

Dental Hygiene Senior Clinical Observation
5% of clinical course grade

Task: For freshman dental hygiene students to gain an understanding of dental hygiene practices through observing a senior dental hygiene student during a clinical laboratory session.

Preparing for Your Observation:

- Schedule an appointment with your assigned senior mentor to observe them during a *new* or *recall patient* clinic session (assessment phase)
- Dress appropriately (PPE) and maintain proper decorum during the observation
- Bring a clipboard, pen and writing paper to take notes
- Uphold confidentiality of the patient

Observe:

- The assessment of patient treatment care performed by the dental hygiene student
- Communication style between the clinician and patient
- How the student progresses through the assessment segment and maintains infection control
- Student/faculty interaction and communication processes

Reflection Questions:

- 1) Describe the communication process between the student clinician and patient. Provide examples of verbal and nonverbal communication skills used by clinician.
- 2) What type of listening skills did the clinician use or demonstrate? Provide examples.
- 3) Were you able to observe clinician's *ergonomics* and *infection control*? Discuss one of these strengths in detail.
- 4) You observed the educational & clinical skills growth from first year to second year. Did you notice any difference? Please explain.
- 5) Overall, how was your experience?

Format:

- **Typed;** 1-2 pages, essay, 12 font size, Times New Roman font, single spaced
- Use your course textbooks for references.
- Attach in your journal folder and submit on the due date indicated on your course schedule
- See rubric for grading
- Do **not** include any patient information in the writing assignment

Before submitting your assignment:

- ✓ Make sure you allow enough time to revise your assignment at least once
- ✓ Read your assignment aloud (to a classmate or friend or to yourself) to detect errors in grammar, spelling or fluidity.
- ✓ Carefully read through the *College Wide Writing Rubric* provided on OpenLab and make sure you meet all expectations
- ✓ Fix the errors you detected while proofreading your essay, and double-check for any formatting errors:
 - Did you write in Times New Roman?
 - Did you use 12 font size?
 - Is your essay single spaced?

OpenLab: Discussion of student experiences

Student Learning Outcomes:

- a) Observe , gather, interpret and apply information about clinical patient treatment care, communication styles, listening skills, using dental hygiene terminology
(DEN: Skills, Values, Ethics; Gen Ed: Skills, Values, Ethics & Relationships, and Integration)