

**DE 55A Course Outline as of Fall 2017****CATALOG INFORMATION**

Dept and Nbr: DE 55A Title: INTRO DENTAL RADIOLOGY  
 Full Title: Introduction to Dental Radiology  
 Last Reviewed: 11/14/2022

Units	Course Hours per Week		Nbr of Weeks		Course Hours Total	
Maximum	2.00	Lecture Scheduled	1.00	17.5	Lecture Scheduled	17.50
Minimum	2.00	Lab Scheduled	3.00	17.5	Lab Scheduled	52.50
		Contact DHR	0		Contact DHR	0
		Contact Total	4.00		Contact Total	70.00
		Non-contact DHR	0		Non-contact DHR	0

Total Out of Class Hours: 35.00

Total Student Learning Hours: 105.00

Title 5 Category: AA Degree Applicable

Grading: Grade Only

Repeatability: 00 - Two Repeats if Grade was D, F, NC, or NP

Also Listed As:

Formerly: DNA 65A

**Catalog Description:**

Instruction in the basic principles of radiology including history, physics, characteristics, biological effects, equipment, film and digital imaging, infection control and safety. The techniques of film or sensor placement and exposure, mounting films and evaluation of images will be covered.

**Prerequisites/Corequisites:**

Course Completion or Current Enrollment in DE 51

**Recommended Preparation:****Limits on Enrollment:**

Acceptance to Allied Dental Program

**Schedule of Classes Information:**

Description: Instruction in the basic principles of radiology including history, physics, characteristics, biological effects, equipment, film and digital imaging, infection control and safety. The techniques of film or sensor placement and exposure, mounting films and evaluation of images will be covered. (Grade Only)

Prerequisites/Corequisites: Course Completion or Current Enrollment in DE 51

Recommended:

Limits on Enrollment: Acceptance to Allied Dental Program

Transfer Credit: CSU;

Repeatability: Two Repeats if Grade was D, F, NC, or NP

## **ARTICULATION, MAJOR, and CERTIFICATION INFORMATION:**

<b>AS Degree:</b>	<b>Area</b>	Effective:	Inactive:
<b>CSU GE:</b>	<b>Transfer Area</b>	Effective:	Inactive:

<b>IGETC:</b>	<b>Transfer Area</b>	Effective:	Inactive:
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<b>CSU Transfer:</b>	Transferable	Effective:	Fall 1981	Inactive:
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<b>UC Transfer:</b>		Effective:		Inactive:
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**CID:**

**Certificate/Major Applicable:**

Both Certificate and Major Applicable

## **COURSE CONTENT**

**Student Learning Outcomes:**

At the conclusion of this course, the student should be able to:

1. Explain the principles of radiation, infection control, safety and quality assurance, as they apply to dental radiography.
2. Produce diagnostically acceptable radiographic images utilizing bite-wing, parallel and bisecting techniques.

**Objectives:**

1. Describe the basic principles and concepts of radiation.
2. List the component parts and functions of the dental x-ray machine and describe the production of x-rays.
3. Explain the factors affecting the quality and quantity of the x-ray beam and how these factors affect the radiographic image.
4. Describe film composition, basic digital imaging components, and latent image formation.
5. Discuss film speed, sizes, types, digital image receptors and proper storage and protection.
6. Describe the effects of ionizing radiation on living tissue.
7. List radiation protection procedures for the operator and patient.
8. Describe intraoral techniques for bite-wings, and parallel and bisecting periapical radiographs.
9. Produce radiographic images of acceptable diagnostic quality with proper contrast, density, definition and minimal magnification or anatomic distortion.
10. Explain the techniques of proper film handling, manual and automatic processing and mounting of radiographs.
11. Explain the techniques of digital imaging processing.
12. Describe the chemicals used in processing and the proper disposal techniques, as it relates to dental imaging.
13. State diagnostic procedures to produce quality assurance, relating to diagnostic radiographs.
14. Critically evaluate radiographic images to assess errors and indicate proper methods for correction.
15. Apply infection control techniques for prevention of disease transmission through

demonstration of proper pre- and post-appointment operator preparation procedures, instrument recirculation methods, and aseptic technique.

