



SCHOOL OF DENTAL HYGIENE

OLD DOMINION UNIVERSITY

COURSE NUMBER & TITLE: DNTH 311; Ethics and Law in Dental Hygiene

CURRICULUM LEVEL: Undergraduate Junior Level

COURSE CREDIT HOURS: Three (3) hours

CLASS LOCATION: ODU main campus, College of Health Sciences Bldg, Room 1001

CLASS DAY & TIME: Mondays, 9:00am to 10:00am (EST)

SEMESTER, YEAR: SPRING 2027

COURSE DESCRIPTION & PURPOSE: This course is designed to examine the ethical principles, legal responsibility, and professional standards as it relates to the practice of dental hygiene. Throughout this course, emphasis is placed on risk management, ethical theory, ethical decision-making, social responsibility, and laws as it applies to dental hygiene. The purpose of this course is to prepare dental hygiene students with the knowledge needed to make ethical decisions, demonstrate professional integrity, and with the legal understanding necessary to make informed decisions in real-world dental hygiene practice scenarios.

PREREQUISITES: DNTH 300

INSTRUCTOR: Professor Sadirah Beck, RDH, BSDH

Office Location: ODU Main Campus, Health Sciences Building, Room 1003

Office Hours: Thursdays from 9:00am to 11:00am (EST) by appointment only

Office Phone: (757) 503-4205

Email Address: sbeck007@odu.edu (emergencies only)

INSTRUCTOR EMAIL POLICY: All course related correspondence should be sent through the Canvas messaging system. Using my faculty email should only be done for emergency situations. Canvas messages will be checked daily and responded to as soon as possible. **Non-emergency correspondence:** Canvas Messaging System (preferred); **Emergency correspondence:** sbeck007@odu.edu.

METHODS OF DELIVERY: This course is delivered face-to-face. Instruction will incorporate various methods of teaching and learning. This will include teacher lead lectures, PowerPoint presentations, class discussions and participation, guest speakers, individual and group

activities, written assignments, reading assignments, case studies, and handouts. Students will engage in both in-class activities and out-of-class homework assignments. Course content and materials will be accessible through the Canvas Learning Management System provided by Old Dominion University.

REQUIRED TEXTBOOK:

The following required textbook is available for purchase on Amazon:

Minihan-Anderson, K. (2024). Ethics and law in dental hygiene (4th ed.). Elsevier: Missouri. ISBN 0323761194

SUPPLEMENTAL READINGS: Students are expected to complete supplemental readings assigned throughout the course. This includes articles and websites. All supplemental readings will be labeled as such and can be found in the weekly modules located on Canvas.

RECOMMENDED TEXTS: Written assignments for this course will require the use of APA style referencing. It is strongly encouraged that you obtain the book: Publication Manual of the American Psychological Association (7th):

American Psychological Association. (2026). Publication manual of the American Psychological Association (7th ed.). Washington, D.C. ISBN 1433832178

METHODS OF EVALUATION: During this course, students will be evaluated for achievement and understanding of course goals and objectives by various methods. These methods include tests, group and individual projects, in-class assignments, homework, a group debate and oral presentation, written work, and a comprehensive final examination. Some of these will be graded and some will not be graded. Completion of both graded and ungraded course work is expected. A list of graded requirements is below:

	List of Graded Assessments:	Is the use of artificial intelligence allowed for this assignment? *
	The following is a list of graded assessments. Due dates can be found in the schedule and will be discussed in class.	
1.	<u>Ethical Dilemma Paper</u> – Choose an ethical dilemma and write a 5-page paper analyzing the conflict, ethical principles, and how to handle it professionally.	NO
2.	<u>Group Ethical Debate & Presentation-</u> Assigned groups will research an ethical issue in dental hygiene and present position in a class debate.	NO
3.	<u>Homework</u>	NO
4.	Three (3) tests- Multiple-choice	NO
5.	Final Examination- (Comprehensive Multiple-choice)	NO

***Artificial Intelligence (AI) Policy for DNTH 311:** No assignments in this course permit the use of Generative AI (GenAI) with tools such as ChatGPT.

