

**College of San Mateo**  
**Official Course Outline**

1. **COURSE ID:** DENT 753    **TITLE:** Dental Assisting Clinical Practice  
**Units:** 5.0 units    **Hours/Semester:** 240.0-270.0 Lab hours  
**Method of Grading:** Letter Grade Only  
**Prerequisite:** DENT 751

2. **COURSE DESIGNATION:**  
**Degree Credit**  
**Transfer credit:** CSU

3. **COURSE DESCRIPTIONS:**  
**Catalog Description:**

Clinical experience in dental assisting for students in the dental assisting program. Clinical work must be unpaid and a certain number of hours accumulated per ADA Accreditation Standards. For students enrolled full time in the Dental Assisting Program. (Spring only.)

4. **STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOME(S) (SLO'S):**

Upon successful completion of this course, a student will meet the following outcomes:

1. Demonstrate the ability to communicate professionally & effectively with patients and the dental team.
2. Demonstrates the ability to assist properly at the chair.
3. Demonstrates OSHA compliant disinfection & sterilization techniques utilized by the dental office.

5. **SPECIFIC INSTRUCTIONAL OBJECTIVES:**

Upon successful completion of this course, a student will be able to:

1. Demonstrate the ability to communicate professionally and effectively with patients and dental team.
2. Demonstrate the ability to assist properly at the chair.
3. Demonstrate OSHA compliant disinfection and sterilization techniques utilized by the dental office.

6. **COURSE CONTENT:**

**Lab Content:**

Clinical Practice

Clinical experience assisting a dentist must be an integral part of the educational program designed to perfect students' competence in performing dental assisting functions, rather than to provide basic instruction. Duties include:

- Charting
- Exposing/Processing x-rays
- Seating/Dismissing patients
- Instrument tray set-up
- Suction/retraction/air/water
- Mix composite material
- Mix polyvinyl materials
- Take impressions
- Prepare anesthetic syringe
- Crown/Bridge Prep
- Prepare temporary crowns
- Assist with Sealants
- Sterilization Procedures

7. **REPRESENTATIVE METHODS OF INSTRUCTION:**

Typical methods of instruction may include:

- A. Lecture
- B. Lab
- C. Field Experience
- D. Individualized Instruction
- E. Observation and Demonstration

F. Other (Specify): Students participate in two 8 week rotations during the spring semester in private dental offices within San Mateo County. One 8 week rotation is spent in a general practice dental office and the next 8 week rotation is spent in a specialty practice dental office. Students are required to submit a weekly report of activities of their experiences along with verification of attendance slips signed by the dentist.

#### 8. REPRESENTATIVE ASSIGNMENTS

Representative assignments in this course may include, but are not limited to the following:

**Writing Assignments:**

Students are required to submit a weekly report of activities and their experiences.

**Reading Assignments:**

Reading assignment - Selected chapters from the textbook and handouts

**Other Outside Assignments:**

None

**To be Arranged Assignments:**

None

#### 9. REPRESENTATIVE METHODS OF EVALUATION

Representative methods of evaluation may include:

A. Class Participation

B. Homework

C. The dentists and dental team evaluate the student's performance while in that particular dental office. The student is evaluated after each rotation. The dentist reviews the evaluation with the student and then submits evaluation forms to the instructor. The student must submit a weekly report of activities and experiences along with verification of attendance slips signed by the dentist. To determine the final course grade, the instructor considers the student's reports, evaluations from the dental practices, and attendance hours.

#### 10. REPRESENTATIVE TEXT(S):

Possible textbooks include:

A. Bird, D. and Robinson, D.. *Modern Dental Assisting Textbook*, 13th ed. Elsevier, 2021

**Origination Date:** November 2021

**Curriculum Committee Approval Date:** March 2022

**Effective Term:** Fall 2022

**Course Originator:** Beth LaRochelle