

Course Code: SUR 232

Course Title: Clinical Practicum I

Department: Allied Health

Effective Date: Summer 2026

PCS Code: 1.2 - Occupational/Technical Instruction

CIP Code: 51.9998

Repeatability: 0

Credit Hours

Catalog Notation: 1-5.5-3

Credit Hour Distribution:

Lecture: 1

Lab: 1.5

Clinical: 4

Total: 3

General Course Information

Catalog Description

Introduction and demonstration of clinical skills for participation in surgical cases. Students function in the role of the surgical technologist in the mock operating room on the Parkland campus and actual operating rooms.

General Course Objectives

1. Demonstrate the knowledge and techniques of loading and passing surgical needles, handling medications, pouring solutions, open gloving, and draping of the surgical patient.
2. Demonstrate the knowledge and techniques for transporting, transferring, and positioning the surgical patient.
3. Demonstrate the knowledge and techniques for obtaining baseline vital signs.
4. Demonstrate the knowledge and skills of the assistant circulator.
5. Demonstrate the knowledge and techniques for performing the patient surgical skin prep and urinary catheterization.
6. Analyze and demonstrate a practical proficiency in surgical aseptic technique and surgical procedures.
7. Demonstrate the knowledge and skills to perform an entire mock hernia procedure in the laboratory.
8. Demonstrate knowledge of the role of the surgical technologist and other team members in the clinical environment.
9. Demonstrate knowledge and compliance with OSHA guidelines and universal precautions.
10. Demonstrate basic communication and the organization skills necessary to function as a student member of the surgical team.
11. Demonstrate the skills and abilities of a surgical technology student in the clinical environment.

Minimum Placement Levels

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

Prerequisites

Credit in SUR 231

Concurrent enrollment in SUR 210

Admission into the Surgical Technology program

Methods of Evaluation

9-10 worksheets, 3-4 online assessments, 7-8 quizzes, 5-6 practical exams, 6-7 skill check-offs, assistant circulator paper, sterile processing paper, MindTap surgical instrumentation assignments, 1-2 written clinical performance evaluations from faculty and operating room professionals. Completed written clinical pre-procedures.

Instructional Materials and Additional Supplies

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

Surgical Instrumentation eBook + Mindtap, Cengage, current edition

Pharmacology for the Surgical Technologist textbook, Howe and Burton, Elsevier, current edition

Alexander's Surgical Procedures, Rothrock and Alexander, Elsevier, current edition

SUR 231/232 Lab Manual, instructor created manual

Surgical Mayo Setups, Elsevier, current edition

Pocket Guide to the Operating Room textbook, current edition

Platinum Planner Access Code

Set of Scrubs

New pair of clinical shoes

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.
- Reasoning and Inquiry: Students will demonstrate the ability to solve problems using deductive reasoning and logic, quantitative reasoning, or the scientific method.

Course Segments and Student Learning Outcomes

Course Segment	Learning Outcomes	Lecture Hours	Lab Hours	Clinical Hours
1. Principles and Practices of Intraoperative Counts 2. Transition to the Sterile Field 3. Catheters and Drains 4. Intraoperative Case Management Duties 5. Postoperative Case Management Duties 6. Suture Passing Practical Exam 7. Draping the Abdomen 8. Neurosurgery Instruments	1. Demonstrate the process of passing medications and solutions to the surgeon. 2. Demonstrate correct passing of surgical instruments. 3. Identify the correct suture utilized for each layer of wound closure. 4. Describe the draping procedure of the abdomen. 5. Demonstrate the aseptic principles of draping the patient. 6. Demonstrate the laparotomy draping process. 7. Compare and contrast the types and characteristics of various catheter and drainage devices. 8. Correlate the correct drainage device for each drain. 9. Compare and contrast the conceptual differences between gravity and suction drainage. 10. Describe the technique for connecting suction drains. 11. Demonstrate the procedure for transitioning to the sterile field including placement of ESU and suction. 12. Demonstrate the intraoperative counting procedure. 13. Demonstrate postoperative case management duties. 14. Apply universal precautions to the performance of perioperative case management. 15. Identify and describe the uses of instruments used in neurosurgery. 16. Demonstrate the correct spelling of the instruments according to the manufacturer's name. 17. Recognize and group instruments according to name, size, and function. 18. Explain the most common applications for neurosurgery instrumentation. 19. Correlate and associate neurosurgical instruments with anatomical structures. 20. Handle and pass neurosurgery instruments correctly and safely.	3	2	0

