

SOUTHEAST COMMUNITY COLLEGE
HEALTH SCIENCES DIVISION
SURGICAL TECHNOLOGY
Revision Date: 04/2026

I. CATALOG DESCRIPTION

Course Number: SURT 1620
Course Title: Foundations of Surgical Technology
Prerequisite(s): Admission to the Surgical Technology Program

Catalog Description: Introduction to instrumentation decontamination, preparation, packaging, sterilization, and/or disinfection of supplies, instruments and equipment. Introduction to the specific duties of the surgical team including lab practice in patient positioning, transfer, and transport, urethral catheterization, prepping, draping, back table set-up and organization. Main course focus is aseptic technique and critical thinking skills practiced in the laboratory setting related to the sterile and unsterile role to prepare the student for clinical rotations.

Credit Hours: 5
Class Hours: 45
Lab Hours: 90
Total Contact Hours: 135

II. COURSE OBJECTIVES: *Course will:*

1. Introduce students to instrumentation decontamination, preparation, packaging, sterilization, and/or disinfection of supplies.
2. Prepare students to begin their clinical rotations by providing them with the basic skills to function as a surgical technologist during the preoperative, intraoperative, and postoperative phases of the surgical procedure.
3. Provide students opportunities to master the application of aseptic technique and critical thinking skills related to the sterile and unsterile role including proper surgical attire in the lab and clinical setting.

III. STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOMES AND GENERAL EDUCATION LEARNING OUTCOMES:

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

1. Identify the various methods of sterilization of surgical instruments and equipment, including preparation of items.
2. Identify and demonstrate aseptic principles in the lab and clinical setting.
3. Demonstrate scrubbing, gowning, and gloving utilizing aseptic principles.
4. Identify roles and responsibilities of the surgical technologist, the circulator and the other members of the surgical team during the perioperative process.
5. Describe the skills required to be performed by the surgical technologist during the preoperative, intraoperative, and postoperative case management phase of a surgical procedure.

6. Demonstrate a hospital-based laparotomy and laparoscopic set-up in a lab setting, applying aseptic principles, and establishing priorities while completing the set-up, to be accomplished with 100% accuracy.
7. Identify and demonstrate the skills needed for proper positioning, transport, and transferring of a surgical patient.
8. Identify and demonstrate the draping process for various surgical procedures utilizing proper aseptic technique in a lab setting until mastery of the skills has been accomplished.
9. Identify and demonstrate the proper technique for prepping a surgical patient in a lab setting until mastery of the skill has been accomplished.
10. Identify and demonstrate the appropriate technique to perform urethral catheterization in the lab setting until mastery of the skill has been accomplished.
11. Describe the process used when handling and preparing a specimen for laboratory studies.
12. Identify techniques used in cleaning of the O.R. and the application of disinfection in the O.R.

B. GENERAL EDUCATION LEARNING OUTCOMES

1. GELO 3: Critical Thinking & Problem Solving

Synthesize information to arrive at reasoned solutions to problems.

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

A. Theory components of the Course

1. Unit 1: Aseptic Principles
2. Unit 2: Environmental Sanitation and Disinfection
3. Unit 3: Processing & OR Attire
4. Unit 4: Methods of Sterilization
5. Unit 5: Scrubbing, Gowning, and Gloving
6. Unit 6: Organization of the Sterile Field & Postoperative Case Management
7. Unit 7: Counting Procedures and Guidelines
8. Unit 8: Specialty Table Set-Ups
9. Unit 9: Duties of the O.R. Personnel
10. Unit 10: Preoperative Case Management
11. Unit 11: Positioning, Transfer, and Transport of the Surgical Patient
12. Unit 12: Prepping the Surgical Patient
13. Unit 13: Draping the Surgical Patient
14. Unit 14: Urethral Catheterization
15. Unit 15: Care and Handling of Surgical Specimens

B. Laboratory components of the course

1. Week 1- Surgical Attire, Medical Handwash, Open Gloving, Opening Sterile Supplies, Surgical Hand Scrub, Brushless Hand Scrub
2. Week 2- Gowning and Gloving Self and Surgeon, Asepsis Scenarios, Begin Table Set-Ups for Competency Assessment #1
3. Week 3- Hospital Tours—Decontamination, Sterile Processing, and O.R., Continue Back Table Set-Ups for Competency Assessment #1
4. Week 4- Continue Back Table Set-Ups for Competency Assessment #1
5. Week 5- Continue Back Table Set-Ups for Competency Assessment #1
6. Week 6- Competency Assessment #1 Performance
7. Week 7- Damp Dusting O.R., Laparotomy Table Set-Ups

8. Week 8-	Laparotomy Table Set-Ups
9. Week 9-	Laparotomy Table Set-Ups
10. Week 10-	Hospital Observations, Begin Laparoscopic Set-Ups
11. Week 11-	Laparoscopic Table Set-Ups, Positioning, Transfer, and Transport of the Surgical Patient
12. Week 12-	Laparoscopic Table Set-Ups, Draping the Surgical Patient
13. Week 13-	Hospital Observation and Laparoscopic Table Set-Up
14. Week 14-	Laparotomy and Laparoscopic Table Set-Up Practice, Prepping & Urethral Catheterization
15. Week 15-	Laparotomy and Laparoscopic Table Set-Up Practice
16. Week 16-	Competency Assessment #2 Performance

V. INSTRUCTIONAL MATERIALS

A. Required Text(s):

Association of Surgical Technologists. *Surgical Technology for the Surgical Technologist* (current edition)

Goldman, M. A. *Pocket Guide to the Operating Room* (current edition)

Nemitz, Renee. *Surgical Instrumentation: An Interactive Approach* (current edition)

Pieknik, R. *Suture and Surgical Hemostasis; A Pocket Guide* (current edition)

Trajecsys Reporting System access

B. Other Resources:

Power Point slides, Handouts, Videos, Demonstrations, Lab experience, Clinical experience,

Scrub top and bottom, scrub hat and shoes for lab

Instrument kit rented from SCC Bookstore

VI. METHODS OF PRESENTATION/INSTRUCTION

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

Lecture with Power Point slides, Videos, Demonstration, Handouts, Syllabus objectives,

Class participation, Role playing, Small Group Work, Clinical experience, Laboratory

Practice, Assigned Readings in Textbooks and Video Taping.

B. Competency Assessments performed by students in a laboratory setting.

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 please see the Course Information Document (CID) and Program Handbook.

Minimum passing final grade for this course is a 75% (C+). Below 75% = recycle and repeat the course. This course cannot be taken as PASS/FAIL.