



**Introduction to Dental Hygiene Research
DEH 3814
Course Syllabus**

INSTRUCTOR INFORMATION:

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COURSE DESCRIPTION

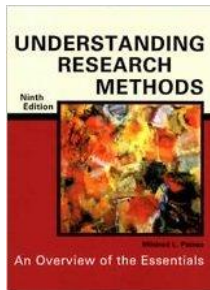
This course is an overview of the role and scope of research as it relates to the formation of dental hygiene knowledge and the application to dental hygiene practice. Focus is on basic strategies, methodologies, and the types of research design. Thoughtful analysis of current oral health research is included.

PREREQUISITES

Successful completion of Contemporary Issues in Dental Hygiene (DEH 3813) is the prerequisite for Introduction to Dental Hygiene Research.

REQUIRED TEXTS

Patten, Mildred, L. (2014). *Understanding research methods* (9th ed).
Glendale, CA: Pyczak
ISBN 978-1-936523-17-7



Reference Text:

Darby, M. & Walsh, M. (2014). *Dental hygiene theory and practice (4th ed.)*. St. Louis, MO: Elsevier

ISBN-10: 978-1-4557-4548-7

Textbook(s) may be purchased online at [Barnes & Noble College bookstores](#) or from any other resource.

Note about textbooks: If utilizing e-books, please be aware that e-books may not contain the actual page numbers, and a student needs to hone in on Chapter titles and/or subheading titles to locate assigned reading.

COURSE GOAL

The goal of this course is to provide the BASDH student with an overview of dental hygiene research as it relates to the formation of knowledge and the application of that knowledge to dental hygiene professional practice

MAJOR LEARNING OUTCOMES

After successful completion of this course, the BASDH student will be able to:

1. The student will identify each aspect of the research process, the expected roles of the dental hygienist in this process and the research agendas that advance the science and practice of dental hygiene.
2. The student will determine valid and reliable research results and utilize these results to enhance oral health promotion and disease prevention.
3. The student will explain and promote the value oral health research has in supporting evidence based practice for optimal patient care.
4. The student will analyze the quality of oral health research that supports evidence based decision making for optimal patient care.
5. The student will support the Standards for Protecting Human Subjects in all research projects.
6. The student will create a research project that is relevant to an oral health issue while conforming to American Psychological Association (APA) format.

Course Objectives

1. The student will identify each aspect of the research process, the expected roles of the dental hygienist in this process and the research agendas that advance the science and practice of dental hygiene by:
 - a. utilizing the American Dental Hygienists' Association's Research Agenda to state specific categories of research that pertain to the dental hygiene profession.
 - b. distinguishing between qualitative and quantitative approaches to research.
 - c. defining key terms in qualitative and quantitative research.
 - d. differentiating between a research problem statement and a corresponding purpose statement.

- e. distinguishing between data collection methods that are used in dental hygiene practice settings.
 - f. recognizing the criteria necessary for a research study to be published in professional journals, including Journal of Dental Hygiene.
2. The student will determine valid and reliable research results and utilize these results to enhance oral health promotion and disease prevention by:
- a. explaining the relationship between conducting research and the utilization of research.
 - b. explaining the rationale for replication of research.
 - c. implementing evaluation guidelines to critique a research report which has an impact on dental hygiene practice.
3. The student will explain and promote the value oral health research has in supporting evidence based practice for optimal patient care by:
- a. explaining the importance of Evidence Based Decision Making (EBDM).
 - b. differentiating between a systematic review and a literature review.
 - c. discussing the difference between evidence and research.
 - d. defining primary and secondary research sources.
 - e. stating the purpose of a credible literature review.
 - f. critically analyzing a research study.
 - g. linking current research with theoretical foundations
4. The student will analyze the quality of oral health research that supports evidence based decision making for optimal patient care by:
- a. identifying variables, including extraneous, independent and dependent variables.
 - b. recognizing and interpreting p-values.

