

Dental Hygiene

Director and Professor: Gurenlian

Professor: Rogo

Associate Professor: Calley

Assistant Professors: Bono, Williams

Clinical Assistant Professor: Stephenson

Emeriti Professors: Christie, Herzog, Hodges, Paarmann, Freudenthal, Johnson

Master of Science in Dental Hygiene

The Master of Science degree in Dental Hygiene is an advanced degree; therefore, the program is designed for students who are licensed dental hygienists with baccalaureate degrees. Graduates will be prepared for various career opportunities within the health-care arena.

MS Program Outcomes

- Promote oral health of individuals and populations by engaging in activities related to management, leadership, and advocacy while maximizing interprofessional opportunities.
- Acquire research and scholarship abilities contributing to the dental hygiene scientific knowledge base.
- Demonstrate professional development through enhanced knowledge, values, and actions.
- Develop instructional and administrative knowledge, values, and practices to prepare future generations of learners.
- Develop, implement, and evaluate community or rural programs to advance the oral health of underserved populations.

Admission Requirements

The student must fulfill the following requirements:

- Graduation from an accredited entry-level dental hygiene program
- Bachelor's degree in dental hygiene or a related field
- Minimum grade point average of 3.0 in upper-division and dental hygiene coursework
- Current dental hygiene licensure in good standing
- The student must apply to and meet all criteria for admission to the Graduate School, and submit a completed application, residency form, fee payment, and transcripts. International students should refer to the "Admission of International Students" section of this Catalog for TOEFL and other requirements. Information is online at <https://www.isu.edu/graduate/>. Send results of the Graduate Record Examination (GRE) or the Miller Analogy Test (MAT) to the Graduate School.
- Complete the Dental Hygiene Department application form for the Master of Science degree program (available at <https://isu.edu/dentalhygiene/master-of-science/>).
- Submit two recommendation forms provided by the department. One recommendation must be completed by an individual who has personal knowledge of the applicant's clinical skills such as a faculty member from a dental hygiene program, employer, or colleague. The second recommendation must be completed by an individual who has personal knowledge of the applicant's academic and professional qualifications for graduate study such as a faculty member, an officer of a professional association, or a colleague.

- Submit to the Graduate School official transcripts to provide evidence of:
 - Graduation from an accredited entry-level dental hygiene program
 - Bachelor's degree in dental hygiene or a related field
 - Minimum grade point average of 3.0 in upper-division courses and a 3.0 in dental hygiene coursework.
- Previous education in local anesthesia and nitrous oxide administration is not a requirement for admissions; however, it is preferred. If previous education in these pain control methods was completed, provide evidence of successful completion of classroom and clinical experiences in local anesthesia and nitrous oxide administration. Evidence could include transcripts, course descriptions, expanded functions, or continuing education certificates.
- Send a photocopy of a license to provide evidence of current dental hygiene licensure in good standing.
- Complete a telephone or personal interview.

Applicants can contact the Department at the following address:

Graduate Program Director
 Department of Dental Hygiene
 Division of Graduate Studies
 921 South 8th Avenue, STOP 8048
 Pocatello, Idaho 83209-8048
 E-mail address: msdinfo@isu.edu (msdh@isu.edu)
 Telephone: (208) 282-2482

General Requirements

A total of 37 credits, including a thesis (minimum of 6 credits), will be required for degree completion. Requirements include 10 courses (26 credits) in the core curriculum, a practicum experience (2-4 credits), and 3 credits of electives.

The core courses advance the theory and practice of dental hygiene and prepare students in research methodology to apply during the thesis process. A thesis is required because the Master of Science degree in Dental Hygiene is the terminal degree in the discipline and a research foundation is imperative to advance the theoretical knowledge base of the profession. To enhance the breadth of knowledge, students are required to complete 3 credits of electives selected from related graduate coursework offered outside the Department of Dental Hygiene.

The program is an online graduate curriculum with on-campus visitations required for DENT 5596 Graduate Seminar I (orientation) and DENT 6619 Graduate Seminar II. A maximum of 9 credits may be transferred officially to Idaho State University.

Code	Title	Credits
Core Course Requirements		
DENT 5596	Graduate Seminar I	1
DENT 6605	Program Development and Evaluation	3
DENT 6610	Special Care Populations	3
DENT 6612	Administration and Management of Healthcare Organizations	3
DENT 6619	Graduate Seminar II	1
DENT 6620	Advanced Educational Theory and Methods	3
DENT 6621	Dental Hygiene Clinical Instruction and Administration	3
DENT 6623	Leadership & Health Policy	3

DENT 6626	Dental Hygiene Practicum	2-4
DENT 6632	Community and Global Health	3
DENT 6646 or CSD 6600	Health Research ¹ Principles of Research in Communication Disorders	3
DENT 6650	Thesis (minimum credits)	6
Total Hours		37
Total Credits		71-73

¹ Undergraduate or graduate statistics or biostatistics must be taken as a prerequisite. A minimum of "C" or better is required.