Course Segment	Learning Outcomes	Lecture Hours	Lab Hours	Clinical Hours
1. Laparotomy Draping 2. Extremity Draping 3. Perineal/Vaginal Draping 4. Instrument Quiz 5. Handling Medications at the Sterile Field Practical Exam 6. Suture Passing Practical Exam 7. Ophthalmic Instruments	1. Describe the draping procedure of the abdomen. 2. Describe the draping procedure of an extremity. 3. Describe the draping procedure of the vaginal/perineal area. 4. Demonstrate the aseptic principles of draping the patient. 5. Demonstrate the laparotomy draping process. 6. Demonstrate the draping of an extremity. 7. Demonstrate the draping of the vaginal/perineal area. 8. Demonstrate the selection, preparation, and handling of suture. 9. Demonstrate loading and passing a suture ligature and free needle for a right handed individual and a left handed individual. 10. Demonstrate the passing of a free tie. 11. Demonstrate the preparation of an instrument tie. 12. Demonstrate sharps safety when handling suture needles. 13. Describe the methods of counting. 14. Demonstrate the procedure for counting instruments, sponges, sharps, and other items on the sterile field. 15. Identify and describe the uses of instruments used in ophthalmic surgery. 16. Demonstrate the correct spelling of the instruments according to the manufacturer's name. 17. Recognize and group instruments according to name, size, and function. 18. Explain the most common applications for ophthalmic instrumentation. 19. Correlate and associate ophthalmic instruments with anatomical structures. 20. Handle and pass ophthalmic instruments correctly and safely.	2	3	0
1. Catheters and Drains Quiz #1 2. Patient Positioning 3. Assistant Circulator 4. Instrument Quiz 5. Handling Medications at the Sterile Field Practical Exam 6. Postoperative Dressing Application 7. Breakdown of the Sterile Field and Room Turnover 8. Ophthalmic Instruments #2	1. Compare and contrast the types and characteristics of various catheters and drainage devices. 2. Demonstrate the proper patient preparation before dressing application. 3. Discuss the safety measures which are taken during positioning of the patient. 4. Discuss the hazards of peripheral nerve damage and list the actions taken to prevent nerve damage. 5. Demonstrate the ability to apply table attachments. 6. Describe, demonstrate, and state the use of surgical positions. 7. Identify and describe the uses of instruments used in ophthalmic surgery. 8. Demonstrate the correct spelling of the instruments according to the manufacturer's name. 9. Recognize and group instruments according to name, size, and function. 10. Explain the most common applications for ophthalmic instrumentation. 11. Correlate and associate ophthalmic instruments with anatomical structures. 12. Handle and pass ophthalmic instruments correctly and safely.	2	3.5	0

Course Segment	Learning Outcomes	Lecture Hours	Lab Hours	Clinical Hours
1. Laparoscopic Cholecystectomy Setup 2. Operative Cholangiograms 3. Open Gloving 4. Operating a Laparoscopic Camera 5. Instrument Quiz 6. Draping Practical Exam	1. Identify instruments and supplies needed for a laparoscopic cholecystectomy with intraoperative cholangiograms. 2. Describe the setup and steps of a laparoscopic cholecystectomy. 3. Demonstrate the operation of a laparoscopic camera and endoscope utilizing the principles of asepsis in the second scrub role. 4. Indicate when open gloving is performed. 5. Demonstrate the procedure for open gloving. 6. Demonstrate the laparotomy draping process. 7. Demonstrate the draping of an extremity. 8. Demonstrate the draping of the vaginal/perineal area. 9. Identify and describe the uses of instruments used in vascular and cardiothoracic surgery. 10. Demonstrate the correct spelling of the instruments according to the manufacturer's name. 11. Recognize and group instruments according to name, size, and function. 12. Explain the most common applications for vascular and cardiothoracic instrumentation. 13. Correlate and associate vascular and cardiothoracic instruments with anatomical structures. 14. Handle and pass vascular and cardiothoracic instruments correctly and safely.	2	3	0
1. Handing Off a Specimen 2. Accepting Sterile Supplies to the Sterile Field 3. Urinary Catheterization Check-off 4. Patient Skin Prep Check-off 5. Open Gloving Practical Exam 6. Catheter and Drain Quiz #2 7. Practice of complete surgical procedure from setup to breakdown of the case for an open herniorrhaphy 8. Instrument Quiz	1. Describe the procedure for validating specimens with the surgeon and the circulator. 2. Describe the procedure for specimen labeling and transfer off the sterile field. 3. Describe the process for accepting sterile supplies to the sterile field. 4. Demonstrate the procedure for open gloving. 5. Discuss the basic considerations for urinary catheterization. 6. Demonstrate the urinary catheterization of a male and female patient. 7. Discuss the procedure for preparing the umbilicus during an abdominal prep. 8. Demonstrate the procedure for prepping the abdomen, vagina, and an extremity. 9. Employ aseptic technique during the prepping of the abdomen, vagina, and an extremity. 10. Identify and describe the uses of instruments used in oral and maxillofacial surgery. 11. Demonstrate the correct spelling of the instruments according to the manufacturer's name. 12. Recognize and group instruments according to name, size, and function. 13. Explain the most common applications for oral and maxillofacial instrumentation. 14. Correlate and associate oral and maxillofacial instruments with anatomical structures. 15. Handle and pass oral and maxillofacial instruments correctly and safely.	2	3	0