- c. identifying key features of simple, complex, directional, non-directional and null hypotheses.
 - d. distinguishing between various types of study designs.
 - e. suggesting methods to help assure internal validity in a research study.
 - f. explaining the validity and reliability in quantitative research methods.
 - g. describing the characteristics of data-collection instruments and techniques.
 - h. classifying the levels of measurement.
 - i. differentiating between descriptive and inferential statistics.
5. The student will support the Standards for Protecting Human Subjects in all research projects by:
- a. examining the purpose of Institutional Review Boards.
 - b. identifying the components of appropriate methods for informed consent.
 - c. recognizing the legal and ethical implications for informed consent.
 - d. explaining the historical development of practice codes for the protection of human subjects.
6. The student will write a research project that is relevant to an oral health topic by:
- a. evaluating data from valid sources for a specific oral health topic.
 - b. developing a research question based on an oral health topic of interest.
 - c. organizing a research paper including a statement of the problem, the significance, a review of the literature and a discussion of the findings.
 - d. documenting the sources used in the research paper by using APA formatting and style.

COURSE ORGANIZATION

Introduction to Dental Hygiene Research is organized into 8 modules of study. Each module is designed to take one week to complete. On **Sunday at midnight, a module will be completed.** The general topics and module titles are:

Module 1: Introduction to Research

Module 2: Evidence and Literature Review

Module 3: Variables, Hypotheses and Research Designs

Module 4: Populations, Sampling, Data Collection

Module 5: Data Analysis

Module 6: Hypotheses Testing, Conclusions, Reporting Findings

Module 7: Utilizing Research in Evidence Based Care

Module 8: Ethical Consideration

Within each module, you will complete activities that enhance and support weekly learning objectives for each of the topics.

COURSE EXPECTATIONS

This course covers a great deal of material and, as in all courses in the BASDH program, you are expected to be an involved, active participant. In order to successfully complete this course, you will need to:

- Complete required readings, activities, quizzes and assignments by their posted due dates.
- Participate in all assigned weekly posting forums with supportable, scholarly, and grammatically correct postings.
- Participate in forums **two (2) out of seven (7) different days a week.** For full credit, your **FIRST original post must be made by midnight, Wednesday.** All other **original posts must be made by Friday, midnight.** Make the required number of substantive replies at any time during the module week.
- **Note:** it is also expected that students read a majority of all posts (including the weekly summary) in any given discussion forum. This will be evaluated by the instructor at the end of each module and included in your weekly participation grade.
- **ALL forums END at midnight, Sunday (EST).**
- **Read ALL responses from the instructor on the posting forums and Ask Your Instructor.** You will learn much from these responses.

- You are required to think and work in an independent and scholarly manner during this course. You are responsible for your own learning experience.
Think for yourself and take pride in your work.

ATTENDANCE

Regular online class participation is essential for the successful completion of this course. **Participation** is defined as completing and submitting all assignments, postings and responses by their due date, posting to forums with thoughtful, scholarly, grammatically correct, professional writings and communicating with the instructor and classmates via email. You are required to think and work in an independent and scholarly manner during this course. You are responsible for your own learning experience.

Attendance is mandatory in this program. Since the courses in this program have been developed on the foundation of discussion, reading, writing and critical thinking it is imperative that you are present (online) to learn. In this course, attendance is determined by participating in the course as defined above, completing all weekly assignments, completing your Weekly Summary and posting to the discussion forums 2 out of 7 different days each week.

There are no excused absences in this program. Should you find it necessary to miss an entire week (7 days, Monday through Sunday), you will be expected to complete the assignments as required by the faculty AND your final course grade will be lowered ONE letter grade for the absence.

