

Joan D. Bryant – DNTH 660 Professional ePortfolio

Joan D. Bryant, BSDH, RDH



Professional Bio

I am a Registered Dental Hygienist and full-time faculty member in the Dental Hygiene Program at Virginia Western Community College. I bring nearly four decades of clinical experience and over eight years of academic teaching in dental hygiene education. My professional work is grounded in evidence-based practice, student mentorship, and a strong commitment to advancing educational excellence in oral health care.

I currently teach Dental Materials, Management of Emergencies, and Office Practice & Ethics, where I integrate didactic instruction, simulation-based learning, and clinical application. I am especially dedicated to fostering professionalism, critical thinking, and ethical decision-making in future dental hygiene professionals.

Short-Term Professional Goals

- Successfully complete graduate coursework toward the Master of Science in Dental Hygiene at Old Dominion University
- Continue curriculum development and program assessment aligned with CODA standards
- Expand the use of simulation, technology, and interprofessional collaboration in dental hygiene education
- Mentor students in clinical competency development and professional identity formation

Long-Term Professional Goals

- Earn a Master of Science in Dental Hygiene and advance into leadership roles within dental hygiene education
- Contribute to academic scholarship through research dissemination and conference presentations
- Support workforce development and innovation in dental hygiene education at the institutional and state levels
- Serve as a leader and mentor within professional dental and dental education organizations

Research Interests

- Dental hygiene education and curriculum innovation, with a focus on improving access to care
- Simulation-based and technology-enhanced learning
- Student assessment, clinical competency development, and outcomes measurement
- Interdisciplinary collaboration in health professions education