COLLEGE OF
THE ROCKIES

DENT-154 – Clinical Dental Assisting Procedures

Health and Human Services

Effective Term & Year: Fall 2025
Course Outline Review Date: 2030-04-01

Program Area: Health

Description:

Section 1 of Clinical Dental Assisting Procedures concentrates on the practical objectives you have learned about in DENT 100 through DENT 142 as well as the course learning outcomes. Your time is spent in demonstration, practice and evaluation of these skills under the direct supervision of a licensed instructor.

Prerequisite requirements for Section 2: completion of Section 1 of this course is required for Work Experience 1 (DENT PRAC 1).

Section 2 concentrates on the practical elements of Certified Dental Assisting (CDA) that you have learned about in DENT 141 and DENT 143. This is your opportunity to apply the theory and knowledge you gained at chairside into actual practice as the operator under the direct supervision of a licensed instructor.

You must demonstrate satisfactory competency to qualify as a CDA. Completion of Section 2 of this course is required for Work Experience 2 (DENT PRAC 2).

Program Information:

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

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

Credit Type: College of the Rockies Credits

Credits: 6

Instructional Activity and Hours:

Activity	Hours
Classroom, Directed Studies or Online Instruction	
Seminar/Tutorials	
Laboratory/Studio	559 * this total represents all clinical hours as reflected on individual course outlines
Practicum/Field Experience	
Co-op/Work Experience	
Other	
Total	559

Course Requisites:

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

    DENT 154 – Section 2

    - Completed the following:
        - DENT100 – Introduction to Dental Assisting (3)
        - DENT130 – Microbiology and Infection Control (2)
        - DENT131 – Basic Dental Assisting (2)
        - DENT132 – Patient Assessment (4)
        - DENT133 – Dental Office Emergencies (2)
        - DENT133 – Dental Office Emergencies (2)
        - DENT134 – Preventive Dentistry (3)
        - DENT135 – Dental Radiography (3)
        - DENT136 – Restorative Assisting (3)

- DENT137 – Laboratory Procedures (2)
- DENT140 – Dental Specialties (3)
- DENT142 – Dental Reception (3)
- DENTPRAC1 – Work Experience 1 (4)
- Concurrently enrolled in:
  - DENT141 – Community Dental Health (3)
  - DENT143 – Patient Care Procedures (2)

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 Columba 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:

Elsevier Saunders (Bird and Robinson), *Modern Dental Assisting*, 14th Edition,

ISBN 978-0-323-82440-8

Elsevier Saunders (Boyd), *Dental Instruments: A Pocket Guide*, 8th Edition,

ISBN 978-0-323-87390-1

DENT 154 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 practice and perform a range of clinical skills corresponding to DENT 130 – 143 course outlines.

Clinical skills applicable to assisting are listed on the following course outlines under the **Clinical** section:

- DENT 130 Dental Professionalism;
- DENT 131 Basic Dental Assisting;
- DENT 132 Patient Assessment;
- DENT 133 Dental Office Emergencies;
- DENT 134 Preventive Dentistry;
- DENT 135 Dental Radiography;
- DENT 136 Restorative Assisting;
- DENT 137 Laboratory Procedures;
- DENT 140 Dental Specialties;
- DENT 142 Dental Reception; and
- DENT 143 Patient Care Procedures.

Course Topics:

Section 1

- Control Infection by Disinfection
- Control Infection by Sterilization
- Identification and Operation of Dental Operatory and Equipment
- Position Patient and Dental Team
- Apply Patient Management Skills
- Assemble Armamentarium
- Transfer Armamentarium
- Maintain the Operating Field
- Apply Interviewing Skills
- Obtain Health History
- Obtain Vital Signs
- Apply Principles of Instrument Use
- Observe Soft Tissues
- Observe Dentition
- Observe Periodontium
- Observe Occlusion
- Record Data
- Manage Emergency Situations (has been incorporated with Restorative Procedures)
- Promote Safety in Dentistry (has been incorporated into all pertinent clinical evaluation

forms)
- Individualize Patient Care
- Apply Topical Fluoride
- Teach Oral Self-Care
- Expose Dental Radiographs
- Process Dental Radiographs
- Assist with Pain Control
- Apply Topical Anesthetic Agents
- Maintain and Operate Handpieces
- Maintain Oral Evaluation Systems
- Isolate the Operating Field (Cotton Products)
- Assemble Armamentarium for Operative Procedures
- Assemble Armamentarium for Fixed Prosthodontics Procedures
- Assist with Operative Procedures
- Isolate the Operating Field (Dental Dam)
- Assist with Fixed Prosthodontic Procedures
- Assist with Removable Prosthodontic Procedures (for reference only)
- Pour Study Models
- Process Study Casts
- Fabricate Custom Trays
- Polish Dentures (Mouth Guards)
- Assemble Armamentarium for Endodontic Procedures
- Assist with Endodontic Procedure
- Assemble Armamentarium for Periodontal Procedures (for reference only)
- Assist with Periodontal Procedures (for reference only)
- Assemble Armamentarium for Surgical Procedure (Simple/complex)
- Assist with Surgical Procedures (Simple/complex)
- Assemble Armamentarium for Orthodontic Procedures (for reference only)
- Assist with Orthodontic Procedure (for reference only)
- Assist with Pediatric Dentistry (for reference only)
- Apply Telephone Techniques
- Control Appointments
- Manage Recall System
- Control Patient Accounts
- Process Dental Claims
- Maintain Financial Records
- Maintain Filing System
- Manage Written Communication

Section 2

- Test Pulp Vitality
- Take Diagnostic Alginate Impressions
- Acid Etch Prepared Cavities
- Place and Remove Matrices and Wedges
- Polish Clinical Crowns
- Apply and Adjust Pit and Fissure Sealants

- Apply Desensitizing Agents
- Apply Primer and Bond to the Cavity Preparation
- Remove Sutures
- Remove Periodontal Dressings
- Remove Retraction Cord
- Place Liners in Teeth Without Pulpal Involvement
- Fabricate Custom Whitening Tray
- Fabricate Custom Mouth Guard
- Clean Removable Appliances
- Fabricate a Single-Unit Provisional Crown Using an Alginate Matrix

Evaluation and Assessments

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

Assessment Type	% of Total Grade
In-clinic skills demonstrations	Satisfactory/Unsatisfactory

Grade Scheme

COM	NCG
Completed to the defined standard – 70% and higher	No credit granted – less than 70%

Pass requirements:

An overall achievement of satisfactory on all demonstrations is required to pass this course.

Evaluation Notes Comments:

If a student receives unsatisfactory on a clinical demonstration, they will have an opportunity to retest.

See course syllabus for demonstration retest process.

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.