course intended for students pursuing careers in the health professions that examines the biology of bacteria, algae, protozoa, fungi, rickettsia, and viruses. Physical and chemical methods of control, microbial genetics, protozoa, fungi, helminths, viruses, and prions. Topics include prokaryotic and eukaryotic cell structure and function, microbial metabolism, microbial genetics, physical and chemical methods of control, host defenses, and applications in healthcare. Lab exercises mandate following biosafety level 2 practices for handling microbial pathogens. Lecture 3 hours. Lab requires a minimum of 3 hours per week of scheduled and self-directed laboratory work.

Credits: 4 Semesters: Fall, Spring

CHEM 1050 FOUNDATIONS OF ORGANIC AND BIOCHEMISTRY | 3 CR
Prereq: CHEM 1020 MnTC Goals: 3
This one-term laboratory course, designed for non-majors, builds on general chemistry concepts to provide an overview of organic and biochemistry with an emphasis on applications to the chemistry of the human body. Topics include solutions and body fluids, acid-base chemistry, relation between structure and reactivity for biochemical molecules, metabolic pathways, and applications of nuclear chemistry. Lecture 2 hours; lab 2 hours.

Credits: 3 Semesters: Fall, Spring

COMM 1111 INTERPERSONAL COMMUNICATION | 3 CR
Recommended: ENGC 1101, and READ 1106 MnTC Goals: 1
The primary purpose of this course is to assist the student in examining and developing competence as an interpersonal communicator. Students will practice skills and learn strategies to develop and manage relationships more effectively in a variety of contexts.

Credits: 3 Semesters: Fall, Spring

DENH 1112 ORAL AND FACIAL ANATOMY | 3 CR
Prereq: Acceptance into Dental Hygiene Program
Study of the structures of the head, neck, and oral cavity. Topics include histology, embroyology, tooth morphology, eruption patterns of the teeth, head and neck anatomy, and occlusion as it relates to the practice of dental hygiene. Practical laboratory exercises.

Credits: 3 Semesters: Fall

DENH 1140 PRE-CLINIC THEORY | 3 CR
Introduction to the fundamentals of dental hygiene care. Emphasis on infection control, patient assessment, emergencies, the special needs patient, periodontal disease process, patient self-care, dental deposits, and selective polishing. Practical application experience in pre-clinical skill development. Lecture 3 hours.

Credits: 3 Semesters: Fall

**DENH 1141 PRE-CLINIC SKILL DEVELOPMENT | 4 CR**

Prereq: Acceptance into Dental Hygiene Program, Co-req: DENH 1140

Skill development sessions are structured to develop actual experience in infection control procedures, patient assessment, instrumentation skills, dental emergencies, deposit removal, mechanical polishing, and topical fluoride application. Small groups will be utilized for practical application skills with students working on each other. Lab/clinical 8 hours.

Credits: 4 Semesters: Fall

**DENH 1142 CLINIC 1 THEORY | 2 CR**

Prereq: Acceptance into Dental Hygiene Program, DENH 1112, DENH 1140, and DENH 1141; Co-req: DENH 1143

Continuation in the study of the dental hygiene care process. Emphasis on professionalism, patient care planning, record keeping, debridement, dental caries process, dietary counseling, saliva, and fluoride. Lecture 2 hours.

Credits: 2 Semesters: Spring

**DENH 1143 CLINIC 1 | 4 CR**

Prereq: Acceptance into Dental Hygiene Program, DENH 1112, DENH 1140, and DENH 1141; Co-req: DENH 1142

Students begin fundamental patient care by providing clinical, preventive, educational, and therapeutic services in a supervised clinical setting. Clinic 8 hours.

Credits: 4 Semesters: Spring

**DENH 1150 DENTAL RADIOLOGY | 4 CR**

Prereq: Acceptance into Dental Hygiene Program, and DENH 1112; Co-req: DENH 1142, and DENH 1143

Theory, techniques, and procedures for exposing and processing dental radiographs; interpretation of dental radiographs; and practical application in dental radiography lab and clinical setting. Lecture 3 hours; lab/clinical 2 hours.

Credits: 4 Semesters: Spring

**DENH 1151 ACCELERATED DENTAL RADIOLOGY | 2 CR**

Prereq: Acceptance into Dental Hygiene Program, and Instructor's permission; Co-req: DENH 1142, and DENH 1143

Theory, techniques, and procedures for exposing and processing dental radiographs; interpretation of dental radiographs; radiation safety, and practical application in dental radiography lab and clinical setting. Lecture 3 hours; clinic 2 hours last five weeks of semester.

