AHST 115.00: Surgical Lab I

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COURSE SYLLABUS: AHST 115 SURGICAL LAB I

COURSE INFORMATION:

Term: Spring 2024  
Semester Credits: 2  
Prerequisites: Acceptance into the AHST program and successful completion of all of the following or their equivalency:

- BIOH 201N/202N  
- WRIT 101 or WRIT 121  
- M 105  
- AHMS 144  
- PSYX 100S or COMX 115S

INSTRUCTOR INFORMATION:
Instructor: Jill Davis CSFA CST BA, Program Director, Surgical Technology  
Office: Room 318, Missoula College, River Campus  
Email: jill.davis@mso.umt.edu  
Phone: 406-243-7876 (Office)  
406-253-4377 (Cell)  
Office Hours: by appointment only – please arrange as needed

RELATIONSHIP TO PROGRAM:

Upon completion of this course, the student will be able to correlate the knowledge and understanding of basic (entry-level) surgical technologist skills as evidenced by completion of the competency profile. The concepts learned in AHST 101 are demonstrated in AHST 115 and will provide for successful matriculation to more complex clinical situations. The student gains practical experience, not only in the campus lab, but also with limited surgical clinical rotations.

COURSE DESCRIPTION:

This course provides the student with knowledge and practical application of basic Surgical Technologist skills while incorporating concepts learned in AHST 101. Students learn and practice basic (entry-level) skills. There is major emphasis on the critical elements of the skills and procedures and the scientific rationale for performing the procedures correctly, as documented in AORN's Perioperative Standards and Recommended Practices. The student gains practical experience, not only in the campus lab, but also with limited surgical clinical rotations.

COURSE OUTLINE:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Unit</th>
<th>Topic or Specialty to be Covered</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>I</td>
<td>Introduction to Surgical Technology</td>
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<tr>
<td>II</td>
<td>The Physical Environment and Safety Standards</td>
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<tr>
<td>III</td>
<td>Preventing Perioperative Disease Transmission</td>
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<td>IV</td>
<td>Surgical Case Management: Preoperative</td>
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STUDENT PERFORMANCE OUTCOMES:

Upon completion of this course, the student will be able to:

1. Identify various workplace safety issues.
2. Demonstrate and describe proper OR attire.
3. Demonstrate proper handwashing.
4. Describe elements of the physical environment of a surgical room.
5. Demonstrate proper aseptic technique.
6. Demonstrate the surgical scrub.
7. Demonstrate gowning.
8. Demonstrate open and closed gloving.
9. Identify the scrub role tasks and be able to perform those that are identified as entry-level.
10. Identify the circulator role tasks and be able to perform those that are identified as entry-level and acceptable to clinical facility standards.
11. Identify and demonstrate the handling of minor surgical instruments.
12. Identify and demonstrate the use of various surgical sponges.
13. Identify and demonstrate the use of various surgical dressings.
15. Identify and demonstrate the handling of suture materials.

STUDENT PERFORMANCE ASSESSMENT METHODS AND GRADING:

- Grading for this course is Credit/No-Credit. All competencies and the student’s final presentation must earn Pass or Satisfactory Performance. Students must be considered safe practitioners in order to be successful in this lab course. A safe practitioner is one who is able to recognize breaks in asepsis and is able to rectify errors.
- Throughout the semester, students will be required to demonstrate skills. A rating of Pass or Satisfactory Performance at the time of completion of each assigned Competency Assessment is required. Inability to perform the skill will result in a rating of Fail or Unsatisfactory.
- In order to be successful Surgical Technology students, practicing technical skills outside of scheduled lab times is expected. Make sure you allow efficient practice times when arranging your class/work/personal schedules for the semester.
- During the semester, a competency that has been evaluated as Unsatisfactory may be repeated one time. The repeat demonstration must be completed prior to progression to the next assigned competency or within one week of receiving the unsatisfactory rating. Each skill must be passed with a Pass or Satisfactory rating in order to progress in the course.
- In addition to the individual skill assessments, each student will be evaluated with a final skills evaluation. This will enable the student to put learned skills together for a final presentation. The student will be expected to perform the required skills in a timely manner*, with good aseptic technique and demonstration of surgical conscience. The evaluation may be recorded or live.
- If a student is unable to perform the required final skills in a timely manner*, with good aseptic technique and demonstration of surgical conscience (all skills passed with a Pass or Satisfactory rating), he/she will receive a final grade of not passing (No Credit). Failure will be determined if the
The student is unable to perform the basic (entry level) skills required of those entering the operating room.

- The student will be able to repeat the entire final presentation one time.
- If a student is not successful after a repeat demonstration, he/she will not be allowed to progress in the program. Because sterile technique is the basis for a successful Surgical Technology career, failure in the course will also prevent the student from re-applying for program admission.
- It is up to instructor discretion and AORN standards and recommended practices whether or not a student is considered to be a safe practitioner.

*Timely manner is defined as the amount of time expected of an entry-level practitioner in the operating room.

**ATTENDANCE POLICY:**

- This course requires practice outside of assigned lab class time.
- It is expected cell phones and all electronic devices will be off during class time.
- Attendance and participation are valued in this course. Therefore, class attendance will be taken. Prompt and regular attendance will be expected in order to meet course objectives. **Students are expected to notify the instructor prior to class if unable to attend or if student will be arriving late.**
- Students may be asked to furnish a physician’s statement regarding an absence. The student is responsible for gathering any information or course materials he or she may have missed due to absence or tardiness.
- Repeated absences or disruptive behavior will result in completion of a formal **Student Understanding of Expectations Agreement.** Points may be deducted from a student’s final evaluation for each absence or each episode of disruption.
- If a student should miss a required competency demonstration (skill check), the return demonstration must be scheduled out of lab time and completed prior to the student’s next scheduled lab session.

