

COLLEGE OF NATURAL AND SOCIAL SCIENCES

HEALTH SCIENCE



PRE-DENTAL HYGIENE HEALTH SCIENCE PRE-PROFESSIONAL PROGRAM

Dental hygienists clean teeth, examine patients for signs of oral diseases such as gingivitis, and provide other preventative dental care. They also educate patients on ways to improve and maintain good oral health.

Dental hygienists work in offices of general dentists and dental specialists, public health agencies, hospitals, community clinics, public school systems, dental schools, dental hygiene education programs and dental equipment/product sales and research.

Responsibilities of a dental hygienist:

- Removes tartar, stains and plaque from teeth
- Takes and develops dental X-rays
- Keeps track of patient care and treatment plans
- Applies preventative materials like sealants and fluorides to help protect teeth
- Teaches patients oral hygiene, such as how to brush and floss correctly



Advantages for health science students at UNK:

- Smaller class size
- Low student-to-faculty ratio
- Laboratory experiences
- Strong science preparation
- Shadowing programs
- Academic advising
- Mentoring
- Opportunities for student research
- Contact with local professionals
- Extensive health careers course
- Health science seminar course
- Application process assistance
- Health Science Club
- Health Careers Fair

Student profile

When Brooke Butterfield was asked why she chose the pre-dental hygiene pre-professional program she said, "I want to give people the knowledge that health starts in the mouth, and have the skills to be able to give them a smile that they are confident wearing."

Butterfield, from North Platte, Neb., received a scholarship to attend UNK. "I truly don't know where I would be without this university and all it has to offer. I could not be happier. Also, I am so excited to move forward with dental hygiene school and my career."



**BROOKE
BUTTERFIELD**

Butterfield is completing the requirements for the pre-dental hygiene program and has chosen a minor in family studies. She plans to apply to the University of Nebraska Medical Center-Dental Division to complete her dental hygiene Bachelor of Science degree.

"I am so thankful to attend UNK because everyone I meet has impacted me. I will never forget where I started - here at UNK."

Benefits of health careers

- Secure and meaningful employment
- Opportunities for advancement
- Variety of jobs in different settings
- Chance to help people in need

HEALTH SCIENCE PRE-PROFESSIONAL PROGRAM
Pre-Dental Hygiene

SUGGESTED SEQUENCE OF KEY PREREQUISITE COURSES

Consult with your academic adviser.

Semester 1	Semester 2
CHEM 160 MATH 102 BIOL 103 ENG 101 (if required) Elective	CHEM 161 BIOL 211 ENG 102 SPCH 100 Elective
Semester 3	Semester 4
BIOL 225 PSY 203 Humanities/ fine arts elective Elective	BIOL 226 SOC 100 FSID 110 Humanities/ fine arts elective Elective



STUDENT PROFILE
Lainey Russell

Hometown: Kearney
Expected graduation date: 2018
Pre-professional program:
 Pre-dental hygiene
Minor: Nutrition

“Dental hygiene interests me for many different reasons,” said Lainey Russell of Kearney.

- I’ve always had a positive experience at the dental office, and I wanted to be able to create that for others.
- Dental hygiene is a great mix of health and interactions with people, which is something I want in a job.
- I enjoy routine and order, and dental hygiene allows that.
- The job outlook for dental hygiene is incredibly high, which is always a positive.

Russell says, “Making connections at UNK is easy.”

- I wanted to be able to walk to class and see people I knew.
- I specifically like the large, varied group of majors and experience levels of the students involved.
- The class sizes are small enough which allows me to get to know the other students and my professors. This creates a personal and friendly class atmosphere.
- I have opportunity to join the Health Science Club.

Health Science Club
Members in Health Science Club
would love to have you join!

- Be sure to check your LoperMail for the weekly edition of the Health Science Weekly newsletter that will include information on upcoming activities.
- Interested students can also **Like** UNK Health Sciences on Facebook to learn more about the organization.



Did you know?

More than 700 students are enrolled in Health Science programs at UNK.

That means, one of 10 Loper students are interested in health-related careers.

UNK has an excellent record helping health science students gain acceptance into professional schools or clinical programs.

For more than a decade, the overall acceptance rate of UNK students into various health programs has been approximately 70 percent.

Job shadowing leads to employment according to the U.S. Department of Labor.

Not only will you benefit from the on-the-job training and gain insight into a particular career, industry, or company, but you will also be mentored.

Learn more at
www.unk.edu/healthsciences

For more information, contact:

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