

**SOUTHEAST COMMUNITY COLLEGE**

**HEALTH SCIENCES DIVISION**

**SURGICAL FIRST ASSIST**

**Revision Date: 11/2022**

[Syllabus Statements](#)

**I. CATALOG DESCRIPTION**

**Course Number:** SUFA 1050  
**Course Title:** Clinical Externship 1  
**Prerequisite(s):** Admission into the Surgical First Assisting Program

**Catalog Description:** Practices acquired skills and aseptic technique functioning as a surgical first assistant by individual assignment to a qualified surgeon preceptor who will provide direct supervision during their surgical rotation in a clinical setting.

**Credit Hours:** 3  
**Class Hours:** 0  
**Clinical Hours:** 135  
**Total Contact Hours:** 135

**II. COURSE OBJECTIVES:** *Course will:*

1. Offer the student opportunities to gain confidence functioning as a Surgical First Assistant for the surgical team during the preoperative, intraoperative, and postoperative phases of the surgical procedure in a healthcare facility.
2. Provide the student with clinical experiences in a healthcare facility during which they can apply their knowledge of aseptic technique and critical thinking skills on a more independent basis.
3. Allow the student to demonstrate advancement in efficiency and consistency related to previously learned skills of the role of the Surgical First Assistant during surgical procedures in a healthcare facility while seeking independence while performing these skills.

**III. STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOMES AND GENERAL EDUCATION LEARNING OUTCOMES:**

**A. STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOMES:** *Students will be able to:*

1. Achieve success in the clinical environment through positive, constructive behaviors with guidance from preceptor while seeking independence as often as possible.
2. Review patient assessment data to properly prepare the patient preoperatively for surgical procedure.
3. Perform the duties of a surgical assistant during procedures under the direct supervision of the surgeon while striving for independence as often as possible.
4. Apply advanced anatomy knowledge to assist with visualization and hemostasis as appropriate to the operative site.
5. Uses knowledge of normal pathological anatomy and physiology to respond appropriately to surgical events.
6. Perform the duties of the surgical assist in the postoperative phase of the surgical procedure.

**B. GENERAL EDUCATION LEARNING OUTCOMES**  
**GELO 3: Critical Thinking and Problem Solving**

Outcome: Synthesize information to arrive at reasoned solutions to problems.

**IV. CONTENT/TOPICAL OUTLINE (*course outline may provide more detailed information*)**

- A. Successful clinical experience through constructive behaviors
- B. Preoperative assessment of patient
- C. Duties of the Surgical First Assistant in a surgical environment
- D. Pathological anatomy and physiology knowledge
- E. Appropriate response to surgical events
- F. Wound Closure Knowledge and Skill

**V. INSTRUCTIONAL MATERIALS**

**A. Required Text(s):**

Rothrock, Alexander's **Care of the Patient in Surgery**  
Trajecsys Report System **access**

**VI. METHODS OF PRESENTATION/INSTRUCTION**

**A. Methods of presentation typically include a combination of the following:**

1. Clinical experience within an assigned clinical institution, course objectives, Surgeon preceptor/Certified Surgical First Assistant direction.

**VII. METHODS OF EVALUATION**

**A. Methods of evaluation typically include a combination of the following:**

**GRADING SYSTEM:** Current college grading system. A grade of C+ is the minimum passing grade for this course.

**SCC STANDARD GRADING SCALE POLICY:**

<b>A+</b>	<b>95-100</b>	<b>C+</b>	<b>75-79</b>
<b>A</b>	<b>90-94</b>	<b>C</b>	<b>70-74</b>
<b>B+</b>	<b>85-89</b>	<b>D+</b>	<b>65-69</b>
<b>B</b>	<b>80-84</b>	<b>D</b>	<b>60-64</b>
		<b>F</b>	<b>Below 60</b>

**VIII. SPECIFIC COURSE REQUIREMENTS**

For specific course requirements please see the Course Information Document (CID) and program handbook.