



South Central College

## MA 2030 Radiography Skills for Medical Assistants

### Course Outcome Summary

#### Course Information

**Description** This course takes a comprehensive look at the skills and processes needed to obtain a limited scope of practice certificate in radiography. Students will learn information regarding: radiation protection, image production and evaluation, equipment operation and quality control, patient care and education, as well as radiographic procedures for each anatomical region. (Prerequisites: HC 1000 Medical Terminology, HC 1914 Anatomy & Physiology/Disease Conditions I)

**Total Credits** 3

**Total Hours** 80

#### Types of Instruction

| Instruction Type | Credits/Hours |
|------------------|---------------|
| Lab              | 2/64          |
| Lecture          | 1/16          |

#### Pre/Corequisites

HC 1000 Medical Terminology

HC 1914 Anatomy & Physiology/Disease Conditions I

#### Institutional Core Competencies

Critical and Creative Thinking - Students will be able to demonstrate purposeful thinking with the goal of using a creative process for developing and building upon ideas and/or the goal of using a critical process for the analyzing and evaluating of ideas.

#### Course Competencies

##### 1. Demonstrate knowledge on role of Limited X-ray Operator and radiographic equipment

###### Learning Objectives

Explain the role of a Limited X-ray Operator (LMXO) in hospital and clinic settings

Describe typical work environment of LMXO

Describe general duties of LMXO

Use correct terms when referring to x-ray equipment

Explain essential features of x-ray room

## **2. Demonstrate knowledge of basic mathematics and physics used for x-ray production**

### **Learning Objectives**

Demonstrate calculations involving simple algebraic equations  
Use standard measurement units and conversions  
Calculate milliampere-second (mAs) and changes made due to different circumstances  
Explain the difference between x-rays and visible light  
Describe electromagnetic induction  
Explain step-up and step-down transformers

## **3. Demonstrate knowledge of x-ray production and x-ray circuitry**

### **Learning Objectives**

Describe the basic composition of the x-ray tube  
Explain the terms anode and cathode  
Describe the terms characteristic and Bremsstrahlung radiation  
Explain the changes in milliampere (mA) and kilovolt (kVp)  
List the principle parts of an x-ray circuitry  
Describe components of automatic exposure control system  
List the different possible causes of x-ray tube failure

## **4. Explain the principles of exposure and image quality**

### **Learning Objectives**

Explain the prime factors of exposure  
Explain the formula for determining mAs  
Identify changes in radiographic density  
Define recorded detail  
Explain how to minimize motion and blur on radiographs

## **5. Discuss the difference between screen image receptor systems and digital systems**

### **Learning Objectives**

List components of typical radiograph cassette and purpose of each  
Explain purpose of intensifying screens  
Demonstrate correct handling of radiographic films  
Explain optimum conditions for storing film  
Define digital imaging  
Explain computed radiography (CR) and digital radiography (DR) systems  
Explain what picture archival and communications system (PACS) is and how it is used  
List technical considerations for digital imaging systems

## **6. Demonstrate knowledge of x-ray dark room and film processing**

### **Learning Objectives**

List essential equipment found in x-ray dark room  
Explain darkroom fog and how to prevent it  
Explain steps used in manual processing of films  
List steps used in automatic processing of films  
Identify common radiographic artifacts and explain how to avoid them  
List essentials of a quality control (QC) program

## **7. Formulate x-ray techniques and understand scatter radiation**

### **Learning Objectives**

Explain problems caused by scatter radiation  
Identify scatter fog on a film  
Explain the difference between stationary grid and a Bucky  
Identify and use a technique chart  
List methods used to create a technique chart  
Calculate exposure changes for different patients or parts  
Explain technical changes are needed for multiple factors when imaging

## **8. Demonstrate knowledge of Radiology and Radiation Safety**

### **Learning Objectives**

- List units used to measure radiation intensity and dose
- Explain equivalent dose
- List different potential effects of radiation on cells
- Explain the As Low As Reasonably Achievable (ALARA) principle
- List methods for minimizing patient and technician dose
- Explain risks of radiation exposure during pregnancy
- Explain nonstochastic and stochastic effects of radiation

## **9. Demonstrate basic radiographic positioning and pathology**

### **Learning Objectives**

- Explain basic anatomy terms
- Identify anatomical positions
- Define terms used to describe disease processes
- Use correct terminology when referring to x-ray projections
- Identify different fractures seen in imaging