Credits: 2 Semesters: Spring

**DENH 1160 DENTAL MATERIALS | 2 CR**

Prereq: Acceptance into Dental Hygiene Program, and DENH 1140, DENH 1141, and DENH 1150

Study, demonstration, and manipulation of materials used in dental procedures. Lecture 1 hour; lab 2 hours.

Credits: 2 Semesters: Spring

**DENH 1181 ACCELERATED DENTAL MATERIALS | 1 CR**

Prereq: Acceptance into Dental Hygiene Program, and Instructor's permission; Co-req: DENH 1140, DENH 1141, and CHEM 1050

The advanced study, demonstration, and manipulation of materials used in dental and dental hygiene procedures. Dates and times are determined by course instructor.

Credits: 1 Semesters: Spring

**DENH 1182 PHARMACOLOGY FOR THE DENTAL HYGIENIST | 2 CR**

Prereq: Acceptance into Dental Hygiene Program, and DENH 1110, DENH 1140, and BIOL 2042; Co-req: DENH 1142, and DENH 1143

This course focuses on applying pharmacology knowledge to dental hygiene clinical practice. Understanding drug groups, pharmacologic effects, adverse reactions, drug contraindications, and interactions will encourage treatment modification and ensure safe patient care. Lecture 2 hours.

Credits: 2 Semesters: Spring

**DENH 1900 TOPICS IN DENTAL HYGIENE | 1-4 CR**

Prereq: Topic-dependent

Skill development in various special areas of dental hygiene intended for any interested dental hygiene student. Topics courses do not satisfy goals of the Minnesota Transfer Curriculum.

Credits: 1-4

**DENH 2096 INTERNSHIP IN DENTAL HYGIENE | 2-4 CR**

Prereq: Previous coursework in Dental Hygiene and consent of instructor and the Center for Experiential Education
This internship course explores careers and training in a supervised work setting and combines theory with field experience. Students spend approximately 2.5 hours per week per credit on the job, complete academic work, and meet with faculty throughout the semester. Students may earn 2 to 4 credits per semester, with a maximum of 6 credits in any one discipline.

Credits: 2-4 Semesters: Fall, Spring

**DENH 2240 CLINIC 2 THEORY | 2 CR**

Prereq: Acceptance into Dental Hygiene Program, and DENH 1142 Co-req: DENH 2241

Emphasis on advanced clinical procedures, professionalism, ethics, quality assurance, evidence-based dental hygiene practice, and patients with special needs. Lecture 2 hours.

Credits: 2 Semesters: Fall

**DENH 2241 CLINIC 2 | 6 CR**

Prereq: Acceptance into Dental Hygiene Program, and DENH 1143 Co-req: DENH 2240

Continuation of patient care by providing clinical, preventive, educational, and therapeutic services in a supervised clinical setting. Clinic 12 hours.

Credits: 6 Semesters: Fall

**DENH 2242 CLINIC 3 THEORY | 2 CR**

Prereq: Acceptance into Dental Hygiene Program, and DENH 1142, DENH 2240, DENH 2241, and DENH 2264 Co-req: DENH 2241

Orientation to ethics, jurisprudence, dental specialties, practice management, job placement, résumés, interviewing skills, and career opportunities. Lecture 2 hours.

Credits: 2 Semesters: Spring

**DENH 2243 CLINIC 3 | 6 CR**

Prereq: Acceptance into Dental Hygiene Program, and DENH 2240, DENH 2241, and DENH 2264 Co-req: DENH 2242

Continuation of patient care to attain clinical competency in preparation for practical examinations and licensure. Clinic 12 hours.

Credits: 6 Semesters: Spring

**DENH 2244 CLINICAL ENRICHMENT | 1-3 CR**

Prereq: DENH 2241, or DENH 2243, and instructor’s permission

This course is designed to offer students additional skill development in areas of clinical dental hygiene and/or radiology.

Credits: 1-3

**DENH 2252 CLINICAL RADIOLOGY 1 | 1 CR**

Prereq: Acceptance into Dental Hygiene Program, and DENH 1150 Co-req: DENH 2241

Practice of radiographic technique and radiographic interpretation in a clinical setting. Clinic 2 hours.

Credits: 1 Semesters: Fall

**DENH 2254 CLINICAL RADIOLOGY 2 | 1 CR**

Prereq: Acceptance into Dental Hygiene Program, DENH 1150, and DENH 2252 Co-req: DENH 2243

Practice of radiographic technique and radiographic interpretation in a clinical setting. Clinic 2 hours.

