DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNICATION SCIENCES AND ORAL HEALTH

Communication Sciences: www.twu.edu/communication-sciences
Oral Health: www.twu.edu/dental-hygiene

Chair: Erika Armstrong, Associate Professor
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Undergraduate Degrees Offered

- B.S. in Communication Sciences (http://catalog.twu.edu/undergraduate/health-sciences/communication-sciences-oral-health/communication-sciences-bs)
- B.S. in Dental Hygiene (Professional Entry-Level Program) (http://catalog.twu.edu/undergraduate/health-sciences/communication-sciences-oral-health/dental-hygiene-bsdh-professional-entry-level-program)
- R.D.H. to B.S. Program (online) (http://catalog.twu.edu/undergraduate/health-sciences/communication-sciences-oral-health/rdh-registered-dental-hygienist-bsdh-program-online)

The undergraduate program in Communication Sciences prepares students for graduate level work and related career opportunities in the fields of speech-language pathology and audiology by providing foundational knowledge in the areas of typical communication development, differences and disorders of communication for children and adults, and intervention strategies for helping children and adults become successful communicators.

The undergraduate program in Dental Hygiene prepares students to become registered dental hygienists, while the RDH to BSDH program provides a pathway to a bachelor's degree for students with an associate's degree from an accredited dental hygiene program.

For detailed information about the graduate programs in Speech-Language Pathology or Education of the Deaf, refer to the Graduate Catalog (http://catalog.twu.edu/graduate).

All applicants must meet the general undergraduate admission requirements (http://catalog.twu.edu/undergraduate/admission-information). The following degrees have additional secondary admission criteria:

- B.S. in Communication Sciences (http://catalog.twu.edu/undergraduate/health-sciences/communication-sciences-oral-health/communication-sciences-bs/#admissionstext)
- B.S. in Dental Hygiene: Professional Entry-Level Program (http://catalog.twu.edu/undergraduate/health-sciences/communication-sciences-oral-health/dental-hygiene-bsdh-professional-entry-level-program/#admissionstext)

*ABELLERA, ROBIN L., Associate Clinical Professor of Communication Sciences, B.S., University of Houston; M.A., Texas Woman's University

*ALLMAN, TAMBY M., Associate Professor of Communication Sciences, B.S., Baylor University; M.A., Texas Woman's University; Ed.D., National-Louis University

*ARMSTRONG, ERIKA S., Associate Professor of Communication Sciences; Chair of the Department of Communication Sciences and Oral Health, B.A., University of Texas at Dallas; M.S., University of Texas at Dallas; Ph.D., University of Texas at Dallas

*BHARADWAJ, SNEHA V., Associate Professor of Communication Sciences, B.S., University of Mysore, India; M.S., University of Mysore, India; Ph.D., University of Texas at Dallas

*BOLINGER, CHRISTOPHER, Assistant Professor of Communication Sciences; Dental Hygiene Program Director, B.B.A., Texas Tech University ; Health Sciences Center; Ph.D., Texas Tech University : Health Sciences Center

*CHANCE, PAULA V., Associate Clinical Professor of Communication Sciences, B.S., Abilene Christian University; M.S., Texas Woman's University

*DICKINSON, CHARLENE B., Associate Clinical Professor of Dental Hygiene; Dental Hygiene Program Director, B.S., Texas Woman's University; M.S., Texas Woman's University

*GILL, CYNTHIA B., Professor of Communication Sciences, B.S., Southwest Texas State University; M.Ed., Southwest Texas State University; Ed.D., East Texas State University

*GREEN, LAURA B., Associate Professor of Communication Sciences, B.S., Stephen F. Austin State University; M.A., University of Houston; Ph.D., University of Washington

*HANDMAN, RISA B., Associate Clinical Professor of Dental Hygiene, B.S., Georgia Southern University; M.S., University of Tennessee, Memphis

*KOBERTHA, LESLIE W., Clinical Professor of Dental Hygiene, B.S., Weber State University; M.P.H., University of Utah; Ph.D., Texas Woman's University

*LEVITT, JUNKO (JUNE) S., Associate Professor of Communication Sciences, B.A., Musashino Women's College; M.S., University of Texas at Dallas; Ph.D., University of Texas at Dallas

*LYNCH, CATHERINE CARRASCO, Assistant Clinical Professor of Communication Sciences, B.S., Texas Woman's University; M.S., Texas Woman's University