## **10. Perform upper extremity positioning and evaluate images**

### **Learning Objectives**

- List bones that compose the upper extremity
- Demonstrate correct positioning for routine exams of the upper extremity
- Evaluate radiographs of upper extremity
- Recognize pathology commonly seen on images

## **11. Perform lower extremity and pelvis positioning and evaluate images**

### **Learning Objectives**

- List bones that compose the lower extremity and pelvis area
- Demonstrate correct positioning for routine exams of lower extremity and pelvis
- Evaluate radiographs of lower extremity and pelvis
- Recognize pathology commonly seen on images

## **12. Perform spine imaging and evaluate images**

### **Learning Objectives**

- List regions of spine and identify typical vertebrae
- Explain correct positioning of each routine spine view
- List palpable landmarks used in spine imaging
- Evaluate images of spine
- Explain pathology commonly seen on spine imaging

## **13. Perform chest and abdomen imaging and evaluate images**

### **Learning Objectives**

- List the bones that make up the bony thorax and find on a radiograph
- Identify positioning landmarks for chest and abdomen imaging
- Demonstrate correct positioning of routine exams
- Evaluate images of the bony thorax
- Recognize pathology commonly seen on images

## **14. Perform skull imaging and evaluate images**

### **Learning Objectives**

- List the bones that make up the cranium and face
- List and locate the paranasal sinuses on radiographs
- Explain correct positioning of each routine skull view
- Evaluate images of the skull
- Recognize pathology commonly seen on skull and sinus imaging

## **15. Explain considerations in professionalism and patient care**

### **Learning Objectives**

- Apply ethical concepts to everyday situations in radiography

Demonstrate effective communication skills both with co-workers and patients  
Demonstrate knowledge of patient confidentiality and proper work processes

### **SCC Accessibility Statement**

South Central College strives to make all learning experiences as accessible as possible. If you have a disability and need accommodations for access to this class, contact the Academic Support Center to request and discuss accommodations. North Mankato: Room B-132, (507) 389-7222; Faribault: Room A-116, (507) 332-7222.

Additional information and forms can be found at: [www.southcentral.edu/disability](http://www.southcentral.edu/disability)

This material can be made available in alternative formats by contacting the Academic Support Center at 507-389-7222.

### **SCC Accessibility Statement**

If you have a disability and need accommodations to participate in the course activities, please contact your instructor as soon as possible. This information will be made available in an alternative format, such as Braille, large print, or cassette tape, upon request. If you wish to contact the college ADA Coordinator, call that office at 507-389-7222.

Disabilities page <http://southcentral.edu/academic-policies/disability-rights.html>

### **Student Contributions**

Each student is expected to attend class and participate in classroom activities. Each student must be punctual for each class. All assignments must be completed and turned in on time. If the student will be absent, he/she must contact the instructor in person, by telephone, or e-mail. If the student is not able to turn in an assignment or take a test, the instructor must be notified prior to class time for make-up consideration. Contact information for the instructor is provided in the syllabus. Any inappropriate behavior such as cheating will not be tolerated and the student will not receive credit for the test/assignment. Please see SCC's e-catalog under Student Policies/Academic Dishonesty.

### **Classroom Policies**

Electronic Devices within the Classroom:

Cellular phones, pagers and other electronic devices must be turned off or set on silent along with be out of sight within in the lab or classroom

Eating and Drinking in the Classroom/Lab:

Food is not recommended for the lab or classroom setting. Beverages may be brought into the lab and classroom setting only if there is a screw lid or resalable lid. NO open containers

Classroom Computers and Printers:

Classroom computers and printers are designated for classroom work only. You may not use either the computer or printer for work that is outside the scope of this course. All printing done within the lab must be approved by the instructor

### **Dress Code**

Students are expected to attend class/lab well groomed, wearing clean-stain free, rip free medical scrubs. Medical scrubs are required to be worn during lab due to the clinical/laboratory activities involved in the class. The Medical

Assisting Program Instructors have the right to address any dress code issues as he/she deems appropriate. Other dress code policies may be implemented, and will be communicated to the student as changes occur

## **Late Assignment Policy**

Late assignments will not be accepted over 5 days late, there will be a 20% penalty for each day it is late.

