Course: Nail Care, Enhancements and Spa Services
PEIMS Code: N1302531
Abbreviation: COSMETM
Grade Level(s): 10-12
Number of Credits: 2.0

Course description:
Nail Care, Enhancement and Spa Service students will demonstrate proficiency in academic, technical, and practical knowledge and skills (basic manipulative skills, safety judgments, and proper work habits). The content is designed to provide the occupational skills required for licensure as a Nail Technician or related career avenue. Instruction includes advanced training in professional standards/employability skills, TDLR rules and regulations, use of tools, equipment, technologies and materials, and practical skills.

Essential knowledge and skills:
(a) General requirements. This course is recommended for students in Grades 10-12. Students shall be awarded two credits for successful completion of this course.
(b) Introduction.
(1) CTE instruction provides content aligned with challenging academic standards and relevant technical knowledge and skills for students to further their education and succeed in current or emerging professions.
(2) The Human Services Career Cluster focuses on preparing individuals for employment in career pathways that relate to families and human needs such as counseling and mental health services, family and community services, personal care, and consumer services.
(3) Nail Care, Enhancement and Spa Service students will demonstrate proficiency in academic, technical, and practical knowledge and skills (basic manipulative skills, safety judgments, and proper work habits). The content is designed to provide the occupational skills required for licensure as a Nail Technician or related career avenue. Instruction includes advanced training in professional standards/employability skills, TDLR rules and regulations, use of tools, equipment, technologies and materials, and practical skills.
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- Districts must have local board approval to implement innovative courses
- Innovative courses may meet state elective credit only
- CTE Innovative courses may not be the final course in a coherent sequence for an endorsement
- Course requirements must be met without modification

(4) Students are encouraged to participate in extended learning experiences such as career and technical student organizations and other leadership or extracurricular organizations; and

(5) Statements that contain the word "including" reference content that must be mastered, while those containing the phrase "such as" are intended as possible illustrative examples.

(c) Knowledge and skills.

(1) The student demonstrates professional standards/employability skills as required by business and industry. The student is expected to:

(A) demonstrate professionalism in how to dress appropriately, speak politely, and conduct oneself in a manner appropriate for the profession and work site;
(B) employ the ability to be trustworthy by complying with an ethical course of action;
(C) comply with all applicable rules, laws and regulations;
(D) use conflict management skills to avoid potential or perceived conflict;
(E) investigate employment opportunities, including entrepreneurship;
(F) demonstrate effective oral and written communication skills with diverse individuals including coworkers, management, and customers;
(G) develop skill in handling multiple tasks simultaneously such as prioritizing tasks, managing workflow under pressure, and completion of work related activities in a timely manner;
(H) exercise personal ownership over the quantity and quality of individual performance and team assignment;
(I) employ leadership skills within a classroom or community setting to maintain positive relationships; and
(J) demonstrate knowledge of practical skills such as manicure, pedicure, and artificial nail enhancements.

(2) The student applies academic skills to the field of manicuring. The student is expected to:

(A) defend the importance of anatomy, physiology, nail disorders and diseases to the manicuring profession;
(B) summarize the structure, composition, and growth of skin and nails;
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(C) test the principles of organic and inorganic chemistry;

(D) evaluate solutions, suspensions, and emulsions that may be used during manicuring services, such as manicures, pedicures, and artificial nail enhancements;

(E) describe the chemistry and main ingredients of nail enhancements such as polymer powder, monomer liquid, UV gels and how they work;

(F) formulate a salon infection control plan to maintain health and safety of employees and clients;

(G) evaluate data or outcome of a broad range of personal care services;

(H) demonstrate an understanding of principles of Biology identifying living tissues, cells, and organisms to provide safe and effective personal care services;

(I) identify nail disorders commonly seen in the salon that may be treated by a nail technician or cosmetologist; and

(J) differentiate nail disorders/diseases that must be referred to a physician for treatment.

(3) The student demonstrates knowledge of rules and regulations established by the Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation (TDLR). The student is expected to:

(A) apply health and safety policies and procedures;

(B) recognize risks and potentially hazardous situations in compliance with TDLR;

(C) navigate TDLR website for exam eligibility, exam results, and student hours; and

(D) identify licensure and renewal requirements of the licensee or licensed cosmetology establishment or school.

