

SUBJECTS AND COURSES

COURSE DESCRIPTIONS - DENTAL ASSISTANT (DAT)

DAT 100 Introduction to Dental Assisti

This course is designed to provide an introduction to dentistry and the history of dentistry, dental equipment, dental auxiliaries, psychology application to dentistry, personal and certification requirements, legal and ethical considerations, and work ethics and communication skills. Emphasis is placed on the Alabama Dental Practice Act and OSHA Standards. Upon completion, students should be able to discuss basic aspects of dentistry. **2 Credit Hours**

DAT 101 Pre-Clinical Procedures

This course is designed to introduce chairside assisting including concepts of four-handed dentistry, sterilization techniques, dental instruments, anesthesia, and operative dentistry. Emphasis will be placed on preparation of the student for clinical dental assisting. Upon completion, the student should be able to perform dental assisting skills in a clinical setting. **5 Credit Hours**

DAT 102 Dental Materials

This course is designed to study the characteristics, manipulation, and application of dental materials ordinarily used in the dental office. Students will be given intra and extra-oral technical tasks to perform. Upon completion, students should be able to take and pour alginate impressions, trim study models, construct custom trays and temporary crowns, prepare and place restorative material, and manipulate cements and impression materials. **5 Credit Hours**

DAT 103 Anatomy & Physiology for Denta

This course is designed to study dental anatomy and the structure of the head and neck with a basic understanding of body structure and function. Emphasis will be placed on tooth and root morphology, and embryological and histological correlations will provide a foundation essential to an understanding of dental health. Upon completion, students should be able to discuss and identify the basic structure and function of the human body specifically the head, neck, and dentition. **3 Credit Hours**

DAT 104 Basic Sciences for Dental Asst

This course is designed to study basic microbiology, pathology, pharmacology, and medical emergencies. Emphasis is placed on the correlation of these sciences to the practice of dentistry. Upon completion, students should be able to apply basic science to the dental field. **2 Credit Hours**

DAT 111 Clinical Practicum I

This course is designed to allow the student the opportunity for clinical observation and practical work experience in clinical settings under the supervision of a licensed dentist. Emphasis will be placed on the basic skills of chairside assisting. Upon completion, students should be able to demonstrate basic skills in the area of chairside assisting. **13 Credit Hours**

DAT 112 Dental Radiology

This course is designed to cover the essential knowledge of radiographic technique for the practice of dentistry. Students will be taught to produce diagnostically acceptable intra and extra-oral radiographs with emphasis being placed on x-ray properties, generation of x-rays, film processing, infection control, quality assurance, intraoral radiographic technique and image characteristics. Upon completion, students should be able to expose, process, and mount radiographs for diagnostic purposes under the direct supervision of a licensed dentist. **5 Credit Hours**

DAT 113 Dental Health Education

This course is designed to introduce the student to the basic principles of nutrition, preventive dentistry, and dental health education. Emphasis will be placed on philosophy of preventive dentistry including: oral hygiene, patient motivation and management, and methods of oral health education. Upon completion, students should be able to apply the basic principles of nutrition and preventive dentistry. **2 Credit Hours**

DAT 116 Pre-Clinical Procedures II

This course is a continuation of Pre-Clinical Procedures I. Emphasis is placed on dental specialties. Upon completion, the student should be able to discuss and identify dental specialty procedures and instrumentation. **5 Credit Hours**

DAT 120 Office Admin for Dental Assist

PREREQUISITE: As required by program. This course is designed to address basic dental office procedures including appointment and recall systems, financial records, accounting procedures, insurance claims, filing systems, purchasing and inventory of supplies and equipment, and the utilization of computers to perform business office procedures. Emphasis is placed on the duties of a dental receptionist. Upon completion, students should be able to demonstrate proficiency in the area of dental office administrative procedures. **5 Credit Hours**

DAT 122 Clinical Practice II

This course is designed to provide the student the opportunity to develop advanced dental assisting skills in chairside dental assisting procedures, radiology, team work, communication skills and administrative duties. Emphasis will be placed on clinical procedures. Upon completion, students should be able to demonstrate proficiency in the area of chairside assisting. **12 Credit Hours**

DAT 123 Dental Assisting Seminar

This course is designed to discuss and evaluate the students' clinical experiences and the resume and interview process. Emphasis will be placed on new technology in dental practices as related to dental assisting and the certification exam review. Upon completion, students should be able to successfully complete the Dental Assisting National Board Examination to become a Certified Dental Assistant. **4 Credit Hours**

DAT 124 Clin Appl Infec Control OSHA S

PREREQUISITE: DAT 111 This course is designed for the integration of previously acquired knowledge of OSHA Standards and Infection Control in a clinical setting. Emphasis will be placed on clinical application of Infection Control and Compliance of OSHA Standards as it relates to dental chairside assisting. Upon completion, students should be able to demonstrate skills in the area of Infection Control and OSHA Guidelines. **4 Credit Hours**

DAT 131 Business & Industry Psychology

PREREQUISITE: As required by program. This course is a study of interpersonal relations in the working environment, interpersonal communications, and techniques for supervision of personnel. **1 Credit Hour**