



South Central College
Program Design

AAS 3530 Surgical Technology

Program Information

Instructional Level Associate Degree

Career Cluster Health Science Technology

Description

The Surgical Technology program prepares students for entry-level employment as surgical technologists in hospitals, surgery centers, and specialty clinics. Surgical Technologists are highly-trained professionals who help to deliver patient care as integral members of the operating team. They work closely with surgeons, anesthesia providers, nurses, and other personnel to ensure quality patient care during the procedure.

Responsibilities include gathering and opening instruments and supplies; scrubbing, gowning, and gloving self and others; setting up and organizing instruments, supplies, and medications; and performing counts and assisting during the surgical procedure. Surgical Technologists possess expertise in the theory and application of sterile technique and combine knowledge of human anatomy, surgical procedures, instrumentation tools, and technologies to facilitate a physician's performance.

Successful surgical technologists enjoy a fast-paced environment. They must work with speed, accuracy, and skill. They must be able to anticipate the needs of the surgeon. In addition, excellent communication skills, critical thinking skills, and an aptitude for science are a must. Surgical Technologists must be able to stand for long periods of time and respond effectively and efficiently to emergency situations and work well under pressure.

This program combines didactic, laboratory, and clinical instruction, which provides students with the knowledge and skills required to enter the field of surgical technology. As part of the requirements to graduate, students must take the National Board of Surgical Technology and Surgical Assisting (NBSTSA) Certifying Examination for Surgical Technologists.

Mission

Our mission is to cultivate a dynamic learning environment that fosters critical thinking, technical proficiency, and compassionate care, preparing students to thrive in the fast-paced, ever-evolving field of surgical technology. We are committed to instilling professionalism, integrity, and teamwork, equipping graduates with

the skills and knowledge to positively impact healthcare outcomes and enhance patient safety under the direction of the surgeon.

Vision:

We envision a future where our program is renowned for its cutting-edge curriculum, state-of-the-art surgical laboratory, and commitment to advancing the field through collaboration. Through our visionary approach, we aim to shape the future of surgical care, empowering individuals to make a meaningful impact on global healthcare outcomes and patient well-being in regional facilities and beyond.

Program Student Learning Outcomes

- 1 Demonstrate practical skills required to work as a competent surgical technologist in the operating room including aseptic technique, instrument setup, assisting the surgeon, anticipating the surgeon’s needs, and assisting with post-operative care.
- 2 Correlate knowledge of anatomy, physiology, pathophysiology, and microbiology concepts to the role as a Surgical Technologist.
- 3 Understand and correlate the elements, action, and use of medications and anesthetic agents used during the perioperative experience.
- 4 Implement safe practice techniques during perioperative routines, patient transportation, positioning, and emergency procedures.
- 5 Integrate principles of surgical asepsis as part of the perioperative experience.
- 6 Apply knowledge and skills of a professional Surgical Technologist to address the biopsychosocial needs of the surgical patient.
- 7 Display professionalism, continue educational growth, and value the professional attributes of the Surgical Technologist.
- 8 Secure employment in an entry-level surgical technology position.

Program Configurations

Fall Start

Credits

Liberal Arts & Sciences	7
Technical Course	34
Arts & Sciences	19
Total Credits	60

Program PreReqs

Course #	Course Title	Credits	Function
----------	--------------	---------	----------

BIOL 220	Human Anatomy	4	Liberal Arts & Sciences
HC 1000	Medical Terminology I	3	Technical Course
CHEM 108 or CHEM 110	Introduction to Chemistry or Chemistry for the Health Sciences	4	Arts & Sciences

Fall Semester I

Course #	Course Title	Credits	Function
SURG 1100	Introduction to Surgical Technology	2	Technical Course
COMM 140	Interpersonal Communication	3	Liberal Arts & Sciences
BIOL 230	Human Physiology	4	Arts & Sciences
SURG 1220	Surgical Lab	4	Technical Course

Spring Semester I

Course #	Course Title	Credits	Function
SURG 1240	Surgical Techniques I	6	Technical Course
BIOL 270	Microbiology	4	Arts & Sciences
SURG 1330	Pharmacology for the Surgical Technologist	2	Technical Course

Fall Semester II

Course #	Course Title	Credits	Function
SURG 1340	Surgical Techniques II	6	Technical Course
SURG 1450	Surgical Clinical	5	Technical Course
PSYC 110	Lifespan Psychology	3	Arts & Sciences

Spring Semester II

Course #	Course Title	Credits	Function
SURG 1460	Career & Exam Prep	1	Technical Course
HUM 121	Introduction to the Humanities	4	Arts & Sciences
SURG 1470	Surgical Internship	5	Technical Course

Program Course List

Number	Title	Credits	Pre/Corequisites
CHEM 108 or CHEM 110	Introduction to Chemistry or Chemistry for the Health Sciences	4	
SURG 1100	Introduction to Surgical Technology	2	HC 1000, BIOL 220, and CHEM 108 OR CHEM 110

SURG 1220	Surgical Lab	4	SURG 1100 SURG 1240
SURG 1240	Surgical Techniques I	6	SURG 1100 SURG 1220
SURG 1330	Pharmacology for the Surgical Technologist	2	SURG 1100, SURG 1220, SURG 1240 SURG 1340, SURG 1450
SURG 1340	Surgical Techniques II	6	SURG 1100, SURG 1220, SURG 1240 SURG 1330, SURG 1450
SURG 1450	Surgical Clinical	5	SURG 1100, SURG 1220, SURG 1240 SURG 1330, 1340
SURG 1460	Career & Exam Prep	1	SURG 1100, SURG 1220, SURG 1240, SURG 1330, SURG 1340, SURG 1450 SURG 1470
BIOL 220	Human Anatomy	4	Must have a Next-Generation Accuplacer Reading score of 250 or higher, or Classic Accuplacer Reading score of 78 or higher, or completion of either READ 0090 or EAP 0090 with a grade of C (2.0) or higher, or ACT Reading score of 21 or higher or MCA Reading score of 1047 or higher.
BIOL 230	Human Physiology	4	Successful completion of CHEM 108, CHEM 110 or CHEM 120 with a C or better. Successful completion of BIOL 220 with a C or better.
BIOL 270	Microbiology	4	A grade of C or higher in BIOL115 OR BIOL225 OR BIOL220 AND CHEM108 OR CHEM110 OR CHEM120
COMM 140	Interpersonal Communication	3	Accuplacer Reading Score of 78 or above or completion of READ 0090
HC 1000	Medical Terminology I	3	None
HUM 121	Introduction to the Humanities	4	CPT Writing score of at least 66 or else successful completion of Writing and English II (ENGL 0090)
PSYC 110	Lifespan Psychology	3	None
SURG 1470	Surgical Internship	5	SURG 1100, SURG 1220, SURG 1240, SURG 1330, SURG 1340, SURG 1450 SURG 1460