

Course Information

Course Number: *DDHS 4510*
Course Title: *Pediatric Dentistry*
Section: *500*
Time: *Mondays 8am-11am, Tuesdays, 8am-8:50am*
Location: *AEB Room 603*
Credit Hours: *1*

Instructor Details

Course Director: *Jennifer Deck, DDS and Professor Eliska Gauthier*
Office: *AEB 610B*
Phone: *214-828-8241*
E-Mail: deck@tamu.edu and eliskagauthier@exchange.tamu.edu
Office Hours: *By Appointment Only*

Additional Participating Faculty

Alton McWhorter, DDS, MS; Sorcha Harding, BDS, MS; Nina Ray, DDS; Carolyn Kerins, DDS, PhD; Martha Alvarez, DDS; Lucely Santillan, DDS; Jade Quearney, BDS; Dhwani Shah, DDS

Course Description

Child development and pediatric techniques as the basis for management of behavior in the dental environment.

Course Prerequisites

3160 Preclinical Dental Hygiene

Special Course Designation

Dental Hygiene Summer Program 2025

Course Learning Outcomes

Upon successful completion of this course, the student will be able to identify and chart primary and permanent teeth, assign a caries risk, gain knowledge regarding child development, special needs patients, and use communicative behavior guidance for the pediatric patient.

Dental Hygiene Competencies:

1.2 Comply with state and federal laws governing the practice of dentistry and dental

hygiene.

- 3.1 Prepare for career opportunities within health care, industry, education, research, and other roles as they evolve for the dental hygienist.
- 4.1 Promote positive values of overall health and wellness to the public and organizations within and outside of dentistry.
- 4.2 Identify the health needs of individuals and assist them in the development of appropriate and individualized self-care regimens.
- 6.1 Determine medical conditions that require special precautions or consideration prior to or during dental hygiene treatment.
- 6.2 Perform an extraoral and intraoral examination of the patient including assessment of vital signs and radiographic examination, and distinguish normal from abnormal findings.
- 6.4 Recognize predisposing, etiologic risk factors, and lifestyle choices that may require intervention to prevent disease.
- 6.5 Analyze and interpret the assessment data to formulate a dental hygiene diagnosis related to and congruent with the diagnosis of the dentist and other health professionals.
- 6.6 Determine the need for referral to the appropriate health professional.
- 7.1 Determine priorities and establish oral health goals with the patient/family and/or guardian as an active participant.
- 7.4 Communicate the plan for dental hygiene services to the dentist or other interdisciplinary health team members.
- 8.2 Control pain and anxiety during treatment through the use of accepted clinical techniques and appropriate behavior management.
- 8.5 Provide dental hygiene services in a variety of settings.

Textbook and/or Resource Materials

Learning materials will be given for each lecture topic which may be paper, electronic, live in class, electronic, or a combination of all. Review will consist of class material and student questions.

Any changes/updates to handouts will be uploaded to Canvas and a notification sent by COD email to all class participants.

Grading Policy

Dental Hygiene Students

LETTER GRADE	NUMERICAL GRADE RANGE	GRADE POINTS	DESCRIPTOR
A	90-100	4.0	Excellent
B	80-89	3.0	Good
C	75-79	2.0	Fair
D	70-74	1.0	Poor, may require remediation
F	Below 70	0.0	Failure

S		0.0	Satisfactory
U		0.0	Unsatisfactory
I			Incomplete (work or assignments)

- This course will have **2 examinations**. Each examination is weighted at 50% of the final grade.
 1. **Midterm Exam (50% of final grade), Monday June 30th at 8am**
 2. **Cumulative Final Exam (50% of final grade), Monday, July 21st at 8am**
- Exam formats will be multiple response item questions, true/false, and short/written answer given via Examsoft/electronically.
- Each exam will be allowed fifty (50) minutes to complete.

Graded Attendance

Attendance will be taken 5 minutes after the hour for class. On days that have reviews, attendance will be counted. Attendance will be evaluated as satisfactory or unsatisfactory. Satisfactory attendance will be consistent with attendance of at least 75% of the sessions. Absences **excused** by TAMU administration will not be weighed in the attendance evaluation (deemed satisfactory or unsatisfactory).

Attendance is certified through the Office of Scholarships and Financial Aid. If a student fails to attend class or communicate with Dr. Deck regarding continued absences, your attendance cannot be certified.

Late Work Policy

No assignments given other than exams. Absences excused by TAMU will be able to reschedule an exam. Unexcused absences will not be able to reschedule an exam time.

Course Schedule

All subjects below are in the form of lecture courses. There are no labs.

