

Course discipline/number/title: DH 2542: Community Dental Health

A. CATALOG DESCRIPTION

1. Credits: 3
2. Hours/Week: 2 hours lecture, 2 hours lab
3. Prerequisites (Course discipline/number): None
4. Other requirements: None
5. MnTC Goals (if any): NA

B. COURSE DESCRIPTION: This course encourages development of insight into community problems and understanding the dental needs of communities. It provides an understanding of how dental public health initiatives can meet the needs of the community. This course will provide working knowledge of dental and dental hygiene public health. The laboratory portion of the course is designed to assist the students in needs assessment, program planning, program implementation, funding, and program evaluation.

C. DATE LAST REVISED (Month, year): December, 2023

D. OUTLINE OF MAJOR CONTENT AREAS:

1. Introduction to Dental Public Health
2. Dental health education and promotion
3. Dental hygiene research process
4. Biostatistics
5. Oral epidemiology
6. Evaluation of scientific literature
7. Target populations and cultural competency
8. Program planning and evaluation
9. Practical strategies for dental public health

E. LEARNING OUTCOMES (GENERAL): The student will be able to:

1. Differentiate between public health and private practice dentistry.
2. Explore the role epidemiology plays in community dental health initiatives.
3. Apply basic biostatistical techniques to the evaluation of scientific literature.
4. Utilize dental indices in measuring oral disease.
5. Evaluate dental hygiene care delivery in the United States and global community.
6. Evaluate community dental health programs to control dental disease in the general population.
7. Identify barriers to delivery of dental treatment present in the community.
8. Defend the need for preventive modalities in dental public health practice.
9. Differentiate between health education and health promotion.
10. Develop a community dental health project that includes assessment of need, program plan, program implementation, program funding and program evaluation.
11. Plan a community dental health program for a culturally diverse population, which demonstrates cultural competence.
12. Differentiate among careers in dental public health.
13. Analyze strategies to increase access to dental care.
14. Understand the broader healthcare system and how interprofessional collaboration can enhance patient care, safety, and healthcare system efficiency.

F. LEARNING OUTCOMES (MNTC): NA

G. METHODS FOR EVALUATION OF STUDENT LEARNING: Methods may include but are not limited to:

1. Written Exams
2. Evaluation of Scientific Literature
3. Community Dental Health Projects
4. Written papers
5. Scientific Abstract

- H. RCTC CORE OUTCOME(S). This course contributes to meeting the following RCTC Core Outcome(s):  
Global Awareness and Diversity. Students will demonstrate an understanding of and respect for human diversity through their words and actions.
  
- I. SPECIAL INFORMATION (if any): None