LATE ASSIGNMENTS

Any assignment that is turned in late for any reason will be penalized. For each day that the assignment is late, one point will be deducted from the grade. A maximum of 4 points per week will be deducted from the overall grade. Failure to submit an assignment in this course will result in a zero for the assignment. In addition, the **final course grade will be lowered by one letter grade for each assignment that is not submitted.** Please be certain to copy and view the Online Organizer frequently as this document lists all assignments and due dates. Remember that all BASDH courses run on **Eastern Standard Time (EST)** for due dates and drop box deadlines. If you are submitting a late paper, you will need to do so via email attachment to your instructor, as the drop box will be closed and not visible to you. **If an assignment is not submitted within two weeks from the due date, it will be considered a non-submission.** Non-submitted assignments in this course will result in a **zero for the assignment.** In addition, the **final course grade will be lowered by one letter grade for each non-submitted assignment.**

LATE MODULE 7 ASSIGNMENT (“Final Research Project”) will result in the following penalties:

- 1 day late: **25% deduction** will be taken from **graded value** of the assignment
- 2 days late: **50% deduction** will be taken from **graded value** of the assignment
- 3 days late: **75% deduction** will be taken from **graded value** of the assignment
- **No submission for Module 7 will be accepted after 3 days of the stated due date.** This will result in a 0 for the assignment and the final course grade will be lowered by one letter grade

NOTE ON GRADING AND FEEDBACK

Our rubrics are carefully crafted to guide your performance and your faculty’s evaluation of each assignment that you will complete in our BASDH program. If you have a concern about a grade that you have earned in this course, please schedule a phone call with your instructor. No emails regarding grades will be sent.

Additional Note: Assignments may not be edited/resubmitted for additional points. Initial grade stands as is.

WEEKLY QUIZZES

Ten question quizzes will be given at the conclusion of Modules 1 through 6. There will be a Final Quiz (15 questions) in Module 8. The questions are in multiple choice formats. The quiz questions will be taken from the TEXT READINGS and COURSE CONTENT. Textbooks, course content, and notes may be used while taking these quizzes. In support of the Academic Honesty policy at St. Petersburg College, all students are expected to work independently during the quiz; **working together on quizzes is dishonest.** Quizzes will be limited to 20 minutes of time (Final Quiz 45 minutes). When your quiz is submitted, you will be able to view your earned points.

WEEKLY SUMMARY

At the conclusion of each module, you will submit a **150 to 200 word summary** that critically reflects on what you learned from the readings, activities, projects, postings and assignments for the module. This teaching tool is intended to enhance participation, provide feedback to the instructor, and **allow reflection** on the part of the learner & their colleagues in the course. This report is posted on the discussion board under the appropriate title for the module. Note: The weekly summary is not a place to “vent your frustrations”, but rather a place to write down....summarize what you have learned for the week. Be sure to read through them all!

DROP/WITHDRAWAL INFORMATION

A withdrawal ("W") grade will be assigned if the student voluntarily withdraws from the class by completing the proper forms. The **withdrawal date for this course is June 20, 2016**. Students voluntarily or involuntarily withdrawn AFTER this date will receive a grade of "WF."

Students who wish to **drop** an online course and receive full refund must do so by **May 17, 2016**. Instructors will verify that students are in attendance during the first two weeks of class. Students classified as “No Show” for both of the first two weeks will be administratively withdrawn.

Immediately following the 60% point of the term, each instructor will verify which students are actively participating in class as defined in the course syllabus. Students classified as not meeting the criteria for active class participation will be administratively withdrawn with a “WF.” Students will be able to withdraw themselves at any time during the term. However, requests submitted after the 60% deadline will result in a “WF.” Students and instructors will automatically receive an email notification through their SPC email address whenever a withdrawal occurs.

Note: Students cannot add a course following the 1st day the class meets. Students can drop a course during the 1st week of class and be eligible for a refund. (See a counselor/advisor to finalize your schedule, so you won't be left without the classes you want or need). Students may not change from credit to audit status after the end of the first week of classes.

INCOMPLETES

An Incomplete ("I") may be extended to a student who, for a valid reason, is unable to complete the course, provided that he/she is in good standing in the course and has completed at least 80% of the coursework. The student must sign a form acknowledging the work to be completed and the date by which the work must be completed. If the work is not completed by that date, the "I" will convert to an "F."

