

Dental Hygiene

Career Degree (Wallace Linkage)

Available: Phil Campbell and Shoals Campuses

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Wallace State Community College offers this course of study leading to an Associate in Applied Science Degree in Dental Hygiene. Individuals who have received a Certificate or A.A.S. in Dental Assisting from an accredited program may receive advanced standing for previously completed courses including DHY 103 (Radiology) and DHY 102 (Dental Materials). The DHY Program requires a minimum of five semesters for completion.

As a practicing member of the dental health team, the dental hygienist acts as an educator and motivator in maintenance of oral health and the prevention of dental disease. There are many professional roles the dental hygienist may assume: participation in community health programs, dental office managerial roles, and participation in research activities. Since many dentists employ one or two dental hygienists, employment opportunities in this field are wide. Hygienists are in demand in general dental practices as well as in specialty practices such as periodontics or pediatric dentistry. Hygienists may also be employed to provide dental hygiene services for patients in hospitals, nursing homes, and public health clinics.

See program website for accreditation information. Graduates are allowed to take National Dental Hygiene Boards. Students who successfully complete the National Board Exam are qualified to take any State or Regional licensing examination.

General Required Courses to be completed at Northwest- Shoals Community College.

Entering students are required to complete ORI 107. Transfer students are exempt from this requirement.

Students must complete specialized courses at Wallace State to receive this degree. Wallace State enrolls students in this program competitively and only in certain terms. See your advisor.

WSCC Program Director: Barbara Ebert 256.352.8380

Program: [Allied Health Linkage Programs](#)

Entrance Requirements

- Submit a completed application;
- High School diploma or equivalent required:
- Age Requirement:
- Submit official high school/high school equivalent transcripts, if applicable;
- Submit official college transcripts, if applicable;
- Satisfy [Placement Testing](#) requirements.

Required Courses

* BIO 103 highly recommended before BIO 201, 202 and 220.

Item #	Title	Credits
BIO 201	Human Anatomy and Physiology I	4
BIO 202	Human Anatomy and Physiology II	4
CHM 104	Introduction to Chemistry I	4
ENG 101	English Composition I	3
MTH 116	Mathematical Applications	3
PSY 200	General Psychology	3
SPH 107	Fundamentals of Public Speaking	3
SOC 200	Introduction to Sociology	3
	WL Humanities and Fine Arts Elective	3
Minimum Credit Hours for Graduation:		35