J. Sargeant Reynolds Community College  
Course Content Summary

Course Prefix and Number: DNL 120  
Credits: 3

Course Title: Dental Anatomy and Physiology

Course Description: Introduces students to human anatomy and physiology. Emphasizes regions of the head and neck and the primary and permanent teeth. Laboratory exercises include accurate scale drawings of the permanent teeth and tooth carvings of the permanent teeth. Students observe fabrication procedure and demonstrations and receive one-on-one instruction during part of the laboratory sessions. Lecture 2 hours. Laboratory 3 hours. Total 5 hours per week.

General Course Purpose: Students must acquire a thorough knowledge of dental terminology, tooth morphology, oral anatomy, and occlusion as related to the fabrication of dental prostheses in order to function as a dental laboratory technician.

Course Prerequisites and Co-requisites:  
Prerequisites: General admission to the college. Students must pass all placement tests and have an interview with the program head to determine interest, motivation, and aptitudes relating to dental laboratory technology.

Course Objectives:  
Upon completing the course, the student will be able to: 

a. Demonstrate knowledge of nomenclature as it relates to dental laboratory technology.  
b. Describe anatomical landmarks and their relationships to dental prostheses.  
c. Explain the inter-relationships of gross dental structures.  
d. Manipulate and carve wax in the development of manual dexterity and morphology of teeth.  
e. Demonstrate a basic knowledge and understanding of occlusion.

Major Topics to Be Included:  
a. Dental terminology and general considerations—maxillary Incisors  
b. Skeletal anatomy—maxillary incisors continued  
c. Muscular anatomy—mandibular incisors  
d. Vascular anatomy and neuroanatomy—max and mand canines  
e. Associated and supportive structures of the teeth and edentulous mouth—max. premolars  
f. Temporomandibular articulation and occlusions—mand premolars  
g. Development of teeth and primary dentition—max and mand molars

Effective Date of Course Content Summary: August 22, 2008