

Teaching Philosophy

My objective as an educator is to cultivate students who take ownership of their learning and develop the confidence to become the best oral health care providers they can be. A key component of my teaching approach is the development of problem-solving skills. It is essential that I foster an environment where students are encouraged to seek out, develop, and understand the information they need to succeed in their future careers as dental hygienists.

I believe students should be at the center of their own learning, rather than relying solely on me as the source of all information. It is of utmost importance that my students uphold the dental hygiene code of ethics as they pursue their educational goals.

I plan course objectives and learning targets using Bloom's Taxonomy and his hierarchy of learning models. Some lessons will focus on cognitive development, while clinical instruction will emphasize psychomotor skills. I provide a structured framework to help students gain the knowledge necessary for success. However, it is equally important that students invest time both in and outside of class to engage deeply with the content. By combining structure with independent problem-solving and exploration, students gain a stronger sense of ownership over their learning, which leads to a deeper connection with the material.

In the classroom, students not only acquire the knowledge needed for their careers, but also develop strategies for continued learning. These skills are crucial for navigating unfamiliar challenges or new developments in the dental hygiene field. Class time will include structured lessons, collaborative discussions, and opportunities for student-driven projects and inquiry. These activities will allow students to explore areas of personal interest, promote critical thinking, and build a deeper understanding of the content through dialogue and debate.

Many classroom activities will incorporate various forms of technology, including but not limited to Google Forms, Padlet, escape rooms, and PowerPoint. These tools enhance engagement and provide opportunities for students to collaborate while becoming more comfortable with digital platforms used in modern education and practice.

I am committed to supporting my students' success through the application of sound pedagogical practices and a student-centered approach to teaching.