

**Dental Assisting** 510899 DA  
**Career Degree - Wallace Linkage**

Available: Phil Campbell and Shoals Campuses  
 Advisors: J. Frederick (6294/5494) [jfrederick@nwscce.edu](mailto:jfrederick@nwscce.edu)  
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Upon successful completion of this program, graduates will be prepared to function as Dental Assistants in dental offices, hospitals and clinics. A dental assistant assists with the direct care of patients under the supervision of a dentist. The program is accredited by the Commission on Dental Accreditation of the American Dental Association, a specialized body recognized by the United States Department of Education.

**STUDENTS ENROLLING IN THE PROGRAM MAY DO SO FOR EITHER A CERTIFICATE PROGRAM OR AN ASSOCIATE IN APPLIED SCIENCE DEGREE PROGRAM.**

Either approach enables the student to qualify to take the National Certification Examination administered by the Dental Assisting National Board, Inc. Students are required to complete the program within 2 years of entry into the program.

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

**Entering students are required to complete ORI 101. Transfer students are exempt from this requirement.**

**Semester Hours**

*CIS 146 Microcomputer Applications .....	3
*ENG 101 English Composition I .....	3
*MTH 116 Mathematical Applications .....	3
*PSY 200 General Psychology .....	3
*SPH 107 Fundamentals of Public Speaking .....	3
Humanities/Fine Arts Elective .....	3
Elective Natural Science .....	3
<b>Total Semester Hours .....</b>	<b>21</b>

**\*Required for certificate program.**

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

Health programs at Wallace State have program admission requirements unique to the individual program. Information on program admission requirements can be obtained through the WSCC catalog, WSCC website ([www.wallacestate.edu](http://www.wallacestate.edu)), or Wanda Rhodes, Health Linkage advisor located at NW-SCC. Admission requirements may include, but are not limited to: CPR certification, ACT scores, Compass testing, and observation hours.

After program admission, all WSCC Health Science Division students are required to submit a physical exam, consent to drug testing, and criminal background checks to meet clinical agency requirements.

**Dental Hygiene** 510899 DH  
**Career Degree - Wallace Linkage**

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Wallace State College offers this course of study leading to an Associate in Applied Science Degree in Dental Hygiene. The AAS degree program is also available to individuals who have received a Certificate or AAS in Dental Assisting.

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.

The Dental Hygiene Program is accredited by the Commission on Dental Accreditation. 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 101. Transfer students are exempt from this requirement.**

**Semester Hours**

*BIO 201-202 Anatomy and Physiology I and II .....	8
*BIO 220 General Microbiology .....	4
CHM 104 Introduction to Inorganic Chemistry .....	4
ENG 101 English Composition I .....	3
MTH 116 Mathematical Application .....	3
PSY 200 General Psychology .....	3
SOC 200 Introduction to Sociology .....	3
SPH 107 Fundamentals of Public Speaking .....	3
Humanities or Fine Arts Elective .....	3
<b>Total Semester Hours .....</b>	<b>34</b>

**\*Biology 103 highly recommended**

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.