TESTING PROTOCOL: Tests may cover lecture materials, supplemental readings, PowerPoints, and handouts. All tests and final exam will be multiple choice. The final exam will be comprehensive. Tests and exams will be administered using Canvas Respondus Lockdown Browser during scheduled lecture time. Students will be expected to take all scheduled tests and exams in-person.

- **Hardware Requirements:** Fully charged laptop or Chromebook that is capable of being connected to the internet, and a cell phone to complete Duo Push authorization.
- **Software Requirements:** Chrome, Firefox, Edge, or Safari. Canvas Respondus Lockdown Browser will need to be downloaded and tested prior to the first test.

How to take tests: **1)** Log onto Canvas Respondus Lockdown Browser. **2)** Complete the Duo Push authorization using your smartphone. **3)** Put your smartphone and smartwatch in airplane mode and place it into your backpack. **4)** Locate the test or exam in Canvas under the “Quizzes” tab. **5)** Within the “Quizzes” tab, you will open the test/exam once I verbally announce that it is time to begin. Test and exam answers will not be available for review until its completion by all students. **Tests will be available to be reviewed for 24 hours following every student’s completion of the exam.** For questions regarding test results, please make an appointment during office hours. Please do not discuss test questions with other students. Grades will not be changed for student errors on tests/exams. Below is a link to instructions on how to download and use Canvas Respondus Lockdown Browser.

Instructions for Canvas Respondus Lockdown Browser:
<https://www.odu.edu/technology-services/respondus/ldb>

GRADING CRITERIA:

ASSIGNMENT WEIGHTS:

Assignment	Undergraduate DNTH 311
Ethical Dilemma Paper (individual activity)	20%
Ethical Debate (group activity)	20%
Homework (Individual)	5%
Test #1	10%
Test #2	10%
Test #3	10%
Final Examination	25%
Total Grade	100%

GRADING SCALE:

93 - 100	A
85 - 92	B
77 - 84	C
70 - 76	D

69 and below	F
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ATTENDANCE POLICY: Attendance for this course is mandatory. Students are expected to arrive to class on time and remain for the entire class period. In the event of an emergency that results in an absence, students must inform myself via email (sbeck007@odu.edu) as soon as possible and follow official additional university and program guidelines. Official physician documentation or approval from the course director is required for all excused absences. With proper documentation excused absences may include, but are not limited to, illness, medical emergencies, and family emergencies. All absences without proper documentation will be considered unexcused. This will result in a 1 percentage point grade deduction per unexcused absence.

MISSED TESTS & EXAMS: If a student misses a test or exam, their excusal must adhere to the course and program attendance policy. A missed test or exam will be available for rescheduling upon the presentation of official documentation of the absence's approval. This should be done prior to the admission of the test or exam. In the event of an unexcused absence, this missed test or exam will result in a zero in the grade book.

SUBMITTING ASSIGNMENTS: All assignments must be submitted electronically through the course Canvas by the due date and time to receive full credit. Assignment due dates and times can be found on the syllabus schedule and listed in the course Canvas under the "assignments" tab. Each assignment will include a specific rubric that will outline the submission requirements and specific formats. Please be familiar with the APA 7 style, Microsoft Word, and PDFs, as these are the submission types used throughout the course. If a technical error occurs when submitting an assignment, please contact ODU's IT Help Desk (ithelpdesk@odu.edu) via email as soon as possible for further assistance. Students are also expected to notify myself through the Canvas messaging system and should include a screenshot of the error. These actions should be accomplished prior to the assignment's due date to avoid grading penalty.

LATE ASSIGNMENTS: Assignments submitted past their due date will be penalized based on how late the assignment was submitted. An assignment that is submitted within 24 hours past the due date will result in a 10-point deduction of the assignment's final grade. Assignments that are submitted beyond 24 hours passed the due date will result in a zero for the assignment. All assignments must be completed upon submission and will not be graded for partial credit.