Credits: 1 Semesters: Fall

**DENH 2263 PAIN MANAGEMENT | 2 CR**

Prereq: Acceptance into Dental Hygiene Program, and in the process of developing competence in clinical dental hygiene care, DENH 1142, DENH 1162, and BIOL 2042

Preparation of the dental hygiene student in effective and safe administration of local anesthesia and nitrous oxide-oxygen inhalation sedation. Lecture 1 hour, lab/clinik 2 hours.

Credits: 2 Semesters: Fall

**DENH 2264 PERIODONTICS FOR THE DENTAL HYGIENIST | 2 CR**

Prereq: Acceptance into Dental Hygiene Program, BIOL 2043, DENH 1112, DENH 1142, DENH 1143 Co-req: DENH 2260, and DENH 2241

The study of periodontal diseases as the scientific basis for dental hygiene with recognition of the etiologic factors and abnormal conditions in the supporting structures with emphasis on the role of the dental hygienist in the philosophical and clinical approaches to periodontal therapy. Lecture 2 hours.

Credits: 2 Semesters: Fall

**DENH 2266 GENERAL AND ORAL PATHOLOGY | 2 CR**

Prereq: Acceptance into Dental Hygiene Program, and DENH 1110, DENH 1112, DENH 1140, DENH 1141, DENH 1150, DENH 1162, BIOL 2041, BIOL 2042, BIOL 2043, and CHEM 1010 Co-req: DENH 2264

The identification, pathogenesis, histology, prevention and management of oral diseases, the oral manifestations and complications associated with systemic diseases, and the basic principles and aspects of pathology related to dental healthcare. Lecture 2 hours.
DENH 2281 PREVENTIVE CONCEPTS IN COMMUNITY DENTAL HEALTH | 2 CR
Prereq: Acceptance into Dental Hygiene Program.
This course focuses on the principles of assessment, planning, implementation, and evaluation of the community oral health programs. The dental hygiene student will be introduced to federal, state, and local public health. Emphasis will be placed on epidemiology and prevention and control of oral health diseases. Through the course lab, students will explore interprofessional community enrichment and alternative practice opportunities. Lecture 1 hour; lab 2 hours.

Credits: 2 Semesters: Fall

DENH 2900 TOPICS | 1-4 CR
Prereq: Topic-dependent
Skill development in various special areas of dental hygiene; intended for second-year dental hygiene students. Topics courses do not satisfy goals of the Minnesota Transfer Curriculum.

Credits: 1-4

ENGC 1101 FRESHMAN COMPOSITION | 4 CR
Prereq: ENGC 0900, (C or higher) and eligible for READ 1106, or eligible for ENGC 1101 and READ 1106 MnTC Goals: 1
In this essential college-level writing course, students will practice the skills necessary for success in college and professional writing. Students will develop and apply critical reading and thinking skills in a variety of research and writing assignments, including analysis and argument, with some essays based on literary texts and other sources.

Credits: 4 Semesters: Fall, Spring

HLTH 1107 PRINCIPLES OF NUTRITION | 3 CR
Recommended: Eligible for READ 1106
Emphasis on physiologic function of nutrients in the human body, including digestion, absorption, and metabolism. Basic principles of nutrition are used to demonstrate and evaluate diet plans that are determined by scientific criteria. Application of nutrition theories is illustrated by an in-depth dietary analysis utilizing databases, calculations, and scientific inquiry. Taught by registered dietitians.

Credits: 3 Semesters: Fall, Spring

MATH 0700 INTERMEDIATE ALGEBRA | 0 CR
Prereq: MATH 0601, MATH 0602, or MATH 0603
Proficiency course for Pre-College Math topics. Students cannot register for this course. Students who successfully demonstrate mastery of the learning objectives for Intermediate Algebra in MATH 0601, MATH 0602, or MATH 0603 will be given a grade of P on their transcript. The purpose of this course is to serve as a means to state for other programs and institutions that a student has mastered this level of mathematics material which is equivalent to eligibility for MATH 1100 (College Algebra).

Credits: 0

PSYC 1110 INTRODUCTION TO PSYCHOLOGY | 4 CR
Recommended: Eligible for READ 1106 MnTC Goals: 5
This course is an introduction to the scientific study of human behavior and mental processes. It prepares students for more advanced coursework in psychology and provides a basic understanding of psychology for those entering other fields. The course introduces the problems, methods, and findings of modern psychology to beginning students.

Credits: 4 Semesters: Fall, Spring

SOC 1104 INTRODUCTION TO SOCIOLOGY | 3 CR
Prereq: Eligible for ENGC 1101, and READ 1106 MnTC Goals: 5
An examination of the basic social processes which give order and structure to our lives: socialization, changing social roles, power and privilege, modernization and culture. Service Learning option available.

Credits: 3 Semesters: Fall, Spring

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