Course Segment	Learning Outcomes	Lecture Hours	Lab Hours	Clinical Hours
1. Electrosurgical Safety Check-off 2. Pouring Solutions Check-off 3. Transfer and Transportation of the Patient Check-off 4. Instrument Quiz 5. Laparoscopic Cholecystectomy Check-off	1. Identify the uses of saline and water on the sterile field. 2. Identify common medications used on the sterile field. 3. Demonstrate the procedure for pouring solutions and medications onto the sterile field. 4. Demonstrate the safe transfer of a patient from a stretcher to the OR bed. 5. Demonstrate the safe transfer of a patient from the OR bed to a stretcher. 6. Describe the principles and the process for the safe transportation of patients. 7. Demonstrate the safe transportation of a patient on a stretcher. 8. Discuss the safety precautions required for the patient return electrode. 9. Demonstrate the operation of the electrosurgical unit with application of a grounding pad. 10. Discuss the safety precautions and application of a pneumatic tourniquet. 11. Demonstrate the back table and Mayo stand setup and transition to the sterile field for a laparoscopic cholecystectomy.	2	2	0
1. Vital Signs Check-off 2. Environmental Disinfection 3. Breaking Down the Sterile Field 4. Instrument Exam	1. Define terminology related to vital signs. 2. Discuss the principles of measuring and evaluating vital signs. 3. State the normal body temperature. 4. State the normal pulse rate for a child and an adult. 5. State the normal range of respirations. 6. State the normal range of blood pressure. 7. Demonstrate the measurement of pulse, respirations, and blood pressure. 8. Record vital signs appropriately. 9. Explain the concepts of environmental disinfection of the operating room. 10. Demonstrate the breaking down of the sterile field. 11. Explain methods of sterile field breakdown. 12. Describe the postoperative handling of equipment.	2	2	0

Course Segment	Learning Outcomes	Lecture Hours	Lab Hours	Clinical Hours
1. Practical Examination: Back Table and Mayo Setup, Counts, Draping, Transition to the Sterile Field, Cleaning the Patient, Applying Dressings, and Room Turnover	1. Demonstrate proper OR attire. 2. Demonstrate the preparation of the OR for a mock procedure. 3. Demonstrate the use of a surgeon preference card in preparing for a mock surgical procedure. 4. Demonstrate opening sterile supplies using aseptic technique. 5. Demonstrate the correct procedure for performing the surgical hand scrub or surgical hand rub. 6. Demonstrate draping of the Mayo stand. 7. Demonstrate the organization of the back table. 8. Demonstrate the arrangement of supplies on the back table. 9. Demonstrate the arrangement of instruments and supplies on the Mayo stand for a mock hernia procedure. 10. Demonstrate the use of instruments and supplies intraoperatively. 11. Demonstrate the process for accepting medications and solutions onto the sterile field. 12. Demonstrate the preparation of medications and solutions on the sterile field. 13. Demonstrate the correct procedure for counting sponges, sharps, instruments, and miscellaneous items on the sterile field. 14. Demonstrate the loading of surgical blades onto knife handles. 15. Demonstrate sharps safety. 16. Demonstrate the procedure for gowning and gloving the surgeon. 17. Demonstrate the process of transitioning to the sterile field including passing off the suction and ESU. 18. Demonstrate the selection, preparation, and handling of suture. 19. Demonstrate the correct handling and passing of surgical instruments. 20. Demonstrate the procedure for specimen labeling, validation, and transfer off the sterile field. 21. Demonstrate the filling and passing of an asepto syringe. 22. Demonstrate the draping of the abdomen. 23. Demonstrate effective time management skills in the preparation of the sterile field. 24. Demonstrate the preparation and application of surgical dressings. 25. Demonstrate the breakdown of the sterile field. 26. Demonstrate the correct technique for gowning and closed gloving. 27. Anticipate the needs of the surgical team during a mock surgical procedure.	0	4	0