STUDENT EXPECTATIONS: As a future dental hygienist, it is essential to demonstrate professionalism, ethical judgement, professional responsibility, and effective communication skills. These skills will assist you, not only in this course, but throughout your future patient care, advocacy, safety, and adherence with laws as they relate to dental hygiene. This course requires open discussion and the exploration of diverse ways of thinking that all students are expected to participate in. Your success in this course is your responsibility. As a student, it is

important that you come to this class prepared and ready with a willingness to learn. All students are expected to:

- Actively listen and learn during instruction.
- Maintain respectful communication and consider diverse viewpoints.
- Collaborate effectively with classmates to accomplish group discussions and projects.
- Complete assignments in accordance with their rubric guidelines and with academic integrity.
- Seek assistance if questions arise or you encounter challenges in your understanding of the course content.

COMPUTER AND CELL PHONE USE IN CLASS: Personal electronic devices such as laptops and tablets may be used in class to access course materials, take notes, and to complete in-class assignments. Cell phones should not be used in class under any circumstances outside of completing Duo Push Authorizations. All personal electronic devices should be placed on silent or do not disturb to minimize distractions in the classroom. A single warning will be given in the event of classroom interruptions or abuse of this policy. A second warning will result in a 5-point deduction from the student's final grade.

GENERAL COMPUTER AND TECHNICAL REQUIREMENTS: Students are required to come to class prepared with a fully charged laptop with access to the internet for course activities, tests, and exams. Students are expected to have access to their MIDAS ID accounts, university email, and Canvas account. The use of Canvas Respondus Lockdown Browser software for tests and exams is mandatory. This software should be downloaded and tested prior to the first test as seen on the syllabus schedule.

**IMPORTANT ADDITIONAL UNIVERSITY & SCHOOL OF DENTAL HYGIENE STATEMENTS:
STATEMENT OF STUDENT RESPONSIBILITIES AND ACCOUNTABILITIES:**

The school of dental hygiene supports Old Dominion University in its commitment to the **holistic development of its students, fostering an environment that is safe, secure, and inclusive**. This commitment encourages student accountability, academic integrity, student engagement, and success. The University expects students and student organizations/groups to uphold and follow the behavioral standards of the Code of Student Conduct ("the Code"). These behavioral expectations are embodied within core values, including personal and academic integrity, fairness, **respect**, community, and responsibility. The student accountability process exists to protect University interests and educate and respond to students and student organizations/groups whose behavior does not align with those expectations.

Attendance: Due to the unique responsibilities and accountabilities associated with becoming a competent professional healthcare provider, the progressive nature of the curriculum, the legal issues associated with providing patient/client care, the provision of quality health services and future employability, attendance and class participation are required. Should an absence be necessary, the student must email the course director immediately at sbeck007@odu.edu .

- A note on official stationery from a physician or other appropriate healthcare provider that saw you or treated you on the day(s) you were absent must be submitted to your course director(s), the department Chair, and Director of Clinical Affairs the day you return verifying the need to be excused from class, lab and/or clinic, and date(s) for the required absence. Notes will not be accepted after final grades have been submitted.
- In the case of medical-related illness when the student feels well enough to attend virtually, a concurrent Zoom option may be considered by the course director with advance notice of 24 hours. In the event the student is unable to give advance notice for a medical-related illness, Zoom may not be available. Zoom is not available for other circumstances without advance notice and approval from the Course Director.
- Students who are absent and fail to provide an acceptable excuse (see criteria above) on the day of their return, may be asked to meet with the course director, meet with the SODH Chair and Entry-level Program Director, and/or may be referred to ODU Cares for a follow-up.
- Each unexcused absence will result in a grade penalty of one percentage point reduction from the final grade in the course(s) missed.
- Make up for clinic and lab time missed, and academic exercises (assignments, quizzes, tests, exams, practicals, etc.) will not be given for unexcused absences.
- Late arrivals to class are considered unexcused absences.
- Students who miss a regularly scheduled test are to follow the steps below:
 1. For an unexcused absence, a grade of zero (0) will be recorded for the quizzes, tests, exams, practicals, and for attendance.
 2. For an excused absence, make-up quizzes, tests, exams, and practicals must be taken within two days of returning from a documented excused absence. Failure to do so will result in a zero (0) for that quiz, test, exam or practical. Make-up test format will be decided by the course director. Possible formats will include but are not limited to:

a. oral exam	b. essay
c. short answer	d. listing
e. demonstration/performance	f. combination of these

Meeting Established Deadlines: All course related academic exercises are to be submitted as directed by the course director on the established due dates. Academic exercises submitted after the established deadlines will be penalized by the grade. Students are encouraged to keep a duplicate copy of all submitted academic exercises.

