Amarillo College Division of Allied Health
School of Dental Hygiene

DHYG 2261
Clinical Dental Hygienist IV
Course Syllabus
Spring Semester

Course Prerequisites
DHYG 1123 and DHYG 2360

Course Description
A health-related work-based learning experience that enables the student to apply specialized occupational theory, skills and concepts. Direct supervision is provided by the clinical professional. (2 sem hrs; 12 clinic)

Learning outcomes
As outlined in the learning plan: DHYG 2261 is designed to allow the student to utilize critical thinking and problem-solving strategies to provide comprehensive proficient dental hygiene care for clients possessing a wide range of oral conditions. Upon successful completion of Clinic IV, the student should be able to competently provide dental hygiene treatment to clients with light through heavy calculus classifications and periodontal case types 0 through IV. The instructor’s primary role will be to function as a facilitator to aid the student through functional assessment and quality treatment of clients.

Course Meeting Days and Times
Clinic:       Monday & Wednesday  8:45 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.
              Friday            7:45 a.m.– 12:00 p.m.
              Allied Health Building
              Dental Clinic Room 130

Wednesday Afternoon Report 3:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m.
              Allied Health Building
              Dental Clinic Room 130

Course Instructor
Name:      Jane McFarland, R.D.H., B.S.
Office Location:    Allied Health Bldg.  115
Office Phone:     (806) 354-6062
Campus E-Mail Address:   mcfarland-je@actx.edu
Office Hours:     Friday by appointment

Additional Faculty
Jack Fong, D.D.S. Tom Logan, D.D.S.
Lynette Hayhurst, R.D.H.
Required Course Textbooks
1. Amarillo College Dental Hygiene Program Student Manual

Course Overview:
Accurately assess patient by recognizing existing conditions and the implications for further uses of information. Thoroughly reviews patient’s chart and identifies all pertinent information. Correctly identifies patient’s needs and discusses treatment plan with patient. Treatment plan includes appropriate therapeutic services, appropriate referrals and consultations, patient education and prevention. Effectively debrides all surfaces. Utilizes patient’s oral condition to motivate and educate patient in daily care. Is sensitive to the patient and alters appointment if indicated. Communicates effectively with patient and others involved in treatment. Utilizes proper infection control techniques throughout the appointment. Is organized and efficient. Demonstrates respect and concern for patient, faculty, staff, and other students through conversation, behavior, appearance, and attitude. Evaluates finished product. Sets appropriate reevaluation appointment or recall interval. Performs all procedures within a time frame typical of a proficient practitioner. Obtains appropriate signatures and approvals during the appointment.

Statement of Confidentiality
DHYG 2261 will follow the professional “Code of Ethics” the American Dental Hygienists’ Association for Dental Hygienists (including students), which says:

“We respect the confidentiality of client information and relationships as a demonstration of the value we place on individual autonomy. We acknowledge our obligation to justify any violation of confidence.”

Course SCANS Competencies
During the course of this semester, the student will fulfill each of the following identified SCANS foundation competencies by the designated means:

1. **Reading**
The student will need to be able to read patient charts and to understand patient assessment and care as it relates to the practice of Dental Hygiene.

2. **Writing**
The student will be able to communicate information concerning a patient in writing and create documents, such as patient charts.

3. **Speaking/Listening**
The student will need to organize ideas and communicate orally to the best of their ability. The student will listen attentively to their patients in order to write a patient care plan for the appointment.

4. **Critical Thinking**
The student will utilize the information learned elsewhere in the program, as well as during the dental appointment, and assimilate this information in order to correctly formulate a patient care plan, complete a prophylaxis, and complete a patient dental chart. Patient care will require the student to be able to reason, problem solve, make logical decisions based on the
information gathered during the appointment and to describe further steps necessary to derive reasonable conclusions.

5. **Personal Qualities**
The student is expected to independently perform all work assigned. The student will be encouraged to have the honesty and integrity of these tasks, as expected. The student will have the responsibility to exert a high level of effort and persevere toward goal attainment. The student will believe in one’s own self-worth and maintain a positive view of oneself. The student will demonstrate understanding, friendliness, adaptability, empathy, and politeness during patient care. The student will set personal goals, monitor progress, and exhibit self control. The student will also choose ethical courses of action.

During the course of this semester, the student will fulfill each of the following identified SCANS workplace competencies by the designated means:

1. **Resources**
The student will identify, organize, plan, and allocate resources effectively, such as plan the utilization of time, materials, facilities, relative value of services and human resources, as they practically relate to patient care. The student will be able to discuss the correct procedures and equipment necessary to perform the prophylaxis. The student will be able to explain the necessity of equipment maintenance, quality assurance and quality control, and the basic aspects of troubleshooting when equipment or procedure failure occurs.

