



DENT-100 – Introduction to Dental Assisting

Health and Human Services

Effective Term & Year: Fall 2026

Course Outline Review Date: 2031-04-01

Program Area: Health

Description:

This course introduces students to the members of the dental team to aid in understanding their education, qualifications, and the skills they contribute to patient care. As health care team members in BC, students will have certain rights and legal responsibilities to which they must adhere. Students study terminology and begin the study of anatomy. Students also develop communication skills to effectively communicate with patients to obtain health histories and maintain patient records. Experiences are also provided to help students learn to work with others, while building and enhancing team member and conflict resolution skills. Emphasis is also placed on the need for respectfully acknowledging the diversity of patients seen in dental practice.

Program Information:

This course is required for successful completion of the Dental Assistant program.

Delivery Methods: Hybrid – On-campus (Face-to-Face) and Online

Credit Type: College of the Rockies Credits

Credits: 3

Instructional Activity and Hours:

Activity	Hours
Classroom, Directed Studies or Online Instruction	39

Seminar/Tutorials	
Laboratory/Studio	
Practicum/Field Experience	
Co-op/Work Experience	
Other	12
Total	51

Course Requisites:

None

Prior Learning and Recognition: No

Course Transfer Credit:

For information about receiving transfer credit for courses taken at either British Columbia or Alberta institutions, please see <https://www.bctransferguide.ca/> or <https://transferalberta.alberta.ca> . For more transfer credit information, please visit <https://www.cotr.bc.ca/Transfer>

All requests for course transfer credit from institutions in British Columbia or elsewhere should go to the College of the Rockies Enrolment Services office.

Textbook Resources:

Textbook selection varies by instructor and may change from year to year. At the Course Outline Effective Date, the following textbooks were in use:

Robinson, D.S. (2024). *Modern dental assisting* (14th ed.). Elsevier.

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Please see the instructor's syllabus or check COTR's online text calculator

<https://textbook.cotr.bc.ca/> for a complete list of the currently required textbooks.

Learning Outcomes:

Upon the successful completion of this course, students will be able to

- identify their roles as dental professionals and those of other dental health team members;
- describe 'professionalism' and the ethics surrounding the profession of Licensed Dental Assistant;
- situate themselves as team players within the office setting, portraying a professional health care image;
- define the 'terminology' of dentistry;
- present rationale and protocol for procedures pertaining to health histories and documentation prior to the practice of dental procedures;
- develop and demonstrate interpersonal communication skills in order to work more effectively with others; and
- acknowledge Indigenous perspectives and experiences of racism, past and present, within health care settings.

Course Topics:

- The Dental Team and Delivery of Care
- Professionalism: Responsibilities as a Health Care Professional
- Dental Fundamentals
- Communications

Evaluation and Assessments

Assessment Type: On-Campus (face-to-face)

Assessment Type	% of Total Grade
Quizzes and Worksheets	20%
Final Exam – Units 1, 2 and 3	30%
Health History Assignmen	20%
Communications Final Assignment	20%
Attendance and Participation in Communication Classes	10%
Total	100%

Grade Scheme

A+	A	A-	B+	B	B-	C+	C	C-	D	F
>=95	94-90	89-85	84-80	79-75	74-70					<70

Pass requirements:

An overall average of B- (70%) or higher is required to pass this course.

Exam Attendance:

Students must attend all scheduled exams at the appointed time and place. Instructors may approve an alternate exam to accommodate an illness or personal crisis. Department heads will consider other written requests. Any student who misses a scheduled exam without prior approval will receive a "0" on the exam.

Academic Policies:

College of the Rockies policies related to courses can be found at <https://cotr.bc.ca/about-us/college-policies/> and include the following:

- Policy 2.1.4 Course Audit
 - Policy 2.4.1 Credential Framework
 - Policy 2.4.3 Students with Documented Disabilities
 - Policy 2.4.4 Student Rights, Responsibilities and Conduct
 - Policy 2.4.8 Academic Performance
 - Policy 2.4.9 Student Feedback and Concerns
 - Policy 2.4.11 Storage of Academic Works
 - Policy 2.5.3 Student Appeal
 - Policy 2.5.5 Prior Learning Assessment and Recognition (PLAR)
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Course Changes:

The College of the Rockies updates course outlines regularly to meet changing educational, employment and marketing needs. The instructor will notify students in writing of any updates to this outline during the semester. The instructor reserves the right to revise, add or delete material while meeting the learning outcomes of this course outline.