## **Topics and Scope:**

### **I. Radiation History**

- A. Discovery
- B. Pioneers
- C. Uses of dental radiographs

### **II. Equipment Description and Application\***

- A. Major components of the dental x-ray machine, tubehead and operator
- B. Settings and function of control panel
- C. Mannequins
- D. Additional equipment

### **III. Imaging Media**

- A. Film
  - 1. speed
  - 2. size
  - 3. composition
  - 4. types
- B. Digital
  - 1. direct
  - 2. indirect

### **IV. Capturing Images\***

- A. Digital
  - 1. equipment
  - 2. software
  - 3. direct or indirect image receptors
  - 4. advantages and limitations
- B. Film
  - 1. darkroom and daylight loaders
  - 2. technique
  - 3. manual and automatic processors
  - 4. processing errors

### **V. Physics**

- A. Ionizing radiation
- B. Electromagnetic waves
- C. Properties of radiation
- D. X-ray production

### **VI. Film Mounting**

- A. Film handling and storage
- B. Type of mounts
- C. Film orientation
- D. Procedure\*

### **VII. Exposure Factors**

- A. Kilovoltage
- B. Milliamperage
- C. Exposure time
- D. Intensity
- E. Distance
- F. Density, contrast, magnification and sharpness
- G. Assessment of exposure and control factors\*

## VIII. Radiation Biology and Protection Description and Application

- A. Radiation monitoring devices
- B. Regulatory agencies
- C. ALARA (As Low As Reasonably Achievable) concept
- D. Biological response
- E. Protection\*
  - 1. operator
  - 2. patient
  - 3. state requirements
- F. Risk vs. benefit

## IX. Intraoral Procedures\*

- A. Examinations
  - 1. bitewing technique
  - 2. parallel technique
  - 3. bisecting technique
- B. Image receptor placement
- C. Positioning Indicating Device (PID) positioning
- D. Angulation-vertical and horizontal

## X. Exposure and Technique Errors\*

- A. Angulation
- B. Exposure factors
- C. Positioning of PID (position indicating device)
- D. Image receptor placement
- E. Critical evaluation of errors and corrections

\*These items are introduced in lecture, and the related skill is performed in the lab.

## XI. Laboratory Exercises

- A. Production of diagnostic images with proper contrast, density, definition, and minimal magnification or anatomic distortion.
- B. Application of infection control techniques for prevention of disease transmission through demonstration of proper pre- and post-appointment operatory preparation procedures, instrument recirculation methods, and aseptic technique.

## **Assignment:**

### Lecture Related Assignments:

- 1. Reading from text (20-30) pages a week
- 2. Quizzes (2-4)
- 3. Midterms (2)
- 4. 1 Final

### Laboratory Related Assignments:

- 1. Student digital and film placement proficiencies (6-10)
- 2. Film mounting proficiencies (1-2)
- 3. 2-4 bitewing series (BTW), digital and film, mannequin
- 4. 4-6 full mouth series (FMX), digital and film, mannequin
- 5. Written homework assignments (6-8)

## **Methods of Evaluation/Basis of Grade:**

**Writing:** Assessment tools that demonstrate writing skills and/or require students to select, organize and explain ideas in writing.

Written evaluation of errors and corrections for film bitewing and full mouth series, homework assignments

Writing  
5 - 10%

**Problem Solving:** Assessment tools, other than exams, that demonstrate competence in computational or non-computational problem solving skills.

None

Problem solving  
0 - 0%

**Skill Demonstrations:** All skill-based and physical demonstrations used for assessment purposes including skill performance exams.

Film or sensor placement techniques; bitewing and full mouth series competencies; mounting proficiencies

Skill Demonstrations  
45 - 60%

**Exams:** All forms of formal testing, other than skill performance exams.

Quizzes, two midterms, final exam

Exams  
30 - 45%

**Other:** Includes any assessment tools that do not logically fit into the above categories.

None

Other Category  
0 - 0%

### **Representative Textbooks and Materials:**

Essentials of Dental Radiography for Dental Assistants and Hygienists. 9th Ed. Thomson, Evelyn and Johnson, Orlen. Elsevier. 2012 (classic)

Exercises in Oral Radiography, A Laboratory Manual. 3rd Ed. Thomson, Evelyn. Elsevier. 2012 (classic)

Modern Dental Assisting. 11th Ed. Bird, Doni and Robinson, Debbie. Elsevier. 2015

Instructor prepared materials