If the instructor has not been notified prior to the absence, the instructor may allow no make-up to be administered.

- Chronic car problems, finances, jobs or job interviews are not valid excuses for missing class.
- Tardiness will not be tolerated. It is disruptive to fellow students. Repeated tardiness will result in completion of a formal **Student Understanding of Expectations Agreement.** Points may be deducted from a student’s final evaluation for each tardy attendance.
- Each case is considered by the instructor on an individual basis. It is up to the discretion of the instructor whether or not a student is meeting course objectives.
- Your course of instruction should be your highest priority.

**OTHER POLICIES:**

In order to gain experience and exposure to various surgical department routines, it may be necessary to have lab sessions at times other than those scheduled. The student will be provided advance notice in such cases.

**Please note:** If a student fails a course, other than the lab, while in the program, he/she will be unable to progress through the surgical technology curriculum. There is a strong relationship between good sterile procedure skills and quality, safe patient care. **Therefore, if a student gets out of program sequence for any reason, he/she must re-apply, and if admitted, repeat the lab skills courses (AHST 115 and, if applicable,**
prior to continuation in the program. This will ensure the student possesses the skill level required for safe patient care when entering the clinical (hospital) component of the curriculum. If the student fails a lab skills course, he/she will not be able to reapply.

DISABILITIES ACCOMODATIONS:

The University of Montana assures equal access to instruction through collaboration between students with disabilities, instructors, and Disability Services for Students. If you think you may have a disability adversely affecting your academic performance, and you have not already registered with Disability Services, please contact Disability Services. If students elect to use approved academic adjustments, they must provide in advance formal notification from Disability Services to me. I will work with you and Disability Services to provide an appropriate modification.

CATALOG INFORMATION

It is a student’s responsibility to read and understand the content included in the University Catalog Surgical Technology page.

ACADEMIC INTEGRITY

All students must practice academic honesty. Academic misconduct is subject to an academic penalty by the course instructor and/or a disciplinary sanction by the University. All students need to be familiar with the Student Conduct Code.

Academic misconduct is defined as all forms of academic dishonesty, including but not limited to:

1. Plagiarism
2. Misconduct during an examination or academic exercise
3. Unauthorized possession of examination or other course materials
4. Tampering with course materials
5. Submitting false information
6. Submitted work previously presented in another course
7. Improperly influencing conduct
8. Substituting, or arranging substitution, for another student during an examination or other academic exercise
9. Facilitating academic dishonesty
10. Altering transcripts, grades, examinations or other academically related documents

Assessments are the property of the program. Any attempt to copy exam content in any manner will result in a violation of the Student Conduct Code.

For any Academic Dishonesty Occurrence, the student(s) involved will be subject to dismissal from the Surgical Technology Program.

CLINICAL AREAS:
Students will be required to have a criminal background check, possibly a drug screen, and an OIG review (Office of Inspector General). Healthcare agencies that are utilized for clinical and/or internship experiences may require this evaluation. Students with positive checks and/or screenings will be denied clinical experience in the healthcare agency. If a student is denied agency access, there will be no placement at an alternate site, and the subsequent inability of the student to complete their clinical education will result in their inability to continue in the Surgical Technology program.

If a student is removed from a clinical site at the site’s request, the program is not responsible for finding additional facilities for the student. This may be due to student behavior, background check information or any reason the site chooses.

No student is allowed in the clinical area (entering using student badge) without instructor approval. Students attempting to enter the secured area any time, other than assigned times, will be removed from the program.

REQUIRED TEXTS:

Surgical Technology Principles and Practice
Author: Joanna Kotcher Fuller

Surgical Notes: A Pocket Survival Guide for the Operating Room
Author: Susan D. Sheets
Publisher: F.A. Davis Company; 2nd edition

Differentiating Surgical Instruments, 3rd Edition
Author: Colleen J. Rutherford
Publisher: F.A. Davis Company; 3rd edition (October 2, 2019)

OPTIONAL but RECOMMENDED TEXTBOOKS:
We will have a couple copies of the following resources available for checkout in the Missoula classroom. If you are an Outreach student, please consider purchasing or finding an online instrument resource to study from. Quizlet has been a handy tool for past students.

Author: Maryann Papanier Wells
Publisher: Saunders; 4th edition (October 15, 2010)

Instrumentation for the Operating Room: A Photographic Manual, 9e 9th Edition
Author: Shirley M. Tighe RN BA
Publisher: Mosby; 9 edition (March 16, 2015)
OTHER COURSE MATERIALS:

Folder for skill evaluation sheets (provided)
Small notebook for note taking
Access to a computer to download course materials.
Anatomy text of choice
Access to a Medical Dictionary

SUPPLIES/MISC:

Scrub top and pants
Protective eyewear
Comfortable shoes for surgery only (may purchase at time of entry into hospital clinical rotations)
Nametag/Hospital Badge
Program Health Requirements (immunizations, BLS record, background check, etc)

Note: As the instructor I reserve the right to modify syllabi and assignments as needed based on faculty, student, and/or environmental circumstances.