(4) The student demonstrates a proficiency in the use of tools, equipment, technologies, and materials used as a nail care technician. The student is expected to:

(A) employ safe and effective use of tools to enhance client services;

(B) use ergonomically designed equipment to promote professional efficiency;

(C) use available technology sources effective in a professional salon setting;
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(D) apply universal precautions in disposal of hazardous and nonhazardous materials;
(E) formulate client services based on the correct use of materials such as quality and quantity;
(F) demonstrate proper preservice cleanliness procedures to maintain a sanitary work station and eliminate the potential for cross contamination; and
(G) model the appropriate technique for use of cuticle removal tools.

(5) The student applies the academic knowledge and practical skills to simulated and actual work situations. The student is expected to:
(A) appraise client desires to assist with formulation of personal care service;
(B) judge client satisfaction by recording solutions, procedures, and products to enhance future services and client interactions;
(C) use vendor resources to provide maximum benefit for clients, service providers, businesses, or organizations;
(D) demonstrate mastery of manicure and pedicure techniques such as trimming, shaping, buffing, and polishing nails;
(E) master the application of nail tips including proper blending;
(F) explore the use of nail wraps and their functions including maintenance, repair, and removal of nail wraps;
(G) perform proper application of monomer and polymer nail enhancements including application of form, nail maintenance, crack repair, and removal;
(H) apply knowledge of UV cured gel enhancements;
(I) provide basic and advanced nail art application per client specifications;
(J) demonstrate mastery of massage movements performed on a client’s hand, arm, foot, or leg such as effleurage, petrissage, tapotement, vibration, friction, or reflexology;
(K) ensure the proper removal of polish from the client’s nails to allow for inspection of any abnormalities hidden between existing polish;
(L) differentiate different nail shapes such as square, sqoval, round, oval, and pointed;
(M) demonstrate the ability to use proper tools to achieve predetermined nail shape per client specification;
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(N) utilize proper disinfection and safety procedures at conclusion of nail care or spa service; and

(O) demonstrate the ability to sanitize work surfaces and disinfect/sterilize tool with approved Environmental Protection Agency disinfectant or device (autoclave).

(6) The student analyzes career paths within the cosmetology industry. The student is expected to:

(A) explore marketing techniques when selecting and using multimedia to attract and retain clientele;

(B) formulate salon service menu based upon current industry trends;

(C) consolidate various methods of obtaining feedback from clients to understand their expectations and promote high-quality standards;

(D) create employment portfolio containing content such as certifications, samples of work, achievements, and supervisor or instructor evaluations; and

(E) analyze the role of professional organizations in cosmetology professions.

Description of specific student needs this course is designed to meet:

This course will explore the practical skills of a nail care professional, introducing them to the treatment environment, basic natural nail care treatments, nail enhancements, artistic applications, safety, sanitation, work environment skills, customer service and employee communication.

Major resources and materials:

Internet access


Recommended course activities:
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Students will participate in real world and simulated activities in the areas of health screening, nail analysis and consultation, massage manipulations, cleansing procedures, pedicure protocol, aromatherapy, nail art, artificial enhancements and maintenance, spa treatments, general procedures and safety measures.

Suggested methods for evaluating student outcomes:

Digital testing and a comprehensive learning management system may be used. Formative and summative assessments using technology, and other online applications accessed using a personal computer or smart device may also be used.

Teacher qualifications:

An assignment for Nail Care is allowed with one of the following certificates plus a valid license as a cosmetology instructor issued by the Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation.

Trade and Industrial Education:

- Grades 6-12 with work approval in cosmetology as identified on the certificate
- Grades 8-12 with work approval in cosmetology as identified on the certificate
- Vocational Trades and Industry with work approval in cosmetology as identified on the certificate

Additional information:

Cosmetology schools are required to obtain approval from TDLR before any and all cosmetology curriculum is offered by the cosmetology school. Cosmetology schools are also required to obtain prior approval before making any changes or revisions to approved cosmetology curriculum.