Academic Requirements

1. Once admitted, students must complete a plan of graduate study with their dental hygiene graduate advisor no later than the end of the first semester after enrollment. This plan must be approved by the Program Director.
2. Any student who, after admission to the Master of Science program, falls below a 3.0 GPA, or who receives a grade of C+ or below in two graduate courses during his or her program of study will be deemed to be performing at an unsatisfactory level and will be dismissed.
3. Any student who, after admission to the Master of Science program, receives a C, C-, D, F, or grade in any graduate course in his or her program of study will be dismissed. Courses with grades of C or lower may not be used to satisfy graduation requirements.
4. Current CPR, related screenings, and/or immunizations are required prior to attending the on-campus orientation.

Graduation Requirements

1. Successfully conduct and defend a thesis as outlined in the Department of Dental Hygiene, Division of Graduate Studies, Graduate Student Handbook.
2. Complete the coursework on the study plan approved by the Program Director, Department of Dental Hygiene, Division of Graduate Studies, and by the ISU Graduate School.

Courses

DENT 5596 Graduate Seminar I: 1 semester hour.

This seminar uses web-based activities and on-site campus activities to assist students in developing skills and abilities essential for successful participation in the MSDH program. Graded S/U.

DENT 5598P Professional Development Topics: 1-3 semester hours.

A course for practicing professionals aimed at the development and improvement of skills. May be applied to graduate degrees under special circumstances. May be repeated. Graded S/U.

DENT 5599 Experimental Course: 1-6 semester hours.

The content of this course is not described in the catalog. Title and number of credits are announced in the Class Schedule. Experimental courses may be offered no more than three times with the same title and content. May be repeated.

DENT 6605 Program Development and Evaluation: 3 semester hours.

An overview of general principles of teaching, learning and evaluation in academic and community oral health programs. Emphasis on assessment, planning, implementation and evaluation of programs.

DENT 6610 Special Care Populations: 3 semester hours.

Concepts related to providing oral health care for special care populations. Emphasis on assessment, planning, implementation and evaluation of care for individuals with transient or lifelong physical, mental, medical or social health needs.

DENT 6612 Administration and Management of Healthcare Organizations: 3 semester hours.

This course combines theoretical knowledge with practical application of principles and techniques for managing a health care environment and employees associated with providing care. Emphasis on organizational structure, human resource management, financial management, quality assurance, policy development, information management, grant writing and business planning.

DENT 6615 Progressive Dental Hygiene Theory: 3 semester hours.

Critical analysis of the dental hygiene process of care related to advanced preventive and therapeutic interventions to various population groups, technology and outcomes.

DENT 6619 Graduate Seminar II: 1 semester hour.

This course provides students with experiential learning in dental hygiene practice, research, education, and innovations in technology. The course will culminate in an updated portfolio that addresses career goals within and beyond graduate education. PREREQ: DENT 6615 or permission of instructor. Graded S/U.

DENT 6620 Advanced Educational Theory and Methods: 3 semester hours.

Study of theory, principles, and research related to the faculty role in active teaching and learning, development of ethical reasoning, critical thinking and reflective judgment, development of curricular frameworks, outcomes and competencies, and course delivery methods. PREREQ: DENT 6605 or departmental approval.

DENT 6621 Dental Hygiene Clinical Instruction and Administration: 3 semester hours.

Theory and practices of clinical instruction and supervision, related to psychomotor skill development, competency-based evaluation, student mentoring and remediation. Examination of organizational and administrative philosophy and practice in curriculum planning, implementation, and evaluation based on accreditation standards. PREREQ: DENT 6620 or departmental approval.

DENT 6623 Leadership & Health Policy: 3 semester hours.

Application of leadership theory and health policy to professional issues, policy development, increasing access to care for diverse populations, advocacy, coalition building, translating and communicating in a policy making environment, and emotional intelligence.

DENT 6626 Dental Hygiene Practicum: 2-4 semester hours.

Individualized experience designed to apply principles and theories in dental hygiene education or service-learning experience applying theories in rural and community health to improve access to care. May be repeated for a maximum of 6 credits. Graded S/U. PREREQ: DENT 6620, or DENT 6610 and DENT 6632, or departmental approval.

DENT 6632 Community and Global Health: 3 semester hours.

A study of population groups that are at increased risk of poor health and a familiarity with policies and programs designed to reduce health inequalities. Emphasis on the ability to plan, implement, and evaluate an oral health program to increase access to care in an underserved target population.

DENT 6640 Independent Study in Dental Hygiene: 2-3 semester hours.

Specific problems selected on the basis of interest and preparation. Individualized student effort under the guidance of the instructor. May be repeated up to 6 credits.

DENT 6646 Health Research: 3 semester hours.

Development of foundations in health research and design. The focus will be on effective literature searching with critical analysis and synthesis of evidence-based literature leading to identification of problems for research. PREREQ: Undergraduate Statistics or Biostatistics.

DENT 6650 Thesis: 1-9 semester hours.

Research project under supervision of academic faculty member. Minimum of 6 credits required. May be repeated. Graded S/U. PREREQ: DENT 6646 or permission of program director.

DENT 6699 Experimental Course: 1-6 semester hours.

The content of this course is not described in the catalog. Title and number of credits are announced in the Class Schedule. Experimental courses may be offered no more than three times with the same title and content. May be repeated.