MyCourses ePortfolio:

The **ePortfolio** within MyCourses offers a convenient way to store and keep track of all graded papers/projects/assignments as well as syllabi for each course in the program. In the final course in the BASDH program--the **Dental Hygiene Capstone**--this tool will provide a means to create and present your **individual ePortfolios**.

Following the detailed directions provided [HERE](#), it is your responsibility to **do following for each course** in the BASDH curriculum:

- Upload the **syllabus** for this course (as an artifact)
- Upload all **graded assignments** (as artifacts)
- Create a **new Collection** with the **title of this course**
- Place all artifacts from this course into the Collection

FEDERAL GUIDELINES RELATED to FINANCIAL AID and TOTAL WITHDRAWAL FROM THE COLLEGE

The U.S. Department of Education has implemented rules for students who obtain a Pell Grant, Stafford Loan and/or Federal Supplemental Educational Opportunity Grant and subsequently totally withdraw from the college. The rule requires you to refund to the Department of Education a portion of your financial aid if you completely withdraw from St. Petersburg College prior to the 60% point in the term. You also may be required to repay funds to the College if you are identified as not actively participating in all of your

classes, or if you do not receive at least one final passing grade (D or higher). **Should you consider totally withdrawing from all classes before the published withdrawal date**, it is important that you consult the Scholarships & Student Financial Assistance office on your home campus to understand your options and the consequences of total withdrawal.

ACADEMIC HONESTY

There is no tolerance for cheating and academic dishonesty in this program or at St. Petersburg College. All academic work submitted to satisfy course assignments and requirements is expected to be the result of each student's **own thought, research, and self-expression**. You are required to think and work in an independent and scholarly manner during this course. A student will have committed plagiarism if someone else's work is reproduced and/or copied without acknowledging its source. **Even if you change the words slightly, the ideas are someone else's and your source must be cited**. Take the time to research material that may be unfamiliar to you.....devote enough time to read and understand the material and then successfully reflect what you learned about. Copy/pasting published information, whether it is from your textbook or the internet, without citing your source, is plagiarism and violates this policy. **When in doubt, ask for help**.

***Note on taking online quizzes and exams:**

It is considered cheating and a violation of SPC's Academic Honesty policy to consult with current or former students in any way while taking an online quiz or exam. Also, **saving, printing and/or sharing** of quizzes & quiz/exam questions are strictly prohibited. It is your responsibility to be familiar with the policies, rules, and the consequences of violations. Read about the policy at:

<http://www.spcollege.edu/AcademicHonesty/>

A grade of zero will be assigned to any assignment, paper, report or project for alleged academic dishonesty, pending the appeal process. Penalties may include dismissal from the BASDH program and expulsion from St. Petersburg College.

COMPUTER ASSISTANCE

If you are experiencing computer-related problems or have questions in regard to computer software or hardware, please contact the "helpdesk" at 727-341-4357 or email at onlinehelp@spcollege.edu. Helpdesk hours are

Monday through Sunday 7AM to midnight, EST. There is also an Online Help Tab on your homepage in MyCourses.

Online Library:

Access the Online Library from the main SPC webpage--click on [Libraries](#) from the menu on the left side of the page. You will be completing a tutorial for how to use the library as one of your tasks in the first week of this course. Use the following log in information:

Borrower's ID: Student ID number

PIN: last 4 numbers of your SSN (Social Security Number).

To reach the **Reference desk** at the **Health Education Center** library, call: 727-341-3775. The library staff can provide you with immediate assistance during the hours they are opened. Josh Brown is the librarian working with our BASDH students. He can be reached at brown.josh@spcollege.edu. He may also be reached by phone at 727-341-3657.

For search help, check out this link of resources compiled by our SPC librarians: [LibGuides](#)

WRITING TUTOR

Writing tutors are available to any student who desires help and direction with writing skills (including APA formatting). This service is provided at no cost to our registered students. You may directly contact the librarian (Josh Brown) mentioned above or email the following online tutor:

Tiffany Schuyler: tiffanyschuyler@gmail.com

NOTE: please be sure to **give plenty of lead-time** for your tutor to review your paper and provide feedback.