*MEHTA, JYUTIKA A., Associate Professor of Communication Sciences, B.S., Bombay University : India; M.S., University of Texas at Dallas; Ph.D., University of Texas at Dallas

*MOORER-COOK, LAURA L., Clinical Professor of Communication Sciences, B.S., Texas Woman's University; M.A., Texas Woman's University

*MORY, KIMBERLY D., Associate Clinical Professor of Communication Sciences, B.A., California State University, Fullerton; M.A., California State University, Fullerton

*MOORER-COOK, LAURA L.
COMS 2233. Anatomy and Physiology for Speech and Language. The relationship of anatomy and physiology of the brain, central nervous system, and the respiratory system with articulation, phonation, and hearing. For COMS majors only. Prerequisite: Biology course. Three lecture hours a week. Credit: Three hours.

COMS 2513. Deaf Culture. History of deaf community, its art, literature and language (American Sign Language), including current attitudes, movements, policies, and trends which affect the Deaf as a minority. Three lecture hours a week. Credit: Three hours.

COMS 3063. Language Development. Nature of language, language-learning theories, and milestones of speech and language development. Three lecture hours a week. Credit: Three hours.

COMS 3333. Phonetics. Classification and phonetics of English phonemes using the International Phonetic Alphabet (IPA), diacritical markings, and phonological processes. Three lecture hours a week. Credit: Three hours.

COMS 3503. Speech Disorders and Intervention. Normal speech development; etiology, diagnosis, and treatment for speech disorders as they relate to children and adults. Factors involved in the learning and teaching of speech to the deaf and hard-of-hearing. Prerequisite: COMS 3333. Three lecture hours a week. Credit: Three hours.

COMS 3523. Audiology. Introduction to anatomy and physiology of the auditory system, assessment of hearing, and the effects of hearing loss on communication across the lifespan from infancy through old age. Three lecture hours a week. Credit: Three hours.

COMS 3553. School-Age Language. Nature of oral and written language, the relationship of language to academic learning, and language development in the school-age years. Prerequisite or co-requisite: COMS 3063. Three lecture hours a week. Credit: Three hours.

COMS 3563. Language Disorders and Intervention. Etiology, diagnosis, and therapy strategies for language disorders across the lifespan with emphasis on evidence based practice for preschool and school aged children. Three lecture hours a week. Credit: Three hours.

COMS 3633. Aural Habilitation. Effects of hearing differences on communication, current hearing technologies, development of auditory-based skills in individuals who are deaf/hard-of-hearing, and related clinic and classroom-based support strategies. Prerequisite: COMS 3523. Three lecture hours a week. Credit: Three hours.

COMS 4203. Diagnostic Procedures. Instruction in current evaluative procedures of speech and language, both formal and informal; using test data to plan for intervention strategies. Prerequisites: COMS 3063 and a statistics course. Three lecture hours a week. Credit: Three hours.

COMS 4223. Observations of Deaf and Hard-of-Hearing Students in the Educational Environment. Instruction about and scheduled observations of educational programs designed to educate deaf and hard-of-hearing children at the preschool, elementary, and secondary levels. The course will cover the following methods of instruction: total communication, auditory-verbal, and teaching English as a second language. Prerequisite: Permission of department. One lecture and four practicum hours a week. Credit: Three hours.

COMS 4303. Introduction to Clinical Processes. Instruction in clinical processes and observation of speech therapy sessions. Prerequisite: Permission of instructor. Three practicum hours a week. Credit: Three hours.

DH 3303. Process of Care for the Registered Dental Hygienist. Registered dental hygienist exploration of the professional framework within the dental hygiene scope of practice that allows for meeting individualized needs of patients; components including assessment, data analysis, plan of action, implementation, and evaluation along with required documentation. Three lecture hours a week. Credit: Three hours.

DH 3311. Professionalism and Ethics. Professional ethics including ethical theory and philosophy, ethical principles and values, professionalism, social responsibility and justice, codes of ethics, and ethical decision making. One lecture hour a week. Credit: One hour.

DH 3312. Professionalism and Ethics. Introduction to leadership, interpersonal communication, and other skills essential for effective management within professional dental hygiene roles. Exploration of evolving topics and/or problems and development of effective speaking skills for resolutions related to the current state of oral healthcare and professional oral healthcare education. Two lecture hours a week. Credit: Two hours.