2. **Interpersonal Skills**
The student will be able to demonstrate the process whereby information is obtained through interaction with physicians and other healthcare workers, by interviewing the patient, reviewing the medical record and correlating this information with the prophylaxis appointment. The student will participate as a member of a team and contribute to group effort. The student will work to satisfy patient’s expectations, and work well with patients from diverse backgrounds.

3. **Information**
The student will be able to acquire and use information, organize and maintain information, interpret and communicate information, and use computers to process information.

4. **Technology**
The student will be able to work with a variety of technologies, including computers. Apply technologies to task; understand overall intent and proper procedures for setup and operation of equipment; and prevent, identify, or solve problems with equipment.

**Course Goals**

1. Improve efficiency and maintain quality when collecting and analyzing data, and selecting, performing, and evaluating oral health procedures for clinical patients, based on the concept from DHYG 1431.
2. Improve efficiency and competency in performing the additional clinical skills introduced in DHYG 1260, DHYG 1261, DHYG 2360.

Grading Criteria
Each error in Clinic IV will count as a minus 10 point deduction per error on the process and end product evaluations. Calculus deposits left will count as a minus 6 point deduction per error, which is the same as the WREB. Sealant placement and polishing of amalgam restorations will be graded as either competent or incompetent. Radiographs will be evaluated the same as in Clinic II and III. Nutritional counseling is based on 16 points to receive 100 points. If less than all 16 are completed correctly, the grade will be assessed by dividing the total number correct by the total number possible. All evaluations must be graded by an instructor. Clinic requirements must be completed by the final clinic day of the semester.

A. Clinical competency is obtained successfully by completing procedures in the following categories:

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<tr>
<th>Process Evaluation to include:</th>
<th>End Product Evaluation to include:</th>
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<td>Dental Hygiene Case Presentation</td>
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B. Minimum Number of Successful (75% or greater) Learning Experiences for Clinic IV

5 Patients with calculus classification type A (5 Process Grades and 5 End Product Grades)

3 Patients with calculus classification type B (3 Process Grades and 6 End Product Grades, will be graded by the arch or half-mouth)

2 Patients with calculus classification type C (2 Process Grades and 8 End Product Grades; 8 quadrants)

1 Patient with calculus classification type D (1 Process Grade and 4 End Product Grade; 4 quadrants)

1 Child Patient (age 11 and under) (1 Process Grade and 1 End Product Grade)
1 Adolescent Patient (age 12 through 18)  
(1 Process Grade and 1 End Product Grade Sheet)

1 Adult Patient (age 19 and up)  
(1 Process Grade and 1 End Product Grade Sheet)

1 Geriatric Patient (age 65 and up)  
(1 Process Grade and 1 End Product Grade Sheet)

1 Medically Compromised Patient  
(1 Process Grade and 1 End Product Grade Sheet)

1 Periodontal Assessment (Complete periodontal readings on 1 patient)

1 Periodontal Maintenance Patient (must be a CI III or CI IV perio classification and you must have completed the prophylaxis within the last month)

1 Calculus Detection

1 Mock Board Patient Experience

Conversion of type A-D in requirements:  
1 type B patient to 2 type A patients  
1 type C patient to 3 type A patients  
1 type D patient to 4 type A patients  

1 type C patient to 1 type B patient  
1 type D patient to 2 type B patients  
1 type D patient to 1 type C patient

C. Grade Percentages (Point Weights)

Process:  
40 percentage points earned from the following categories:  
Assessment  
Diagnosis  
Planning

End Product:  
60 percentage points earned from the following categories:  
Implementation  
Evaluation

D. Adjunct Procedures
16 Sealants
2 Amalgam Polishing(s)
5 FMX – (Competency Level of 75% or above) on an adult permanent dentition, adult partially edentulous/edentulous, child primary dentition, and child/adolescent mixed dentition.
In addition to treating patients at the Amarillo College Dental Hygiene Clinic, the students must participate in the following rotations:

- Office Assistant I: Screening
- Office Assistant II: Radiology Assistant
- Dental Assistant I: Veteran’s Hospital
- Dental Assistant II: Wyatt Dental Clinic

To determine the clinic grade, the average of all processes, end products (to include radiographs and rotation assignments) grades will be multiplied by the point weight for each clinic. Add up the percentage points for both clinical areas (process and end product) to determine the final clinic grade for the semester.

Critical Errors may drop a student’s grade. Examples of critical errors may be: breach of infection control, critical Medical History error, etc. The result of performing a critical error will result in 0 percent credit for the patient.

The final course grade will be computed as follows:

- A = 93 - 100%
- B = 83 - 92%
- C = 75 - 82%
- F = Below 75%

Note: A grade of “D” is not possible in this course

**Method of Instruction**

In the clinic setting the ratio of faculty to students never exceeds 1:5. Individual feedback will be provided for the students verbally and in written form. Direct observation will be utilized through process performance evaluations, while indirect observation will be used in end product evaluations.