Course Lecture Outline			
Classes will be taught in Room 603 (AEB)			
Date	Time	Subject	Instructor(s)
Mon, June	8:00 9:00 10:00	Introduction to Pediatric Dentistry History Taking/Clinical Assessment Tooth Eruption & Dental Age	Professor Gauthier/Dr. Deck Professor Gauthier Dr. Deck
Tue, June 10	8:00	No Class	
Mon, June 16	8:00 9:00 10:00	Infant Oral Exam/1 st Dental Home Risk Assessment Eruption Disturbances & Anomalies	Dr. Quearney Dr. Harding Dr. Deck
Tue, June 17	8:00	No Class	
Mon, June 23	8:00 9:00 10:00	Child Development Review for Midterm Study Time!	Dr. Alvarez Professor Gauthier/Dr. Deck
Tue, June 24	8:00	Radiographs	Dr. McWhorter
Mon, June 30	8:00 9:00 10:00	No Class Midterm Examination (50 min) Special Health Care Needs	Professor Gauthier/Dr. Deck Dr. Shah
Tues, July 1	8:00	Dental Trauma	Dr. McWhorter
Mon, July 7	8:00 9:00 10:00	Hospital Dentistry & Autism Cleft Lip & Palate/Assoc. Anomalies No Class	Dr. Quearney Dr. Kerins
Tue, July 8	8:00	Prenatal/Perinatal	Dr. Santillan
Mon, July 14	8:00 9:00 10:00	Behavior Management Child Abuse and Neglect Dental Charting & Final Review	Dr. Harding Dr. Deck Dr. Deck
Tue, July 15	8:00	No Class	
Mon. July 21	8:00	Final Examination (50 min)	Professor Gauthier/Dr. Deck
			05/27/2025

Optional Course Information Items

Technology Support

Students are responsible for maintaining their devices and ensuring that they are in proper working order throughout the semester. This includes maintaining access to the college wireless network, access to all accounts (both TAMU and TAMU Health) and keeping passwords up to date. Students are expected to keep their devices up to date in regard to patches and OS updates.

Division of IT

If the student experiences issues with an electronic device, wifi access, axiUm, Zoom, or user accounts, their first point of contact should be the Division of IT Central Help Desk or the local Division of IT at COD. The Central Helpdesk provides 24-hour support.

Division of IT Central Help Desk Website: https://it.tamu.edu/help/ Phone: 1-979-845-8300 Email: helpdesk@tamu.edu	SOD Local Division of IT Office Room: 519 Phone: 214-828-8248
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COD Instructional Design

For electronic exam support or problems concerning other academic technology, such as the LMS (Canvas), ExamSoft, or Examplify, students should contact:

Room: 516 - Academic Affairs

Carmina Castro

ccastro@tamu.edu

(214) 828-8316

Canvas support 24-hours

(877) 354-4821

Lecture Recordings and Mediasite Support

Lecture recordings are posted to the Mediasite course catalog typically no more than 24 hours after they have been received. Unless otherwise specified, all course recordings are available via the Mediasite channel link within the Canvas course.

For missing recordings, contact your instructor and the Instructional Design Team.

For problems with recording playback, Mediasite access, or performance, contact IT's Health Technology Care Team (979.436.0250).

University Policies

Attendance Policy

The university views class attendance and participation as an individual student responsibility. Students are expected to attend class and to complete all assignments.

DDS students, please refer to your student handbook, DH students please refer to student rule 7 for information about excused absences, including definitions, and related documentation and timelines.

Makeup Work Policy

Students will be excused from attending class on the day of a graded activity or when attendance contributes to a student's grade, for the reasons stated in Student Rule 7, or other reason deemed appropriate by the Office of Student Affairs.

Please refer to [Student Rule 7](#) in its entirety for information about makeup work, including definitions, and related documentation and timelines.

Absences related to Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972 may necessitate a period of more than 30 days for make-up work, and the timeframe for make-up work should be agreed upon by the student and instructor" ([Student Rule 7, Section 7.4.1](#)).

"The instructor is under no obligation to provide an opportunity for the student to make up work missed because of an unexcused absence" ([Student Rule 7, Section 7.4.2](#)).

Students who request an excused absence are expected to uphold the Aggie Honor Code and Student Conduct Code. (See [Student Rule 24](#).)

Academic Integrity Statement and Policy

"An Aggie does not lie, cheat or steal, or tolerate those who do."

"Texas A&M University students are responsible for authenticating all work submitted to an instructor. If asked, students must be able to produce proof that the item submitted is indeed the work of that student. Students must keep appropriate records at all times. The inability to authenticate one's work, should the instructor request it, may be sufficient grounds to initiate an academic misconduct case" ([Section 20.1.2.3, Student Rule 20](#)).