Week 1 to 8 Clinical	1. Demonstrate laboratory skills in the clinical area by actively participating in the first scrub, second scrub, and assisting circulator role under the direct supervision of the instructor and other operating room professionals. 2. Demonstrate the principles of aseptic technique in operative procedures. 3. Exhibit accuracy, integrity, and effort in the role of a surgical technologist in the clinical area. 4. Demonstrate the comprehension and acceptance of the legal responsibility, limitations, and implications of actions within the surgical suite. 5. Comprehend and apply regulations regarding patient confidentiality. 6. Employ measures to prevent waste and duplication by conserving surgical supplies. 7. Practice cooperation, teamwork, and active listening skills as part of the surgical team. 8. Demonstrate respect for cultural and religious differences in patients and surgical team members. 9. Manage conflict within the clinical environment through consideration of others' points of view. 10. Communicate important information to the surgeon and other team members. 11. Recognize the importance of the patient's needs over other considerations. 12. Demonstrate the key employability skills of responsible attendance, time management skills, professional conduct and responsibility, and appearance. 13. Demonstrate adaptation to changing situations. 14. Strive to upgrade knowledge and skills. 15. Accept constructive criticism from clinical staff and instructors to improve performance. 16. Demonstrate the surgical technologist's role in preventing disease transmission through safe work practices. 17. Utilize care in handling and disposing of sharps. 18. Apply measures to prevent fire and electrical hazards. 19. Demonstrate initiative in preparing for surgical cases utilizing available resources. 20. Demonstrate knowledge and understanding of surgical case flow. 21. Initiate the preparing of dressings, drains, and other supplies to complete the surgical procedure. 22. Demonstrate applying and removing knife blades safely. 23. Demonstrate the surgical hand scrub utilizing the correct technique. 24. Demonstrate self-gowning and closed gloving following the principles of asepsis. 25. Demonstrate the gowning and gloving of the surgeon utilizing the correct technique. 26. Demonstrate the changing of gown and gloves and applying a sleeve following contamination. 27. Demonstrate opening sterile packages utilizing the correct technique and following the principles of asepsis. 28. Demonstrate the selection, preparation, and handling of surgical instruments and suture needles. 29. Demonstrate the organization of the back table and Mayo stand utilizing economy of motion and spatial awareness. 30. Demonstrate movement in the sterile field.	0	0	64
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Course Segment	Learning Outcomes	Lecture Hours	Lab Hours	Clinical Hours
Week 1 to 8 Clinical (cont'd)	31. Perform preoperative and intraoperative counts accurately following the correct sequence. 32. Demonstrate draping techniques. 33. Demonstrate the ability to follow directions. 34. Demonstrate the preparation, care, and handling of instruments, equipment, and supplies. 35. Identify the names and usage of surgical instruments. 36. Follow the policies and procedures of the program and clinical facilities. 37. Perform the duties of the assistant circulator. 38. Demonstrate point of use cleaning methods. 39. Demonstrate the proper technique for donning and doffing surgical attire. 40. Demonstrate the procedure for correcting contaminations during the opening process. 41. Demonstrate safe and appropriate behaviors to prevent potential hazards in the surgical setting. 42. Demonstrate the appropriate technique in the care and handling of specimens. 43. Demonstrate a surgical conscience. 44. Demonstrate managing medications and solutions at the sterile field. 45. Demonstrate passing surgical instruments utilizing the correct technique. 46. Utilize effective and appropriate communication in the surgical setting. 47. Demonstrate the handling and transport of contaminated surgical instruments. 48. Demonstrate the breakdown of the sterile field. 49. Demonstrate disinfection of the surgical environment. 50. Describe the purpose of the observation role. 51. Perform duties in the sterile processing department. 52. Develop a successful clinical experience by maintaining a positive self-image. 53. Perform calmly, reliably, and efficiently in the surgical setting. 54. Demonstrate the ability to handle stress without difficulty. 55. Develop a successful clinical experience by setting short and long term goals. 56. Develop a successful clinical experience by meeting and/or exceeding the expectations of the OR staff and instructors.			

Total Contact Hours

Lecture Hours	Lab Hours	Clinical Hours
15	22.5	64