DH 3350. Dental Hygiene Lab. Laboratory and clinical experiences necessary to produce quality radiographs, including communication and documentation, and to provide radiographic interpretation for common landmarks, pathologies, and anomalies. Four laboratory hours a week. Credit: One hour.

DH 3351. Clinical Dental Hygiene Theory and Practice. Dental hygiene concepts including oral healthcare, prevention of disease transmission, ergonomics, assessment, diagnosis planning, implementation and evaluation (ADPIE), patient assessment techniques, dental hygiene diagnosis, planning, and implementation for a relatively healthy patient. Three lecture hours a week. Credit: Three hours.

DH 3352. Dental Hygiene II. Dental hygiene process of care for patients with greater treatment needs. Dental hypersensitivity, self-assessment in the clinical environment, periodontal debridement, and medical emergencies. Two lecture hours a week. Credit: Two hours.
DH 3503. Clinical Dental Hygiene II. Utilization of evidence-based decision making and critical thinking; integration of the dental hygiene process of care and oral health education for patients with emphasis on the pediatric and healthy patient and patients exhibiting gingivitis and slight periodontitis. Skills for working in interprofessional teams to enhance communication and collaboration with other members of the healthcare team to support comprehensive patient care. Guided practice sessions, adjacent clinical procedures, and quality assurance measures. One lecture and 8 to 12 clinical laboratory hours a week. Credit: Three hours.


DH 3532. Radiography II. Applied instruction for patient selection, exposure, processing, mounting interpretation, and evaluation of bite-wing, panoramic, and periapical radiographs culminating in the exposure of radiographs; use of radiographs to assess, analyze, plan and/or evaluate a patient’s oral health need, risk, and prevention or dental hygiene treatment; emphasis on radiation safety and immediate readiness for application of techniques to clinical cases. Co-requisite: DH 3321. One lecture and three laboratory hours a week. Credit: Two hours.

DH 3542. Pharmacology for the Dental Hygienist. Overview of concepts of drug therapy and specific mechanisms of action, including pharmacology, pharmacokinetics, and pharmacodynamics for drugs commonly prescribed in dentistry or for medical conditions that may alter dental hygiene treatment; includes general and local anesthetic agents. One lecture and two laboratory hours a week. Credit: Two hours.

DH 3843. Introduction to Process of Care for Early Entry RDH to BSDH. Early entry RDH to BSDH student exploration of the professional framework within the dental hygiene scope of practice that allows for meeting individualized needs of patients; components including assessment, data analysis, plan of action, implementation, evaluation, and required documentation. Three lecture hours a week. Credit: Three hours.

DH 4102. Dental Hygiene Research. Evidence-based practice related to dental hygiene practice; finding, accessing, interpreting, and applying scientific information from reliable sources. Two lecture hours a week. Credit: Two hours.

DH 4304. Clinical Dental Hygiene III. Utilization of evidence-based decision making and critical thinking; integration of the dental hygiene process of care and oral health education for patients with emphasis on the adolescent and geriatric patient and the adult patient exhibiting moderate periodontal disease, providing appropriate adjunct procedures and continued provision of competent care for patients with less complicated needs. Skills for working in interprofessional teams to enhance communication and collaboration with other members of the healthcare team to support comprehensive patient care. Guided practice sessions, adjacent clinical procedures, and quality assurance measures. One lecture and 12 to 16 clinical laboratory hours a week. Credit: Four hours.


DH 4331. Research Development. Creation of an original research project on a topic of interest; progression from development of a research question through the IRB approval process. Prerequisite: DH 4102. One lecture and one laboratory hour a week. Credit: One hour.

DH 4341. Periodontology II Lab. Application, evaluation, and effective use of a variety of techniques and procedures currently used in oral healthcare for the treatment of moderate to severe periodontal disease. Three laboratory hours a week. Credit: One hour.

DH 4342. Periodontal Disease II. Comprehensive study of periodontal diseases including risk factors, causative factors, treatment, and prognosis for advanced periodontal disease; case studies to promote critical thinking and evidence-based decision-making. Two lecture hours a week. Credit: Two hours.

DH 4412. Dental Hygiene III. Dental hygiene process of care for patients who present with complex needs including slight to moderate periodontitis. Focus on adolescent and geriatric populations. Two lecture hours a week. Credit: Two hours.