Also, tutors are not provided to proof and correct **all** grammatical or APA style errors. Tutors will give direction, guidance and suggestions for how to improve writing, along with pointing out areas that need revision or edits, but it is not their role to make the actual corrections. It is your responsibility to make final edits, revisions, and corrections.

College-Wide Syllabus Addendum:

It is your responsibility to click on the link below for important college-wide information and policies as an **addendum** to this syllabus:

<http://www.spcollege.edu/addendum/>

Accommodations:

St. Petersburg College recognizes the importance of equal access for all students. Accessibility Services is the campus office that works with students who have disabilities to provide and/or arrange reasonable accommodations. Instructors may not grant accommodations without proper documentation from the Office. Students registered with Accessibility Services, who have a letter requesting accommodations, are encouraged to contact the instructor early in the semester. Students who have, or think they may have, a disability (e.g. learning disability, ADD/ADHD, psychiatric, medical/orthopedic, vision, and/or hearing), are invited to contact Accessibility Services for a confidential discussion at 727-341-3721 (V/TTY) or at silvers.stefanie@spcollege.edu. Additional information is available at the college-wide Accessibility Services website:

<http://www.spcollege.edu/accessibility/>

EMAIL COMMUNICATIONS OUTSIDE YOUR SPC COURSE

Your **Live@edu** student email is the college's official way to communicate with you **outside** of your ANGEL courses. It is important that you use your **SPC student email** account for any electronic correspondence with SPC, as your personal email may get sent to spam and/or be deleted. You will periodically be receiving important updates, notices, or official communication from SPC that will *only* be sent to your school account, thus be sure to regularly check your **Live@edu** email. Your student email account includes features other than just communication that you may find useful in planning and managing your college experience.

STUDENT SURVEY OF INSTRUCTION

The Student Survey of Instruction is an integral part of any college course and will be available in this Ethics course. They provide the instructor with valuable

information on how the course is set up and how well the instructor is meeting your needs. Be assured that they are ANONYMOUS. We know how valuable your time is, but if you could just take a few minutes to complete the survey, it would be greatly appreciated.

EVALUATION

The FINAL GRADE for this course is based on the successful completion of all components of the modules and an accumulation of available points as follows:

METHOD	POINTS
Quizzes	60 (Module 1-6 quizzes @10 points each—does not include Final Quiz in Module 8)
Participation points (posting to the various weekly discussion forums)	<p>24 points (3 points per week (8) for the following:</p> <p>1= content of posting (scholarly, professional, grammatically correct, APA formatted when applicable)</p> <p>.5= participating in discussion forums according to policy stated</p> <p>.5=reading the majority of student/faculty posts to any given discussion forum in the content module</p> <p>1= Weekly Summary</p>
Module 1 Assignment	10 points: APA CHALLENGE
Module 2 Assignment	5 points: SELECT A STUDY
Module 3 Assignment	10 points: ANALYSIS 1
Module 4 Assignment	5 points: EXPLORING EXCEL SPREADSHEETS
Module 6 Assignment	10 points: ANALYSIS 2
Module 7 Assignment	15 points: RESEARCH PAPER: Utilizing Research in Evidence Based Care
Module 8 Final Quiz	15 points: FINAL QUIZ (Due on Friday, midnight)
TOTAL POINTS	154

The letter grade will be computed as follows (points, not percentages; **points will not be rounded up**):

Grade Computation	
A	139 to 154
B	124 to 138
C	108 to 123
D	93 to 107
F	< 93

Total points of **108 points** are required to **receive a C** and pass this course. A minimum grade of **C is required to continue in the BASDH program.**

Note: It is best to **print out** a copy of the **Syllabus** and **Online Organizer** for easy access and reference. Also, be sure to save all of your graded assignments as well as the course syllabus for your MyCourses ePortfolio.