Honor Code: By attending Old Dominion University, you have signed a pledge accepting the responsibility to abide by the following Honor Code: "We the students of Old Dominion University, aspire to be honest and forthright in our academic endeavors. Therefore, we will practice honesty and integrity and be guided by the tenets of the Monarch Creed. We will meet the challenge to be beyond reproach in our actions and our words. We will conduct ourselves in a manner that commands the dignity and respect that we also give to others." This is an institutional policy approved by the Board of Visitors. The University Honor Code applies to all academic exercises by students.

Academic Misbehavior:

A. **Academic Sabotage:** An intentional effort to corrupt or negatively impact another student's academic work.

B. **Cheating:** Copying, collaborating, or completing an academic exercise with or for other students or parties without permission from the class-assigned faculty member; paying someone to complete assignments; using any unauthorized materials to assist on assignments; misusing study aids such as Chegg, Quizlet, Course Hero, etc., to complete or pass class assignments; using test banks or copying answers from another source or student. This also includes unauthorized use of artificial intelligence sites including, but not limited to, ChatGPT, Dall-E, Alpha Code, Tensor Flow, Scribe, etc., and any act or behavior that gives the student an unfair advantage.

C. **Fabrication:** Inventing, altering, falsifying, creating data, citation, or information in an academic exercise or for any improper purpose. Knowingly presenting false or falsified official documentation such as transcripts, doctor's notes, supervisor evaluations, application materials, etc.

D. **Facilitation:** Helping another person participate in any act of academic misbehavior (including, but not limited to, sharing course materials without permission).

E. **Misrepresentation:** Misleading an instructor as to the condition under which the work was prepared, including, but not limited to, undisclosed Artificial Intelligence (AI) use, substituting for another student, or permitting another person to substitute for oneself on any academic work.

F. **Plagiarism:** According to the ODU Code of Student Conduct, plagiarism is “Intentional or unintentional use of someone else's scholarly or academic work, language, ideas, or other material as your own without proper citation in an academic exercise (whether reproduced or presented verbatim or in paraphrased or summary form); recycling a previous assignment as a new assignment without appropriate citation or notification and approval from faculty members”. Therefore, all academic exercises submitted are expected to be the result of each student’s own thought, research, and self-expression. A student will have committed plagiarism if he or she reproduces someone else’s work without acknowledging its source; or if a source is cited which the student has not cited or used. Examples of plagiarism include but are not limited to: submitting a research paper obtained from a commercial research service, the Internet, or from another student as if it were original work; making simple changes to borrowed materials while leaving the organization, content, or phraseology intact; or copying material from a source, supplying proper documentation, but leaving out quotation marks. Plagiarism also occurs in a group project if one or more of the members of the group does none of the group’s work and participates in none of the group’s activities but attempts to take credit for the work of the group.

All allegations of academic misbehavior in the SODH are investigated and follow the Academic Integrity Resolution Options form found here:

<https://www.odu.edu/sites/default/files/documents/acad-integrity-report-form-19-20.pdf>.

Findings/outcomes are protected by Federal Privacy law and are unable to be disclosed. For

more information, visit the Office of Student Accountability & Academic Integrity (OSAAI) webpage <https://www.odu.edu/student-conduct-academic-integrity>

Test Protocol: Tests may be comprehensive, beginning with the first lecture session. During any test, exam, or quiz administered in this course, the student must adhere to the following instructions:

- The student must abide by the ODU Honor Code and Student Handbook.
- Students are not permitted to access their personal belongings during testing. The testing area must be completely cleared except for approved items.
- NO hoods or hats are permitted.
- NO notes, books, lecture materials, PowerPoints, assignments, etc. may be referenced or used during the exam/quiz.
- NO other electronics are allowed to be turned on or used during the exam, except for use of a laptop to take test.
- Students are not allowed to talk during testing or following testing until all students have completed and submitted the quiz/test/exam.
- Students are not permitted to ask the course director or GTA any questions regarding the content during the quiz/test/exam.
- Getting up during testing is not allowed. The student must finish the exam in one sitting.
- Students are required to use a privacy screen on laptops for entire duration of test, quiz, or exam.
- This course will implement testing using Canvas Respondus Lockdown browser. In the event testing becomes virtual, recorded zoom proctoring will be used to ensure testing integrity. Therefore, students will be required to have a microphone, camera, and the Respondus Lockdown browser in order to complete quizzes, tests, and exams. This will require you to have Zoom on another device (i.e smart phone) with camera and microphone turned on and the Canvas webpage and examination on a computer/laptop

Artificial Intelligence (AI) Software Use: Course directors within the School of Dental Hygiene reserve the right to create course policies for artificial intelligence. Please refer to specified syllabi statements within each of your courses and meet with your course director if you need clarification. Refer also to ODU's Code of Student Conduct for university policies related to student utilization of artificial intelligence.

Code of Student Conduct: All students are **expected to abide by the Code of Student Conduct** as found in the Old Dominion University Student Handbook and University Catalog. The School of Dental Hygiene **provides persons treated in the Dental Hygiene Care Facility with safe, ethical, and evidence-based oral healthcare. Endangering health and welfare by use of unsafe and unethical practices and/or not following standard dental hygiene treatment protocols is grounds for the removal of students from the dental hygiene program.** According to the Code of Student Conduct, academic exercises can include but are not limited to items submitted for drafts, extra credit, grading, continuance, graduation, honors, awards, scholarships, or recognition at the university as well as materials submitted to other institutions, associations,

or organizations for evaluation (e.g., awards, scholarships, or publication). Academic exercises include all forms of work: oral, written, electronic, or otherwise submitted by students and may be used anonymously for necessary review without notification.

Student Class Expectations on Conduct: Appropriate conduct by students is an absolute requirement in the college and includes distance education courses. The university operates with a **policy of zero tolerance for any disruptive behavior**. The term 'disruptive behavior' means any behavior that **substantially interferes with the conduct of a class**. Disruptive behavior may include but is not limited to:

- Persistent late arrivals or leaving early in a manner that disrupts the regular flow of the class.
- Talking while the course director is talking.
- Speaking in class without first obtaining recognition and permission to speak.
- Use of any electronic equipment such as cell phones, computers, digital tablets, digital audio players, earphones, etc. in a manner that disrupts the class.
- **A student who becomes belligerent or verbally abusive when confronted as a result of his/her inappropriate behavior.**

Students do not have the right to engage in behavior that is disruptive in the classroom. The faculty has the authority to maintain appropriate classroom behavior in all courses offered by Old Dominion University, whether in traditional or distance/virtual modes. **Faculty have the right to immediately confront any student causing disruptive behavior, and request cessation of the behavior.** A follow-up conversation with the student(s) is recommended to reinforce the faculty member's expectations for appropriate conduct in the classroom. **In situations in which students are cooperative with the faculty member's request to cease disruptive behavior, the faculty member need only report the incident to the department chair.** Should any student choose not to respond to a request to cease disruptive behavior, the faculty member should ask the student to leave the classroom to prevent further disruption to the class. **A disruptive student should be reported to the Office of Student Accountability and Academic Integrity for disciplinary action under the Student Disciplinary Policies and Procedures.**

Students engaged in classroom disruption will normally be charged with:

1. **Failure to comply with the directions of university officials, their authorized agents, and local police agencies acting in the performance of their duties; and/or**
2. **Obstruction or disruption of university activities.**

Accommodations: Students are encouraged to self-disclose disabilities that have been verified by the Office of Educational Accessibility (OEA) by providing Accommodation Letters to their course directors early in the semester to start receiving accommodations. Accommodations will not be made until the Accommodation Letters are provided to course directors each semester. You may visit the OEA's website at: <https://www.odu.edu/accessibility> to schedule an appointment or register for services.