Clinic Forums or Afternoon Report will be held each week to allow discussion of clinical issues, present additional clinical procedures, as well as, reviewing previously presented procedures. Case Presentations also will be scheduled and presented. The forum setting is mandatory. Students will be counted absent for the entire day if the student does not attend clinic forums. A student will be counted absent if he/she is not present when the roll is taken. Student input is encouraged.

**Course Remediation Policy**

If a student fails to attain the required minimum requirements for Clinic IV and has less than 3 absences during the semester, an “I” (Incomplete) may be given. The student
must enroll in the summer session of Clinic and will not graduate in May. The “I” (Incomplete) will be removed and a grade of “C” will be given for the course after the student completes the required work. If a student fails to remove the “I” grade from his/her record in the allotted time, a grade of “F” will be posted automatically.

**Attendance Policy**

The student who plans to succeed should also plan to attend all clinic sessions regularly and promptly. Without question, the clinical faculty expects each student to be present at each clinic/rotation session. **Attendance records will be kept on a daily basis during the semester.** Any absence from the clinic or scheduled rotations must be reported to the Office Supervisor first. The office number is 354-6050. If you are scheduled for the VA, you must call them at 355-9703 ext 7888 also. Students are required to complete a minimum number of clinic hours and requirements in order to graduate from the dental hygiene program.

The Office Supervisor is also responsible for all clinic schedule changes for patients. Students are required to take any patient given to them irregardless of the situation. Refusing to treat a patient will result in dismissal from the clinic and disciplinary action will be taken. The clinic setting is to prepare the student for the “real world” of work. In a private office, a dental hygienist would never be allowed to tell a dentist he/she does not want to see a patient or does not have time to see a patient without disciplinary action being taken and most likely termination of the employee occurring. Absences will be monitored and may be evaluated on an individual basis to determine your final clinic grade. You may have no more than 1 absence in this course without affecting your final grade. Beginning with the 2nd absence, 1 point will be deducted from the final grade; after the 3rd absence, 2 additional points will be deducted; after the 4th absence, 3 additional points will be deducted. After the 5th absence, the student will be required to repeat Clinic IV. In order to pass the course, a student must achieve a final grade of 75% and meet the minimum required competencies set for Clinic IV. A student will receive **2 bonus points** to the final clinic grade for perfect attendance.

Example for Bonus Points:
Student has a final clinic average of 91% = B
Student attends all scheduled clinics and rotations.
Final Clinic Grade = 93% = A

**Students with Disabilities**

“Any student in this course who, because of a disabling condition, may require some special arrangements in order to meet course requirements should contact the Office of Acessibility Services (SSC 125, Phone 125, Phone 371-5436) as soon as possible.”
[http://www.actx.edu/~access/accessibility.html](http://www.actx.edu/~access/accessibility.html)

**Course Ethics**

At Amarillo College, there are grave academic penalties for unethical conduct. The policy and penalty for such conduct is provided in the General Catalog as follows:

A high standard of conduct is expected of all students. It is assumed that obedience to the law, respect for properly constituted authority, personal honor, integrity and common sense will guide the actions of each member of the college community both in and out of the classroom. Any student who fails to perform according to expected standards may be disciplined.
It can be concluded from this statement that any form of unethical conduct is absolutely forbidden by Amarillo College policy. To be more specific, in the Clinic, ANY unethical course conduct is cause for a final grade of “F” regardless of other grades earned to date in the course. This policy will apply to all clinical rotations as well.

In summary, a student should not risk his/her final grade in this course and any future enrollment privileges at Amarillo College as the result of unethical conduct. THIS POLICY WILL BE STRICTLY ENFORCED.

The following professionalism standards apply to this Clinic:

1. Student is prompt to Clinic/Rotation, both in the morning session and the afternoon session.
2. Student is prepared for Clinic/Rotation.
3. Student assumes responsibility for his/her own learning.
4. Student is concerned with excellence in learning rather than just meeting minimal criteria.
5. Student applies lecture material in the clinical setting. The student will utilize the computer in the clinic to look up various diseases and medical conditions in which dental treatment may be altered.
6. Student maintains his/her composure, dealing with conflict in a constructive way.
7. Student exhibits an attitude of respect for classmates, faculty, and staff. If a student has a conflict with a grade given by the instructor, the student must follow the outlined grievance procedure. Faculty will not change a grade given to a student from another faculty member.
8. Student will not be disruptive in the Clinic. Should this occur, the student will be asked to leave the Clinic immediately. The student will receive an absence for the day and disciplinary action may be taken.
9. Student will not visit with other classmates during patient care.
10. Student will use the light system in the Clinic to summon clinical instructors and assistants.
11. Student will accept alternate assignments as needed and have an attitude of team spirit.
12. Student will be responsible for broken or damaged equipment in the Clinic.
13. Student does not leave the clinic before 12:00 noon or 5:00 p.m. Should this occur, the student will receive an absence for the day. Teamwork is an essential component of the dental profession.

