

Ollscoil
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Higher Certificate in Science in Dental Nursing AU173

Congratulations on being offered a place of study on the Dental Nursing programme at ATU Donegal. The Department of Life and Physical Sciences is a vibrant, exciting department in the Faculty of Science and Health. It is equipped with up-to-date equipment and state-of-the-art laboratories. This programme offers you the opportunity to learn and develop new skills to seek employment in the dental health area.

This is a full-time programme with classes taking place Monday-Friday from 09.30 17.30. Attendance at all lectures, practicals, site visits and placements (if applicable) is recorded and monitored. If a student has attendance less than 75%, they will be invited to attend a meeting with the Head of Department.

As part of your programme of study you will take both theory and practical classes. Practical classes are an essential part of your programme as they put into practice much of the theory you have been taught in class. As a Department, we place considerable emphasis on this aspect of our programmes of study as employers require graduates to have up-to-date practical skills. Students are required to wear protective clothing when working in the Science labs. Lab coats are available from the Campus SU shop. In addition to scheduled classes students are also required to undertake independent learning.

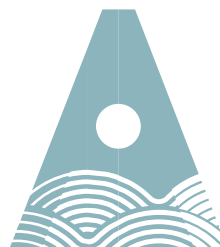
The programme involves three work placements: two of six weeks and one of 12 weeks duration. The Dental Council of Ireland, who you can register with on completion of this course, has oversight of the placements and as such students will be expected to take a variety of placements to ensure that they get exposure to the workings of a dental environment. As a result, students **will be required to engage in placements outside the Donegal and North West region** which will be sourced by you in conjunction with our Dental Nursing team. Students are responsible for sourcing and paying for both accommodation and travel to these placements.

Whilst on placement students will be expected to wear official uniforms. During Induction, academic staff will provide further information about your uniform. Each student is expected to have official uniforms for placement purposes. The cost of the uniform is incurred by the student - please see Additional Costs for further details.

As per the Irish Dental Council Code of Practice relating to Infection Prevention and Control "All staff who are at risk through contact with blood and/or body fluids should be immunised against HBV". As such **Dental Nursing students are required to be vaccinated against Hepatitis B**. This vaccine needs to be administered in three stages. This vaccination will be arranged for students through the Student Health Centre on campus. Students will start their vaccinations immediately and this must be completed prior to progressing to placement. Further information regarding vaccination will be provided at Induction. Students are required to provide written evidence of achieving a sufficient antibody titre following vaccination. Students who do not provide this information will not be allowed to progress on to work placement.

Once again congratulations on securing your place in the Department of Life and Physical Sciences. On-Campus Induction for Department of Life and Physical Sciences Dental Nursing Students takes place on **Thursday 14th September**. You will receive information about your Class Group and Timetable at Induction. I look forward to meeting you then.

Dr Kim McFadden
Head of Department of Life and Physical Sciences



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Quick Guide Information for Dental Nursing Students

Professional Body Registration

- Upon completion of this programme, you can register with the Dental Council of Ireland (ROI) or the General Dental Council (UK)

Vaccinations

- You are required to be vaccinated against Hepatitis B – ATU Donegal Health Centre. Further information about this process will be provided at Year 1 Induction.

Placement Information

- 3 placements (6-week – Jan 2024, 12-week Sept 24 and 6-week Mar 25)
- Range of locations/regions
- Mandatory Training – arranged by Department of Life and Physical Sciences – further information will be provided at Year 1 Induction

Additional Costs*

Purpose	Cost	
Course Costs	€200 – student contribution towards Mandatory Training, Uniforms, Vaccinations	Paid through ATU Student Account
Laboratory Coat	€40	SU Campus Shop

*Please note additional costs are not covered by the SUSI grant and students are required to arrange payment through their ATU Student Account.

Department of Life & Physical Sciences Contacts

Life & Physical Sciences	Role	Email	Location
Dr Kim Mc Fadden	Head of Department	Kim.McFadden@atu.ie	Room 2459
Ms Amy Hegarty	Clerical Officer	Amy.Hegarty@atu.ie	Room 2469
Ms Maria Mc Conalogue	Staff Officer	Maria.McConalogue@atu.ie	Room 2458
Mr Brendan Alexander	Senior Technical Officer	Brendan.Alexander@atu.ie	Room 3712

Programme Team

Lecturer	Email	Location
Dr Mary Gormley	Mary.Gormley@atu.ie	Room 2260
Dr Bill Scott	William.Scott@atu.ie	Room 1163
Ms Aisling Coyle	Aisling.Coyle@atu.ie	Room 2456
Ms Anne Harkin	Anne.Harkin@atu.ie	Email only
Dr Catherine Lynch	Catherine.Lynch@atu.ie	Room 1163
Dr Anne Nelson	Anne.Nelson@atu.ie	Room 2258A