

**Course Objectives/Course Outline**  
**Spokane Community College**

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**Course Title:**

*Introduction to Dental Assisting Lab*

**Prefix and Course Number:** DENT 110

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**Course Learning Outcomes:**

**By the end of this course, a student should be able to:**

1. Identify the role of the dental assistant through demonstration of knowledge of equipment, patient care and ergonomics, instruments and tray set-ups, handpieces and burs, maintaining the oral cavity, instrument transfer and topical and local anesthetic.
2. Use dental nomenclature relating to dental chairside equipment and procedures.
3. Define terminology used in this unit.
4. Protecting self and others from cross contamination by wearing protective glasses, mask, gloves and uniforms following OSHA/WISHA standards.
5. Demonstrate safety measures to self, patient and others at all times during:
  - a. Chairside procedures
  - b. Maintenance of equipment
6. Demonstrate professional interpersonal communication both verbal and nonverbal with instructors, peers and patients.
7. Identify and practice appropriate ethics when in clinic.

**Course Outline:**

**Equipment:**

- a) Identify and describe the function and routine care and maintenance of the major pieces of equipment found in the dental operator.
- b) Demonstrate the use of each piece of equipment found in the operator.
- c) Demonstrate the daily maintenance duties for the chairside assistant including morning and evening routines.

**Patient care and ergonomics:**

- a) Prepare the dental operator for treatment.
- b) Demonstrate the sequence of seating and dismissing the dental patient in preparation for treatment.
- c) Demonstrate the correct seated position of the dental assistant and operator at chairside using correct ergonomics.
- d) Demonstrate supine and sub supine positions for the dental patient.

**Dental Instruments:**

- a) Describe the color-coding system.
- b) Identify and describe the parts and functions of dental instruments.
  - i) Cutting instruments
  - ii) Non-cutting instruments
- c) Tray Set-ups and Sequence of Procedure for Restoration: identify all of the items on the following trays and describe use of each item:
  - i) Examination
  - ii) Anesthetic

- iii) Dental dam
- iv) Cavity preparation
- v) Amalgam restoration

**Dental Handpieces:**

- a) Identify the parts and uses of low and high-speed handpieces including attachments.
- b) Identify the appropriate hoses, couplers/attachments for handpieces.
- c) Describe and demonstrate the maintenance of low and high-speed handpieces including cleaning, lubricating and sterilizing according to manufacturer's instructions.
- d) Identify the types, numbers and shapes of dental rotary cutting instruments, discs, stones and mandrels.
- e) Identify friction grip and latch type burs and mandrels.
- f) Demonstrate changing burs, mandrels, discs, stones and points.

**Maintenance of the Operating Field:**

- a) Demonstrate maintenance of the operating field by:
  - i) properly retracting and protection of tissue.
  - ii) proper viewing for direct and indirect vision with use of the 3-way syringe.
  - iii) positioning the light for the appropriate arch being worked on.
  - iv) proper patient, assistant and operator chair positioning (ergonomics).
  - v) ensure patient comfort and safety.
  - vi) Proper use of retraction.
- b) Demonstrate assembling, adjusting, operation and positioning of the high-volume evacuation (HVE) tip in each area of the mouth, first on a mannequin and then on a student partner.
- c) Demonstrate assembling, adjusting, operation and positioning of the 3-way syringe in each area of the mouth, first on a mannequin and then on a student partner.

**Instrument Transfer:**

- a) Identify and demonstrate the different instruments grasps.
- b) Demonstrate the correct passing of the mirror and explorer.
- c) Demonstrate the exchange of instruments using a one handed and two handed technique at chairside using fourhanded dentistry, first on a mannequin and then on a student partner.
- d) Demonstrate fulcrum of instruments and dental handpieces.

**Anesthetic:**

- a) Identify injections sites and teeth affected.
- b) Demonstrate the steps of placement of topical anesthetic.
- c) Identify parts of the anesthetic syringe, needle and carpules.
- d) Demonstrate the steps of preparation of the anesthetic syringe following antiseptic and safety guidelines.
- e) Demonstrate steps of administration of anesthetic.