ODU's Office of Counseling Services:

ODU's Office of Counseling Services (OCS) is a university agency with competent, diverse, and multidisciplinary professional staff. We are committed to supporting the emotional well-being, social development, and academic progress of all students at Old Dominion University.

College life can be a wonderful time of self-discovery, but for many, it is also a time when the awareness of mental health conditions increases. OCS services are available to assist with addressing mental health concerns that a student may be experiencing. You can learn more about the broad range of confidential mental health services available on campus via our website at: <http://www.odu.edu/counselingservices>. All services are free to ODU students.

School of Dental Hygiene Policy on Professionalism in the Use of Social Media:

The Internet has created the ability for dental hygiene students and oral health professionals (dental hygienists and dentists) to communicate and share information quickly to reach millions of people easily. Participating in social networking and other similar Internet opportunities can support students' and dental hygienists' personal expression, enable individuals to have a professional presence online, foster collegiality and camaraderie within the profession, provide opportunity to disseminate public health and other health messages. Social networks, blogs, and other forms of communication online also create new challenges to the patient-oral health provider relationship. Oral health professionals and students must weigh a number of considerations when maintaining a presence online.

- (a) Standards of patient and colleague privacy and confidentiality must be maintained in all environments, including online, and oral health professionals and students must refrain from posting identifiable personal information online.
- (b) When using the Internet for social networking, oral health professionals and students must use privacy settings to safeguard personal information and content to the extent possible but realize that privacy settings are not absolute and that once on the Internet, content is likely there permanently. Thus, oral health professionals and students should routinely monitor their own Internet presence to ensure that the personal and professional information on their own sites and, to the extent possible, content posted about them by others, is accurate and appropriate.
- (c) If interacting with patients on the Internet, oral health professionals and students must maintain appropriate boundaries of the patient-oral health provider relationship in accordance with professional ethical guidelines just as they would in any other context.
- (d) To maintain appropriate professional boundaries oral health professionals and students should consider separating personal and professional content online.
- (e) When oral health professionals or students see content posted by colleagues that appear unprofessional or a violation of the Code of Ethics of the American Dental Hygienists' Association, they have a responsibility to bring that content to the attention of the individual, so that he or she can remove it and/or take other appropriate actions. If the behavior significantly violates professional norms and the individual does not take appropriate action to resolve the situation, the dental hygienist and or students should report the matter to appropriate authorities, e.g., the State Board of Dentistry, the University Honor Council.

(f) Oral health professionals and students must recognize that actions online and content posted may negatively affect their reputations among patients, colleagues, employers and potential employers and may have consequences for their careers now and in the future and can undermine public trust in the dental hygiene profession.

Adapted heavily from the AMA Policy: Professionalism in the Use of Social Media Approved - May 17, 2012.

Course Disclaimer: Every attempt is made to provide a syllabus that is complete and that provides an accurate overview of the course. However, circumstances and events may make it necessary for the instructor to modify the syllabus during the semester. This may depend, in part, on the progress, needs, and experiences of the students.

GENERAL COURSE OBJECTIVES:

At the completion of this course, the student should be able to:

1. Analyze risk management strategies to ensure patient safety, ethical practice, and legal compliance.
2. Evaluate ethical and professional standards to guide competency and responsible dental hygiene practice.
3. Distinguish moral development and ethical theories as they apply to dental hygiene.
4. Correlate ethical principles and ethical dilemmas to inform ethical decision-making.
5. Evaluate the role of codes of ethics in shaping professional standards of responsibility for dental hygienists.
6. Apply ethical decision-making models to address professional dilemmas in dental hygiene practice.
7. Analyze social responsibility and its impact on addressing oral health disparities.
8. Examine state dental hygiene laws, licensure requirements, and their professional implications.
9. Differentiate legal responsibilities and professional obligations in the dental hygienist-patient relationship.
10. Examine the impact of professional relationships, employment laws, and workplace dynamics on dental employment.

