

SOUTHEAST COMMUNITY COLLEGE

HEALTH SCIENCES DIVISION

SURGICAL FIRST ASSIST

Revision Date: 11/2023

I. CATALOG DESCRIPTION

Course Number:	SUFA 1020
Course Title:	Fundamentals of Surgical First Assisting
Prerequisite(s):	Admission into the Surgical First Assist Program
Catalog Description:	Theory and practice of a surgical first assistant in preoperative, intraoperative, and postoperative functions of a Surgical First Assistant. Including: technological sciences, pharmacology and anesthesia, hematological principles of surgery, and wound management.
Credit Hours:	3
Class Hours:	38
Lab Hours:	23
Total Contact Hours:	61

II. COURSE OBJECTIVES: *Course will:*

1. Review the basic terms, principles, and rules of each core technological science including: electricity, robotics, minimally invasive surgical equipment, and other technologies.
2. Understand the principles of local injection techniques and topical anesthetic agents.
3. Review clinical indications and uses of blood components.
4. Discuss skills in positioning the patient for various surgical specialties, utilizing positioning devices, and maintaining patient stability. Must be aware of the fundamental principles of patient positioning and how to interpret the physiological effects of surgical positioning on the patient.
5. Discuss the types of surgical skin preparations. Explain the rationales for determining the surgical prep solution and patient skin preparation for the various surgical procedures.
6. Discuss the proper draping technique for each surgical specialty.
7. Describe the role of the surgical assistant with regards to ensuring the safe manipulation of tissue.
8. Identify potential patient safety issues of instrument usage.

III. STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOMES AND GENERAL EDUCATION LEARNING OUTCOMES:

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

1. Assess the risks and adverse effects of anesthesia, conscious sedation, local anesthetic agents, and pain management
2. Analyze disorders of hemostasis and coagulation
3. Analyze the phases and techniques involved in wound closure, healing, and complications
4. Demonstrate the techniques involved in surgical knot tying and suturing
5. Demonstrate knowledge of wound drains and dressing applications
6. Demonstrate an understanding of the role of the surgical assistant for preoperative assessment phase
7. Assess potential perioperative complications
8. Summarize the indications, considerations, and complications or urinary catheterization

9. Describe the application of various types of tourniquets
10. Apply knowledge in the selection and use of surgical instruments and demonstrate proficiency in tissue dissection and handling

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*)

1. Patient Monitoring
2. Pain Control
3. Preoperative Patient Preparation
4. Tissue Handling and Dissection
5. Retraction, Visualization, and Hemostasis
6. Methods of Tissue Approximation
7. Drains and Dressings
8. Blood Volume Replacement
9. Special Equipment

V. INSTRUCTIONAL MATERIALS

A. Required Text(s):

1. Rothrock, Alexander's *Care of the Patient in Surgery* (current edition)
2. Trajecsyst Reporting System access

VI. METHODS OF PRESENTATION/INSTRUCTION

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

Lecture with Power Point slides, videos, demonstration, course objectives, class and lab, laboratory practice, assigned readings in textbooks.

VII. METHODS OF EVALUATION

SCC STANDARD GRADING SCALE POLICY:

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

VIII. SPECIFIC COURSE REQUIREMENTS

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