



DENT-143 – Patient Care Procedures

Health and Human Services

Effective Term & Year: Fall 2026

Course Outline Review Date: 2031-04-01

Program Area: Health

Description:

This course covers a variety of procedures that a Licensed Dental Assistant needs to perform to provide intraoral and preventive care for patients. These skills include pulp vitality testing, the placement of treatment liners and varnish in teeth without pulpal involvement, and the application of primer and bond. Students will also learn patient care procedures such as alginate impressions, tooth whitening concepts, and the fabrication of tooth whitening trays and mouthguards. Coronal polishing is focused on as an essential part of practice for complete patient care. Students develop skills on preventative procedures including pit and fissure sealants, and the use of desensitizing agents, suture removal, retraction cord, and periodontal pack removal.

Program Information:

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

Delivery Methods: On-campus (Face-to-Face)

Credit Type: College of the Rockies Credits

Credits: 2

Instructional Activity and Hours:

Activity	Hours
Classroom, Directed Studies or Online Instruction	27

Seminar/Tutorials

Laboratory/Studio	95 *Refer to DENT 154 Course Outline
-------------------	--------------------------------------

Practicum/Field Experience

Co-op/Work Experience

Other

Total	122
-------	-----

Course Requisites:

- Complete all of the following
 - Completed the following:
 - DENT100 – Introduction to Dental Assisting (3)
 - DENT130 – Microbiology and Infection Control (2)
 - DENT131 – Basic Dental Assisting (2)
 - DENT132 – Patient Assessment (4)
 - DENT134 – Preventive Dentistry (3)
 - DENT135 – Dental Radiography (3)
 - DENT136 – Restorative Assisting (3)
 - DENT137 – Laboratory Procedures (2)
 - DENT140 – Dental Specialties (3)
 - DENT133 – Dental Office Emergencies (2)
 - DENT142 – Dental Reception (3)
 - Part 1 of DENT 154 and DENT PRAC #1

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.

Bartolomucci Boyd, L.R. (2024). *Dental instruments: A pocket guide* (8th ed.). Elsevier.

DENT 143 Module

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

- approach client care with a respect for the culture, traditions, and protocols of clients;
 - describe and demonstrate the techniques for doing pulp vitality testing;
 - explain the requirements and need for the taking of alginate impressions;
 - develop the technique for taking alginate impressions;
 - perform acid etch process cavity preparations;
 - develop the technique for correct matrix and wedge placement and removal;
 - describe and demonstrate the principles of coronal polishing techniques;
 - describe and demonstrate application and adjustment of pit and fissure sealants;
 - describe and demonstrate desensitizing techniques;
 - demonstrate the technique for suture and periodontal dressing removal;
 - describe and demonstrate the techniques for the placement of treatment liners and varnish in teeth without pulpal involvement;
 - describe and demonstrate remove retraction cord;
 - describe and demonstrate apply primer and bond to the cavity preparation; and
 - define the concepts of tooth whitening.
-

Course Topics:

- Diagnostic Procedures
 - Restorative Procedures
 - Coronal Polishing
 - Preventive Procedures
 - Post-surgical Procedures
-

Evaluation and Assessments

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

Assessment Type	% of Total Grade
Quizzes, Worksheets and Assignments	25%
Case Studies	25%
Final Exams Units 1, 5 and 6	25%
Final Exam Units 2, 3 and 4	25%
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.

Evaluation Notes Comments:

CLINICAL:

Elements of DENT 143, particularly course learning outcomes #1-14, correspond to DENT 154 practical objectives:

- Test Pulp Vitality
- Take Diagnostic Alginate Impressions
- Acid Etch Prepared Cavities
- Place and Remove Matrices and Wedges
- Apply Primer and Bond
- Polish Clinical Crowns
- Apply and Adjust Pit and Fissure Sealants
- Apply Desensitizing Agents
- Remove Sutures
- Remove Periodontal Dressings
- Place Liners in Teeth without Pulpal Involvement
- Remove Retraction Cord
- Fabricate Custom Whitening Trays

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)
-

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.