

Teaching Philosophy

As an educator, I am preparing my students and future students to be representative dental hygienists that embody the dental hygiene code of ethics. I will create students who will view themselves as leaders in the community and leaders at their respective dental practices. I will create educators in the community and for the patients on dental hygiene related issues. They will be able to transform patient health from unhealthy to healthy and educate patients on the transformation from health to gingivitis and then periodontitis. I will mold students possessing the values of beneficence, nonmalificence, professionalism and possessing clinical competence.

Education under my tutelage comes from a Commission on Dental Accreditation (CODA) and American Dental Hygienists' Association (ADHA) accredited university and follows the standards of both organizations. I am a member of ADHA, and I strongly encourage my students to join their associations and promote the future of dental hygiene.

I challenge my students to think of new ideas and formulate questions that are specific to dental hygiene and the future of our field. I incorporate a traditional teaching style utilizing both perennialism and essentialism in my curricula and classes. I will provide a road map for my students in my syllabi that enables them to succeed in my classes, clinical applications and their future careers. I want my students to be able to think critically as well as be able to manage complex projects and perform the necessary skills needed for their future dental hygiene career. I will incorporate interdisciplinary learning and interprofessional education in my lectures and case studies. As an educator, I will incorporate case studies, group projects and clinical work that will apply to real world dental hygiene situations and phenomena.

The strategies that I incorporate into my educational library involve teaching well-rounded dental hygiene practitioners. I will incorporate immediacy in my teaching strategies so that my students feel wanted, needed and involved in their learning processes. I will create motivation in my students and involve my students in the learning process. My students will be able to measure their success throughout the program with surveys, tests, and a portfolio that will follow them throughout their dental hygiene school career. They will be responsible for keeping up to date with this portfolio during hygiene school and present it to the faculty upon graduation in an oral presentation form. I will provide students with guidance and support throughout their dental hygiene school careers and in the future if needed. I will offer office hours that are flexible and amenable to both working and non-working students.

For the next school year, I plan to incorporate more case studies related to real life dental hygiene patients, as I feel as though the transition from dental hygiene school to private practice is not an easy one to make. I want my students to soar and feel as though they were thoroughly prepared for the world of dental hygiene.

To improve my teaching strategies, I will be attending Educator's Platform Masterminds to improve my teaching strategies and make sure that I am meeting CODA standards in my courses.

Overall, in my past teaching experiences, I feel as though I need to branch out from teaching research philosophies and expand upon my didactic teaching strategies.