SPECIFIC OBJECTIVES BY CHAPTER & TOPIC:

Upon completion of each instructional unit, the student should be able to:

1. Chapter 1; Risk Management:
 - a. Define risk management as it applies to dental hygiene.
 - b. Classify legal, ethical, and safety risks in dental settings.
 - c. Determine strategies used to reduce risks in dental practices.
 - d. Correlate the use of dental record keeping, communication, and credential management to effective risk management.
 - e. Demonstrate a commitment to risk management by prioritizing patient safety, legal compliance, and ethical practice in dental hygiene.
2. Chapter 2; Ethics and Professionalism:
 - a. Describe the role of a dental hygienist in healthcare.
 - b. Distinguish professional traits of an ethical dental hygienist.
 - c. Categorize dental hygiene practice standards for clinical care.
 - d. Evaluate the theory of competency and legal requirements for the dental hygienist.
 - e. Adhere to ethical conduct, professional responsibility, and practice standards as a dental hygienist.
3. Chapter 3; Ethical Theory and Philosophy:
 - a. Identify the components of moral development.

- b. Compare and contrast cognitive moral development theories.
- c. Examine character developments application to ethical conduct.
- d. Correlate the three ethical theories used in dental hygiene.
- e. Reflect on moral development and ethical theories to guide professional conduct in dental hygiene.

4. Chapter 4; Ethical Principles and Values:

- a. Define ethical principles.
- b. Discuss the types of informed consent.
- c. Differentiate between a routine issue and an ethical dilemma.
- d. Defend the role of ethical principles in the decision-making process.
- e. Adopt ethical principles as a foundation for professional decision-making in dental hygiene.

5. Chapter 5; Codes of Ethics:

- a. Recite the code of ethics as it applies to dental hygiene professionals.
- b. Classify the development of ethical codes.
- c. Compare and contrast past and current versions of the ADHA code of ethics for dental hygienists.
- d. Distinguish the standards of professional responsibility of the code of ethics for dental hygienists.
- e. Value the ADHA code of ethics for its role in guiding the standards of professional responsibility for dental hygienists.

6. Chapter 6; Ethical Decision Making in Dental Hygiene and Dentistry:

- a. Explain the purpose of the ethical decision-making process.
- b. List the steps of the ethical decision-making model.
- c. Examine the categories of common ethical dilemmas for dental hygienists.
- d. Correlate the decision-making model in an ethical scenario.
- e. Support the ethical decision-making model by valuing its role in guiding ethical decisions in dental hygiene practice.

7. Chapter 7; Social Responsibility:

- a. Recite the role of the dental hygienist in increasing access to care.
- b. Describe oral health care disparities in America.
- c. Correlate the role of dental therapist in addressing access to care.
- d. Evaluate the connections between health disparities and professional responsibility.
- e. Advocate for increased access of care by recognizing and addressing oral health disparities.

8. Chapter 8; Society and the State Dental Practice Act:

- a. Identify key provisions and requirements of state laws regarding dental hygiene practices.
- b. Compare and contrast dental hygiene supervision levels.

- c. Examine the categories of dental hygiene licensure.
- d. Evaluate due process steps in dental licensure disciplinary actions.
- e. Reflect on state dental hygiene regulations to uphold professional standards.

9. Chapter 9; Dental Hygienist- Patient Relationship

- a. Describe the professional responsibilities between dental hygienists and patients.
- b. Differentiate between civil law and criminal law.
- c. Compare and contrast torts involving people, property, and unintentional tort.
- d. Analyze informed consent and informed refusal in dental hygiene.
- e. Indicate a commitment to comply with legal responsibilities to patients.

10. Chapter 10; Dental Hygienist- Dentist-Employer Relationship:

- a. Identify strategies for seeking and obtaining employment in dental hygiene.
- b. Explain the dental hygienist's role in professional employment relationships.
- c. Differentiate key employment laws.
- d. Analyze factors affecting employee environments and workplace dynamics in dental offices.
- e. Value ethical and professional relationships with employers and colleagues in dental practices.