DH 4431. Community Oral Health Practicum. Experiences in assessing, planning, implementation, and evaluation for the purpose of community oral health programming with diverse populations in a variety of settings. Three practicum hours a week. Credit: One hour.

DH 4443. Dental Hygiene Care for Special Needs. Systems approach to commonly encountered medical conditions applied in delivery of the dental hygiene process of care guided by evidence-based compassionate patient care and collaboration with other health care providers as indicated. Three lecture hours a week. Credit: Three hours.

DH 4451. Dental Materials. Physical and chemical properties, indications for use, and use of dental materials commonly utilized in dental hygiene and selected materials used in dentistry. One lecture hour a week. Credit: One hour.

DH 4461. Dental Materials Lab. Manipulation, application, use, evaluation, and safe use of a variety of dental materials currently used in oral healthcare. Three laboratory hours a week. Credit: One hour.

DH 4504. Clinical Dental Hygiene IV. Utilization of evidence-based decision making and critical thinking; integration of the dental hygiene process of care and oral health education for the adult patient exhibiting severe periodontal disease. Continuation of care with patients with less complicated needs and continued recognition of various oral conditions. Incorporation of selected dental materials into patient care experiences. Skills for working in interprofessional teams to enhance communication and collaboration to support comprehensive patient care. Guided practice sessions, adjacent clinical procedures, and quality assurance measures. Final preparation for clinical board exams and entry into the profession. One lecture and 12 to 16 clinical laboratory hours a week. Credit: Four hours.

DH 4513. Alternative Dental Hygiene Practice. Exploration of roles of the dental hygienist as they relate to alternative practice settings and opportunities with the goal of establishing short-term and long-term personal professional goals, followed by creating and completing an in-depth experience or project aligned with goals. Two lecture and two laboratory hours a week. Credit: Three hours.

DH 4533. Oral Health Worldview. Synthesis and utilization of existing knowledge of the political system, stakeholders, and events related to oral healthcare in the United States to increase understanding of other cultures and the global issues of oral health and oral healthcare. Prerequisite: GOV 2013. Three lecture hours a week. Credit: Three hours.
DH 4551. **Senior Seminar.** Exploration of advanced clinical issues and principles for patients with severe periodontal disease. Introduction of dental hygiene practice management and professional development skills for entry into the dental hygiene profession. One lecture hour a week. Credit: One hour.

DH 4713. **Applied Evidence-based Research.** Application of evidence-based research to dental hygiene practice, includes finding, accessing, interpreting, and applying scientific information. Three lecture hours a week. Credit: Three hours.

DH 4723. **General and Oral Pathology.** General principles related to pathology with emphasis on abnormal conditions of the head, neck, and oral cavity including clinical appearance, etiology, and treatment options; common oral lesions and interrelationships between oral and systemic conditions. Three lecture hours a week. Credit: Three hours.

DH 4823. **Dental Hygiene Clinical Case Study Development.** Examination and application of critical thinking and evidence-based decision-making to increase those skills in clinical practice, clinical education, or other areas of dental hygiene practice; use of prepared and student-developed case studies. Three lecture hours a week. Credit: Three hours.

DH 4833. **Professional Development for the Registered Dental Hygienist.** Leadership, personal professional goalsetting and planning, and other essential professional skills; exploration of and response to evolving topics and/or problems and potential resolutions related to the current state of oral healthcare and professional oral healthcare education. Three lecture hours a week. Credit: Three hours.

DH 4901. **Special Topics.** Organized course with each section's title and content varying with specific subject matter and topic offered. One lecture hour a week. Credit: One hour.

DH 4902. **Special Topics.** Study of current selected topics related to dental hygiene practice for dental hygiene degree completion. May be repeated for additional credit when topic varies. Prerequisite: Admission to degree completion program or special permission. Two lecture hours a week. Credit: Two hours.

DH 4903. **Special Topics.** Study of current selected topics related to dental hygiene practice for dental hygiene degree completion. May be repeated for additional credit when topic varies. Prerequisite: Admission to degree completion program or special permission. Three lecture hours a week. Credit: Three hours.

DH 4911. **Independent Study.** Independent study in selected topics. Credit: One hour.

DH 4913. **Independent Study.** Independent study in selected topics. Credit: Three hours.