

## WHO WE ARE



### **Department of Dental Hygiene**

As a member of The Department of Dental Hygiene, you will join a group of students who are part of the School of Professional Studies at New York City College of Technology, City University of New York.

### **Mission**

Whether you are starting a career or looking for a change, the dental hygiene profession can provide many satisfying opportunities. These include: having the status of a licensed health care professional, an attractive income potential, the rewards of keeping people healthy, a flexible work schedule, the ability to work in a variety of professional settings, the option of working nationwide or abroad in pleasant surroundings and career stability.

Dental hygienists provide educational, clinical, and therapeutic services to the public in accordance with individual state dental hygiene practice acts. Prevention and treatment of oral disease are recognized as important factors in a patient's overall health and well-being. Dental hygienists are important members of the dental health care team providing these services.

### **Students in this major can:**

#### **Join the Student American Dental Hygiene Association (SADHA):**

The mission and purpose of SADHA is to serve as a vehicle for increasing awareness of dental hygiene education, practice, and research to all NYCCT dental hygiene students. Regular information is provided regarding innovative technology and equipment, legislative and policy issues that affect the dental hygiene profession. An effort is made to become visible within and outside of the college community by participation in NYCCT activities along with attendance at local, regional, and national meetings. Continuing Education speakers are invited during the school year to apprise students of the most current and applicable information.

**Engage in other opportunities:**

Our affiliation with industry professionals nationally, regionally, and locally affords our students the significant privilege of connecting with organizations for additional advancement opportunities. The following are some of our affiliations:

- Second District Dental Society
- Long Island Academy of Odontology
- Johnson & Johnson Health Care Products
- Colgate Oral Pharmaceuticals
- Crest/Oral B Products
- Phillips Sonicare
- Orapharma
- GlaxoSmithKline

**Faculty in the Dental Hygiene Department have an interest in various research areas:****Chairperson:**

Dr. Maureen Archer (Prevention of Caries and Erosive Tooth Wear)

**Faculty and Staff:****Professors:**

Joycelyn Dillon (Geriatric Oral Care)

Gwen Cohen-Brown (HIV, Oral Cancer, Emerging Medical Technologies for Diagnosis of Oral Cancer, and Infection Control)

Anty Lam (Preventive Measures for Public Health and Transmittable Diseases)

**Associate Professors:**

Maria Bilello

Susan Davide (Infection Control and Community Service)

Susan Nilsen-Kupsch

Anna Matthews (Novel Pharmacotherapeutics and Emerging Diseases and their Implications for Dental Profession)

**Assistant Professors:**

Lorna Flamer-Caldera (Salivary Diagnostics in the Diagnosis and Treatment of Periodontal Disease, Pharmacology and Targeted Therapies, and Aspects of Sedation in Dental Care)

Audra Haynes (Special Needs and Public Health)

Christopher Bowers (Pain Management and Local Anesthesia)

**Lecturer:**

Shantel Childs-Williams (Biological Effects of Ionizing Radiation)

**Administrative Assistant:**

Francine Brown

**Senior CLT:**

Robert Mahalko

**Students in the Dental Hygiene Department will be provided with the following important resources:**

- Senior students are assigned as mentors to freshman students to help them navigate their first year in the dental hygiene program
- Each student has a faculty advisor
- Practice videos are available in the Learning Center for students to use outside of clinic as they continue to develop their skill set
- Provided with the opportunity for community outreach

**Options for employment and further study  
Licensed Dental Hygienists\* are employed in:**

- Clinical Practice-dental offices
- Public health agencies, hospitals, and community health clinics
- Dental hygiene programs and dental schools as educators
- Pharmaceutical companies, research, product development and marketing
- Dental equipment and product sales
- Government agencies
- U.S. Armed Forces

\*Some of these employment opportunities require further education

**Three Fun Facts about the Dental Hygiene Department**

- **Advice from your professors:**  
Stay above water; never wait until the last minute, plan! The workload is intense and the students who navigate the potential pitfalls best, tend to be the best organized students. Time management is a critical skill, that must be practiced in order to succeed, not only within the program, but in the profession as well.
- **Graduates of the program:**  
Over the years, thousands of students have successfully completed our program. Many have completed or are currently in dental schools, Bachelor's Degree, Master's Degree and PhD programs. Several have returned to NYCCT to teach in the dental hygiene program.
- **Department History:**  
We are the oldest and largest Dental Hygiene Program in the New York City area, established in 1947.

The longest faculty member served 50+ years at NYCCT in the Dental Hygiene and Restorative Dentistry Departments.