DENA - Dental Assisting

DENA 1050 - Microbiology and Infection Control
3 Credits 4 Contact Hours
Prerequisites: Regular Status
Introduces fundamental microbiology and infection control techniques. Topics include classification, structure, and behavior of pathogenic microbes; mode of disease transmission; body’s defense and immunity; infectious diseases; and infection control procedures in accordance with CDC recommendations and OSHA guidelines.

DENA 1080 - Dental Anatomy
5 Credits 5 Contact Hours
Prerequisite: Regular Status
Focuses on normal head and neck anatomy and the development and functions of oral anatomy. Topics include dental anatomy; oral histology; oral embryology; osteology of the skull; muscles of mastication and facial expression; temporal mandibular joint; blood lymphatic nerve supply of the head; and salivary glands and related structures.

DENA 1340 - Dental Assisting I: General Chairside
6 Credits 9 Contact Hours
Prerequisites: DENA 1050; DENA 1080
Introduces student to ethics and jurisprudence for the dental assistant and to chairside assisting with diagnostic and operative procedures. Topics include ethics and jurisprudence in the dental office; four-handed dentistry techniques; clinical data collection techniques; introduction to operative dentistry; and dental material basics.

DENA 1350 - Dental Assisting II: Dental Specialties and EFDA Skills
7 Credits 10
Prerequisites: DENA 1340
Focuses on chairside assisting with dental specialty procedures. Topics include prosthodontic procedures (fixed and removable); orthodontics; pediatric dentistry; periodontic procedures; oral and maxillofacial surgery procedures; endodontics procedures; management of dental office emergencies; medically compromised patients and expanded functions approved by law for performance by dental assistants in the state of Georgia. Student will pass a comprehensive examination and successfully perform all required clinical skills to receive EFDA certification.

DENA 1390 - Dental Radiology
4 Credits 5 Contact Hours
Prerequisites: DENA 1080
After completion of the course the student will be able to provide radiation safety for patient and self, expose x-rays, process x-rays, and prepare dental images for the dental office. Topics include fundamentals of radiology and radiation safety; radiographic anatomy and interpretation; intraoral and extraoral radiographic techniques; and quality assurance techniques.

DENA 1400 - Dental Practice Management
2 Credits 3 Contact Hours
Prerequisites: COMP 1000; DENA 1340
Emphasizes procedures for office management in dental practices. Topics include oral and written communication; records management; appointment control; dental insurance form preparation; accounting procedures; supply and inventory control; employability skills and basic computer skills. A computer lab provides basic skills in computer use and utilization of these skills to perform office procedures on a microcomputer.

DENA 1460 - Dental Practicum I
1 Credit 3 Contact Hours
Prerequisites: DENA 1050; DENA 1340; DENA 1350; DENA 1390
Focuses on infection control in the dental office and assisting with diagnostic and simple operative procedures. Topics include infection control procedures; clinical diagnostic procedures; and general dentistry procedures.