\*\*There will not be a make-up for the Final Exam

## **Student Responsibilities**

Students are required to attend all lectures and labs

Students must be an active participate in lecture discussions and lab activities

Students are responsible for all course materials (syllabus, text, workbook)

Students are required to turn in all assignments and projects

Students are responsible to check South Central College's website or alert system for weather notices

Students are responsible to discuss any extenuating circumstances with the instructor. All extenuating circumstances will be evaluated on a case-by-case basis and it is up to the instructor's discretion to determine the action that will be taken.

## **Instructor Responsibilities**

The instructor will respond to all correspondence within 2 business days (note: this does not include weekends and holidays)

The instructor will return graded assignments/competencies within a week to the student

The instructor will be an active participate within the classroom and lab

The instructor reserves the right to modify the course at any point in the semester

The instructor will communicate any and all modifications to the students in a timely manner

## **Tutoring Services**

Tutoring services are available to students within the Academic Support Center at South Central College. Students also have access to on-line tutoring services through SmartThinking. All South Central College students receive 10 free hours of SmartThinking tutoring services per semester. Some textbooks are bundled with SmartThinking hours also. Students can access a link within their D2L homepage to access their personal SmartThinking account.

If you have already set up a SmartThinking account and have forgotten your username or password, please contact Susan Mucha at 507-389-7453 or [susan.mucha@southcentral.edu](mailto:susan.mucha@southcentral.edu). This email address is being protected from spambots. You need JavaScript enabled to view it.

## **Grading Scale**

It is expected that each student will successfully demonstrate competency in classroom work along with the lab portion of this course.

A = 90 – 100%

B = 80 – 89%

C = 74 – 79%

F = 73% and below

## **An overall grade of “C” or above is required to pass all Medical Assisting core courses.**

If a student scores lower than 74% in any Medical Assisting core course but wishes to continue in the Program, the student must notify the Medical Assisting Program Director of their intention. The student may be allowed to continue the program and repeat the failed course, the student and the Medical Assisting Program Director will determine the course of action required. The student will be placed on probation until such time the failed course has been successfully completed. If a student wishes to re-enter after more than one year has lapsed, the student may be required audit or retake all Medical Assisting core courses

previously taken.

## Schedule

| <u>Week</u> | <u>Chapter(s)</u> | <u>Assignments</u>  |
|-------------|-------------------|---|
| 1           | 1 & 2             | Workbook Assignments Chapters 1 & 2   |
| 2           | 3                 | Workbook Assignments Chapters 3<br>Lab: math computations   |
| 3           | 4 & 5             | Workbook Assignments Chapters 4 & 6<br>Quiz 3<br>Lab: YouTube video Equipment, Equipment Review                         |
| 4           | 6, 7 & 19         | Workbook Assignment Chapter 6 & 7<br>Quiz 4 & 5<br>Lab: Film Review & YouTube Video Density/Contrast                    |
| 5           | 8 & 10            | Workbook Assignments Chapter(s) 8 & 10<br>Quiz 6 & 7<br>Lab: Relationship factors worksheet(s), Adjustment to technique |
| 6           | 9, 11 & 21        | Workbook Assignment(s) Chapters(s) 9 & 11<br>Quiz 8 & 10<br>Lab: YouTube video, Radiation Safety Possible Lab Tour      |
| 7           | 20 & 22           | Quiz 9,11 & 21<br>X-Ray Scenario's  |
| 8           | Mock Core Exam    | Mock Core Exam  |
| 9           | 12                | Workbook Assignment Chapter 12  |
| 10          | 13                | Workbook Assignment Chapter 13<br>Quiz Chapter 12<br>Lab: Positioning upper limb/Shoulder Girdle                        |
| 11          | 14                | Workbook Assignment Chapter 14<br>Quiz Chapter 13<br>Lab: Positioning Lower Limb/Pelvis                                 |
| 12          | 15                | Workbook Assignment Chapter 15<br>Quiz Chapter 14<br>Lab: Spine   |
| 13          | 16                | Workbook Assignment Chapter 16<br>Quiz Chapter 15<br>Lab: Bony Thorax, Chest, and                                       |

|    |                        |  |
|----|------------------------|--|
|    |                        | Abdomen  |
| 14 | 17                     | Workbook Assignment Chapter 17<br>Quiz Chapter 16<br>Lab: Skull, Facial Bones and<br>Paranasal Sinuses |
| 15 | 18                     | Workbook Assignment Chapter 18<br>Quiz Chapter 17<br>Lab: Pediatric/Geriatric Scenarios                |
| 16 | Final Review/Potluck   |  |
| 17 | Final Mock/Positioning |  |