Professional Behavior Around Patients

First and foremost confidentially and compassion are at the cornerstone of care. Students are not to discuss private information regarding their patient with classmates. This is only to be discussed with the supervising faculty and/or attending dentist. All patients should be treated with the utmost professional respect. Any inappropriate behavior demonstrated by patients should be immediately brought to the supervising faculty’s attention. As a matter of courtesy, patients should be addressed by their last name. Students must be professional in their choice of language around patients. Students must be professional and courteous at all times with patients, fellow students, staff and faculty. Personal conversations with classmates must be kept to a minimum. Students should avoid comments such as, “I’ve never seen this much calculus!” and
“I’ve never used the Air polishing”. If a student is unsure about a procedure, students should not discuss insecurity in front of the patient. Students should speak with their faculty discreetly away from the chair.

**Students Rights and Responsibilities**
Amarillo College students should be familiar with the contents of *Amarillo College Student’s Rights and Responsibilities* pamphlet. Copies of the pamphlet are available free to students. These pamphlets are located in the Dean of Student Services Office, the Business Office, and the West Campus Division Office. It is the student’s responsibility to become familiar with the *Student’s Rights and Responsibilities* document.

The Amarillo College Student’s Rights and Responsibilities Publication can be viewed at [http://www.actx.edu/student/index.htm](http://www.actx.edu/student/index.htm)

**Electronic and Recording Devices**
All electronic devices such as cell phones or beeper/pagers are prohibited in the Clinic. Those students who have children, should give caregivers and family members the Office Supervisor’s number (806-354-6050) and have calls directed to her first. She will then act accordingly. Patient care should not be interrupted unless the student is alerted from the Office Supervisor regarding an emergency. Your children will not be allowed in the Clinic. No exceptions. Students may use the telephone in the hallway by the restrooms. However, students who are scheduled in the clinic should be treating patients rather than talking on the telephone. Use your time in the clinic wisely.

**Mailboxes**
Each student is assigned a mailbox located inside the student dressing room. Students are required to check their mailbox daily for communication.

**Bulletin Board**
First and second year dental hygiene students have designated areas on a common bulletin board outside the student dressing room where various announcements may be posted.

**Academic Freedom**
Academic freedom is necessary to excellence in teaching; thus, it is essential that faculty be free to pursue scholarly inquiry and to voice and publish their conclusions concerning the significance of evidence that they consider relevant to their field. Therefore, the faculty at Amarillo College are entitled to full freedom in the classroom or clinic in discussing the subjects they teach.

**Academic Grievance Procedure**
A student who has a problem with the course instructor should make every attempt to resolve the problem with the course instructor **first**. If that is not successful, the student may appeal the decision of the Instructor to the Program Director, then the Chairman of the Allied Health Division, then the Dean of Instruction, and then the President **IN THAT ORDER**
DHYG 2261
Clinical Dental Hygienist IV

Verification of Course Policies

I, ________________, verify that faculty have reviewed the Clinical Dental Hygienist IV, DHYG 2261, course syllabus with me and have also demonstrated to me how to access this course syllabus online at http://www.actx.edu/~dental_hyg/syllabi.htm. I also understand that I may download and print the course syllabus if I choose to do so. I understand the course and department policies contained in the syllabus as they have been explained to me. I agree to abide by the policies and course requirements documented in the syllabus.

__________________________________ on ______________________________
Student Signature      Date

Received and filed in student file.

__________________________________ on ______________________________
Instructor Signature     Date

Although the Department of Dental Hygiene maintains a system for recalling patients and providing maintenance oral hygiene care, students will be responsible for recruiting new patients to the Dental Clinic who will meet the student’s needs for various dental hygiene requirements. Students need to recruit patients who will provide an opportunity for learning advanced instrumentation techniques. This type of patient will most often have avoided or been unable to obtain dental care on a regular basis and will need deep scaling and root planing. This is the type of patient that you will need for your clinical board examination for licensure. Additionally students will be expected to recruit and maintain a list of potential patients, who are available and willing to make an appointment on short notice.

It is important that you understand the necessity for taking a pro-active and responsible role in obtaining your education. Your signature below is evidence of the fact that you understand your responsibility in recruiting the type(s) of patients you will need to complete your requirements in the Dental Hygiene Program. As evidence of your understanding, please sign below:

__________________________________ on ______________________________
Student Signature      Date

Received and filed in student file.

__________________________________
Instructor Signature