

NEW YORK CITY COLLEGE OF TECHNOLOGY  
DENTAL HYGIENE DEPARTMENT

DEN 2413 – Introduction to Public Health

**Service Learning Field Project Activity**

A “**Service Learning Field Project Activity**” is a critical component of this course. It provides Dental Hygiene students with an opportunity to provide community service while gaining valuable field experience by presenting an oral health prevention activity.

The dental hygiene class will be divided in **groups of 3-5 students each**.

Students will conceptualize, plan and implement an oral health education program in one of the following locations: Elementary, middle or high school; nursing home; community center; community health center; church; shelter; YMCA; Red Cross or any community-based organization which provides services to the general public.

Each group of students will **self-select** a location where they will implement their oral health education project. Locations **must** be approved by the project and program directors.

Project examples include:

1. Oral Health and Nutrition: Addressing obesity in children and adolescents
2. Oral Health and Diabetes: Interventions to Prevent Diabetes in High Risk Populations
3. Oral Cancer Prevention in High Risk Groups
4. Reinforcing Oral Health Education and Positive Habits in the Elderly Communities
5. Oral Health Education and Cultural Competence: Addressing Oral Health Differences in Diverse Populations
6. Health and Wellness: Implementing Positive Oral Health Practices in the Workplace
7. Implementing Oral Health Public Awareness in Hospital Settings
8. Implementing Behavior Change Strategies for Non-Dental Care Providers

## **Project Components**

- **Assessment-** Identify target population. What is the status of their oral health and what are their needs? What does the published literature indicate about their oral health status and needs?
- **Planning-** Develop specific goals and measurable objectives to meet the oral health needs of the target population. Based on the assessment findings, what type of health promotion/education program do you need to develop? How will you develop your program, including alternatives?
- **Implementation-** How will the goals and objectives be met? What materials, activities and/or methods will be or can be used to accomplish the goals and objectives? What tools do you need (i.e. pamphlets; brochures; video; audio)? Where and how do you present your program?
- **Evaluation-** What available tools for program and project evaluation will you need? (i.e. surveys; tests; pre and post evaluations) How to measure effectiveness? How will the group conduct the re-evaluation of goals and measurable objectives? Did the program accomplish what was initially planned? If not, how to address the issues that arose?

### **Project Grading Criteria:**

- **Written Report- 50% of project grade-** (one paper per group) Must include:
  - A cover page with the “Name of the Program” and the group members’ names;
  - Table of contents;
  - Sections of Introduction/Assessment/Planning/Implementation/Evaluation/Conclusion. Each section must have the Heading in Bold or Underline;
  - Literature Review in the “Introduction” section;
  - The program goal(s) and **one** measurable objective in the “Planning” section;
  - The result of the objective in the “Evaluation” section;
  - References: at least 3 with **2 peer-reviewed journals within last 5 years;**
  - Citation: **AMA (American Medical Association)** style;
  - Participation Form.

The body of the paper is 8-12 pages in length with page numbered; written in Times New Roman 12 Font size and double-spaced; a separate page of Reference; professionally presented reflecting College-level work, neat, and free of grammatical and spelling mistakes.

**All students in each group will get the same grade on the written report.**

- **Oral Presentation- 50% of project grade**
  - Total presentation must be at least 30 minutes long (each student must participate and speak for at least 5 minutes).
  - The last 5-10 minutes will be for Q & A.
  - Each group should practice to ensure they deliver their presentation within the allotted time.
  - Each presentation must reflect information presented in the written report
  - Include any demonstrations, pamphlets, posters, videos, or any other method of displaying how the target population will be reached.
  - All presentations must be delivered using PowerPoint.
  - Additional audiovisual aids are welcomed.

**Each student will receive an individual grade for the oral presentation portion of the project.**

- **Participation Form-** Each student will document his/her participation to both the written report and the oral presentation of the project.