SYLLABUS COURSE SCHEDULE:

This schedule is based on the Spring semester of 2027 for a 16-weeks long course. **The schedule is subject to change due to unforeseen events.**

SEMESTER WEEK NUMBER:	DAY/DATES/TIMES OF THE WEEK:	CHAPTERS, TOPICS:	Have items in this column completed BEFORE class. For assignment details, look in "Assignments" tab. Complete any additional reading assignments and activities listed within each module.
WEEK 1	Mon., 1-18	Martin Luther King, Jr. Day No assignments; No class	Martin Luther King, Jr. Day No assignments; No class
WEEK 2	Mon., 1-25 9am – 10am	Class introduction Discuss syllabus Chapters 1 "Risk Management" Teacher Lecture	READ : pages 3-25 DUE: Homework #1 "Self-Introduction Discussion Board"
WEEK 3	Mon., 2-1 9am – 10am	Chapter 3 "Ethics and Professionalism" Teacher Lecture	READ: pages 27-35 In-class Partner Activity: Professional characteristics
WEEK 4	Mon., 2-8 9am – 10am	Chapter 3 "Ethics and Professionalism"	READ: pages 27-35 VIDEO: "ADA Ethics" DUE: Homework #2 "Ethical Theories Worksheet" In-class Group Activity: Ethical Theories Case Study
WEEK 5	Mon., 2-15 9am – 10am	TEST #1	Chapters 1-3
WEEK 6	Mon., 2-22 9am – 10am	Chapters 4-5 "Ethical principles, values, & codes" Teacher Lecture	READ: pages 37-54 In-class Individual Activity: Ethical principles worksheet
WEEK 7	Mon., 3-1 9am – 10am	Chapter 6 "Ethical Decision Making" Teacher Lecture	READ: pages 55-63 In-class Group Activity: Ethical Decision-Making Case Study

WEEK 8	Mon., 3-8 9am – 10am	TEST #2	Chapters 4-6
WEEK 9	Mon., 3-15	SPRING BREAK No assignments; No class	SPRING BREAK No assignments; No class
WEEK 10	Mon., 3-22 9am – 10am	Chapter 7 “Social Responsibility”	READ: pages 65-71 Guest Speaker: Dr. Harold
WEEK 11	Mon., 3-29 9am – 10am	Chapter 8 “Society & State Dental Practice Act” Teacher Lecture	READ: pages 73-83 VIDEO: “Understanding Dental Hygiene Practice Acts”
WEEK 12	Mon., 4-5 9am – 10am	Chapter 9 “Dental Hygienist-Patient Relationship” Teacher Lecture	READ: pages 85-93 DUE: Ethical Dilemma Paper DUE: Homework #3 “Virginia Dental Practice Act Research Worksheet”
WEEK 13	Mon., 4-12 9am – 10am	TEST #3	Chapters 7-9
WEEK 14	Mon., 4-19 9am – 10am	Chapters 10 “Dental Hygienist- Employer Relationship” Teacher Lecture	READ: pages 95-184
WEEK 15	Mon., 4-26 9am – 10am	Student Presentations	In-class Activity: Presentations DUE: Ethical Debate & Group Presentations DUE: Homework #4 “Job Search Exercise”
WEEK 16	Mon., 5-3 12pm – 2pm	FINAL EXAM	Comprehensive: All topics

SYLLABUS COURSE ACTIVITY SHEET:

WEEKS	Teacher Lecture	Video Media	Group Work	Partner Work	Individual Work	Guest Speaker	Student Oral Presentation	Quiz/Test/Exam
1	MLK, Jr. Day							
2	X				Self-Introduction			
3	X			Professional Characteristics				
4		X	Ethical Theories Case Study		Ethical Theories Worksheet			
5								Test #1
6	X				Ethical Principles Worksheet			
7	X		Ethical Decision-Making Case Study					
8								Test #2
9	Spring Break							
10						X		
11	X	X						
12	X				- Ethical Dilemma Paper - Virginia Dental Practice Act Research Worksheet			
13								Test #3
14	X							
15					Job Search Exercise		Ethic Debate and Presentation	
16								Final Exam
TOTAL:	7	2	2	1	6	1	1	4