

Course Description

STS1327L | Principles and Practices of Surgical Technology Laboratory | 2.00 credits

This course is an introduction to surgical instrumentation, to include identification, classifications, selection, passing, proper care, and handling equipment and supplies. The course will include proper care, disinfection, assembly, and sterilization processes for instrumentation following surgical procedures. The decontamination of the operating room will be covered. Hands-on-experience in the Sterile Processing Department at local hospitals will be included in the course.

Course Competencies

Competency 1: The student will identify various surgical instruments and instrument sets by:

- 1. Explaining the differences between a minor and major set
- 2. Describing retractors and their use
- 3. Explaining reasons for particular instrument sets and why they are selected for specific surgical procedures

Competency 2: The student will demonstrate passing surgical instruments by:

- 1. Explaining a neutral zone and its significance
- 2. Demonstrating passing a scalpel correctly and receiving back on the mayo tray
- 3. Demonstrating passing suture correctly and receiving back on the mayo tray

Competency 3: The student will obtain an understanding of the principles of decontamination and sterilization by:

- 1. Describing different types of sterilizers
- 2. Demonstrating wrapping of various surgical instruments and sets of instruments
- 3. Demonstrating the sterilization process with the steric and autoclave

Learning Outcomes:

- Communicate effectively using listening, speaking, reading, and writing skills
- Solve problems using critical and creative thinking and scientific reasoning
- Formulate strategies to locate, evaluate, and apply information

Updated: Fall 2025