

Course Code: SUR 150

Course Title: Personal and Professional Relations

Department: Allied Health

Effective Date: Summer 2026

PCS Code: 1.2 - Occupational/Technical Instruction

CIP Code: 51.0909

Repeatability: 0

Credit Hours

Catalog Notation: 1-0-1

Credit Hour Distribution:

Lecture: 1

Lab: 0

Clinical: 0

Total: 1

General Course Information

Catalog Description

Professionalism and patient care concepts. Needs of surgical patients, death and dying, legal, ethical, and moral issues, interpersonal relationships and teamwork, communication, conflict resolution, healthcare organization structure, and disaster preparedness.

General Course Objectives

1. Identify and discuss the needs of patients and susceptible patient populations.
2. Relate death processes and practices to patient care and the operating room environment.
3. Identify the legal responsibilities of the surgical team including proper documentation and prevention of risk management incidents.
4. Develop an increased sensitivity to the influence of ethics in professional practice.
5. Discuss and demonstrate appropriate communication and the concepts of conflict resolution.
6. Evaluate the role of the operating room staff in the delivery of culturally competent healthcare.
7. Evaluate personal employability qualities and the advanced opportunities available to surgical technologists.
8. Describe the professional behavior of a member of the surgical team.
9. Assess the roles of surgical team members, healthcare facility departments, and the chain of command.
10. Describe disaster planning and the responsibilities of the community, healthcare facility, and healthcare worker.

Minimum Placement Levels

English	Reading	Math
Placement out of ENG 099	Placement out of CCS 099	Placement out of MAT 060

Prerequisites

Credit or concurrent enrollment in BIO 111, ENG 101, and SOC 101

Recommended before enrolling (not required):

Concurrent enrollment in SUR 116

Methods of Evaluation

14-15 assignments, 1-2 objective exams.

Instructional Materials and Additional Supplies

Surgical Technology Principles and Practices textbook, Fuller, Elsevier, current edition.

Course Content

General Learning Outcomes (GLOs)

- Communication: Students will demonstrate the ability to read, write, listen, and speak effectively.
- Critical Thinking and Information Literacy: Students will demonstrate the ability to evaluate perspectives, evidence, and implications, and to locate, assess, and use information effectively.
- Global Awareness and Cultural Reasoning: Students will demonstrate their understanding of global issues, gender and sexual orientation, and multicultural perspectives.

Course Segments and Student Learning Outcomes

Course Segment	Learning Outcomes	Lecture Hours	Lab Hours	Clinical Hours
Information Technology/Computer Literacy	1. Identify the basic components of a computer system.	1	0	0
Professional Management	1. Describe the characteristics of the professional surgical technologist. 2. Compare and contrast professional organizations related to surgical technology. 3. Describe the credentialing options available to the surgical technologist. 4. Discuss working conditions of a surgical technologist. 5. Identify professional advancement options for surgical technologists. 6. Describe what it means to have a strong work ethic. 7. Explain a surgical technologist's scope of practice. 8. Discuss the importance of punctuality and responsible attendance.	2	0	0
Healthcare Facility Organization and Management	1. Identify the proper chain of command in the operating room. 2. Describe the healthcare facility departments that provide direct and indirect patient care. 3. Describe the healthcare agencies that impact the provision of surgical services. 4. Evaluate basic electronic medical records systems used. 5. Evaluate safe practices for implementing information technology in the healthcare facility. 6. Compare the different roles of the team members in the surgical setting.	1	0	0

Course Segment	Learning Outcomes	Lecture Hours	Lab Hours	Clinical Hours
Legal Issues, Documentation, and Risk Management	1. Analyze the concepts of law. 2. Define the various types of legal doctrines. 3. Discuss the concepts that influence the standards of conduct. 4. Analyze the legal elements of proper documentation. 5. Describe the types of sentinel events. 6. Summarize the intentions of risk management. 7. Understand legal terminology. 8. Interpret the legal responsibilities of the surgical technologist and surgical team members. 9. Compare and contrast criminal and civil liabilities and the consequences of these acts. 10. Describe best practices in securing protected health information. 11. Describe the documents found in the surgical patient's chart. 12. Summarize the purpose of documentation.	3	0	0
Needs of the Surgical Patient	1. Identify responses concerning the needs of the patient population. 2. Evaluate the holistic needs of the surgical patient. 3. Discuss the needs of susceptible patient populations.	1	0	0
Death and Dying	1. Evaluate perceptions regarding death and dying. 2. Define the various causes of death. 3. Discuss the definitions of death. 4. Compare and contrast responses to the process of death. 5. Evaluate the various coping strategies and mechanisms to death. 6. Analyze quality vs. quantity of life. 7. Evaluate the process when a patient's death occurs in the operating room. 8. Discuss the issues regarding organ and tissue recovery from a deceased individual. 9. Discuss the issues related to suicide.	1	0	0
Ethical and Moral Issues	1. Review the American Hospital Association's Patient Care Partnership. 2. Understand the influence of ethics in professional practice. 3. Discuss the role of morality during ethical decision making. 4. Discuss examples of ethical situations and problems in the health professions. 5. Discuss key elements related to developing a surgical conscience. 6. Review principles of problem solving in ethical decision making. 7. Discuss principles of patient confidentiality, including verbal and written.	1	0	0
Cultural Competence	1. Define cultural competence. 2. Discuss the cultural beliefs of coworkers and patients and how to respect those beliefs. 3. Discuss successfully working with a diverse operating room staff. 4. Evaluate cultural scenarios when providing healthcare to a diverse population.	1	0	0
Communication Skills	1. Define and describe types of communication relationships. 2. Discuss the goals of communication. 3. Describe the significance of content and tone in communication. 4. Describe the principles of communication in the surgical setting. 5. Discuss how body language impacts the receipt of verbal messages. 6. Discuss the importance of non-verbal communication in the operating room. 7. Discuss how to develop good listening skills.	1	0	0

Course Segment	Learning Outcomes	Lecture Hours	Lab Hours	Clinical Hours
Interpersonal Relationships and Teamwork	1. Explain the principles of teamwork in the surgical environment. 2. Discuss methods for successful surgical team participation. 3. Discuss strategies for the attainment of effective team goals. 4. Compare and contrast individual skills vs. collaboration roles and responsibilities.	1	0	0
Conflict Resolution	1. Identify the skills necessary to resolve conflict in the workplace. 2. Distinguish the types of behavioral concerns found in society. 3. Discuss the strategies to negotiate effective problem resolution. 4. Evaluate the methods to prevent conflict in the surgical arena.	1	0	0
All Hazards Preparation/Disaster Preparedness	1. Describe the different disasters and public health emergencies. 2. Discuss the effects of emerging infectious diseases. 3. Describe the effect disasters have on the environment. 4. Describe how healthcare facilities can manage waste. 5. Describe the purpose and coordination of the all-hazards systems, including hospital incident command system, national incident management systems, and national response framework. 6. Describe the components of a healthcare facility emergency operations plan. 7. Explain the personal and professional responsibilities of healthcare workers when participating in the management of a disaster or a hazard. 8. Describe how to mitigate casualties according to specific types of hazards. 9. Describe the four responses that apply to every type of disaster. 10. Describe triage procedures. 11. Describe the role of the surgical technologist during triage. 12. Describe the processes used to control contamination. 13. Describe the support roles of the surgical technologist. 14. Discuss the moral and ethical issues relevant to hazards.	1	0	0

Total Contact Hours

Lecture Hours	Lab Hours	Clinical Hours
15	0	0