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You can learn more about the Aggie Honor System Office Rules and Procedures, academic integrity, and your rights and responsibilities at aggiehonor.tamu.edu. You can also contact Graduate Studies at 214-828-8182, Student Affairs at 214-828-8210, or your Program Director, for guidance.

Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) Policy

Texas A&M College of Dentistry

Texas A&M University is committed to providing equitable access to learning opportunities for all students. All students are encouraged to discuss their disability-related needs with Disability Resources and their instructors as soon as possible. If you experience barriers to your education due to a disability which may include, but not limited to: attentional, learning, mental health, sensory, physical, or chronic health conditions, visit Disability Resources for more information. <http://disability.tamu.edu>.

The primary contact for any new disability accommodation requests and for any accommodation questions/concerns:

Tracey Forman, Associate Director of Disability Resources
979.845.1637 | traceyf@disability.tamu.edu |

Staff and administration in Student Affairs, Student Development and Academic Affairs are available as needed to discuss any concerns and navigate the accommodations process with our students locally.

Title IX and Statement on Limits to Confidentiality

Texas A&M University is committed to fostering a learning environment that is safe and productive for all. University policies and federal and state laws prohibit gender-based discrimination and sexual harassment, including sexual assault, sexual exploitation, domestic violence, dating violence, and stalking.

With the exception of some medical and mental health providers, all university employees (including full and part-time faculty, staff, paid graduate assistants, student workers, etc.) are Mandatory Reporters and must report to the Title IX Office if the employee experiences, observes, or becomes aware of an incident that meets the following conditions (see [University Rule 08.01.01.M1](#)):

- The incident is reasonably believed to be discrimination or harassment.
- The incident is alleged to have been committed by or against a person who, at the time of the incident, was (1) a student enrolled at the University or (2) an employee of the University.

Mandatory Reporters must file a report regardless of how the information comes to their attention – including but not limited to face-to-face conversations, a written class assignment or paper, class discussion, email, text, or social media post. Although Mandatory Reporters must file a report, in most instances, a person who is subjected to the alleged conduct will be able to control how the report is handled, including whether or not to pursue a formal investigation. The University's goal is to make sure you are aware of the range of options available to you and to ensure access to the resources you need.

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Students can learn more about filing a report, accessing supportive resources, and navigating the Title IX investigation and resolution process on the University's [Title IX webpage](#). College of Dentistry students can contact Graduate Studies at 214-828-8182, Student Affairs at 214-828-8210, Security at 214-828-8335, their Program Director, or their Department Head to report an incident.

Statement on Mental Health and Wellness

Texas A&M University recognizes that mental health and wellness are critical factors that influence a student's academic success and overall wellbeing. Students are encouraged to engage in healthy self-care by utilizing available resources and services on your campus.

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24-hour emergency help is available through the National Suicide Prevention Hotline (800-273-8255) or at suicidepreventionlifeline.org. You can also contact Graduate Studies at 214-828-8182 or Student

Affairs at 214-828-8210 for a referral to a local counselor. These counseling sessions are private and confidential, as are any referral requests. As part of our commitment to your well-being, we offer access to Telus Health, a service available 24/7/365 via chat, phone, or webinar. Scan the QR code to download the app and explore the resources available to you for guidance and support whenever you need it.



Campus-Specific Policies

Statement on the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA)

FERPA is a federal law designed to protect the privacy of educational records by limiting access to these records, to establish the right of students to inspect and review their educational records and to provide guidelines for the correction of inaccurate and misleading data through informal and formal hearings. Currently enrolled students wishing to withhold any or all directory information items may do so by going to howdy.tamu.edu and clicking on the "Directory Hold Information" link in the Student Records channel on the MyRecord tab. The complete [FERPA Notice to Students](#) and the student records policy is available on the Office of the Registrar webpage.

Items that can never be identified as public information are a student's social security number, citizenship, gender, grades, GPR or class schedule. All efforts will be made in this class to protect your privacy and to ensure confidential treatment of information associated with or generated by your participation in the class.

Directory items include name, UIN, local address, permanent address, email address, local telephone number, permanent telephone number, dates of attendance, program of study (college, major, campus), classification, previous institutions attended, degrees honors and awards received, participation in officially recognized activities and sports, medical residence location and medical residence specialization.

College and Department Policies

Remediation Policy

If a student fails the course, a special remediation course will be offered only to those students with **satisfactory attendance** (see under Grading Policy/Graded Attendance). Remediation may include meetings with course director and/or remediation of exam(s). A student who fails the course and has unsatisfactory attendance will repeat the course the next time it is offered in the curriculum or virtually at the discretion of the course director.