

## **Course Description**

### **NSG0084 | Surgical Nursing | 3.4 credits**

In this course, students will study the preoperative, intraoperative, and postoperative care of surgical patients. Topics include aseptic techniques, perioperative nursing interventions, wound healing, pain management, and patient education. Students will also apply principles of adult surgical nursing that focus on teaching and learning opportunities in the perioperative client with body imbalances and maintaining homeostasis. Principles dealing with the management of common surgical procedures, potential complications, the nursing process, clinical judgment, and safety will be covered.

### **Course Competencies:**

**Competency 1:** The student will gain comprehensive knowledge of surgical nursing principles, techniques, and perioperative care for patients undergoing surgical procedures by:

1. Engaging in immersive clinical rotations, simulations, and skills workshops to apply surgical nursing principles and techniques in perioperative care, fostering a comprehensive understanding of patient preparation, safety measures, and care delivery
2. Analyzing case studies, research literature, and best practice guidelines to integrate evidence-based surgical nursing principles into perioperative care, ensuring the application of current best practices in surgical nursing
3. Participating in experiential learning activities and reflective practice to develop proficiency in anticipating and addressing the unique perioperative care needs of patients undergoing surgical procedures, promoting optimal outcomes and patient safety

**Competency 2:** The student will learn about preoperative assessment and preparation, intraoperative nursing care, and postoperative management, including pain management and wound care by:

1. Participating in preoperative assessment simulations, role-playing exercises, and clinical observations to develop skills in comprehensive patient assessment, preparation, and preoperative care planning, ensuring a thorough understanding of patient needs before surgery
2. Engaging in intraoperative learning experiences, such as scrubbing in for surgeries, to apply nursing care principles during surgical procedures, enhancing proficiency in intraoperative nursing care and ensuring patient safety and comfort
3. Analyzing evidence-based pain management strategies, wound care protocols, and postoperative complications to develop expertise in postoperative management and care delivery, promoting optimal recovery and well-being for surgical patients

**Competency 3:** The student will develop skills in assisting with surgical procedures, maintaining aseptic techniques, and ensuring patient safety throughout the surgical process by:

1. Participating in hands-on surgical procedure simulations, skills labs, and supervised practice to develop proficiency in assisting with surgical procedures and maintaining aseptic techniques, ensuring adherence to safety protocols and infection control measures
2. Engaging in interprofessional collaboration with surgical teams to understand the role of the surgical nurse in ensuring patient safety, effective communication, and coordination during surgical procedures, fostering a comprehensive understanding of the surgical process
3. Participating in debriefing sessions and clinical feedback to continuously refine and enhance skills in assisting with surgical procedures, aseptic techniques, and patient safety measures, ensuring ongoing professional development and competence in surgical nursing practice

**Competency 4:** The student will explore the role of the surgical nurse as a member of the interdisciplinary team, collaborating with surgeons, anesthesiologists, and other healthcare professionals by:

1. Collaborating with surgeons, anesthesiologists, and other healthcare professionals during surgical procedures, demonstrating effective communication and teamwork skills in ensuring seamless coordination and patient safety
2. Engaging in interdisciplinary case discussions and care planning meetings, actively contributing insights and perspectives to optimize patient care and outcomes as a valued member of the surgical nursing team
3. Participating in interprofessional education and training sessions to enhance collaboration and teamwork with surgical and anesthesia colleagues, fostering a culture of mutual respect and shared accountability for patient well-being

**Competency 5:** The student will acquire knowledge of evidence-based practices and the latest advancements in surgical nursing, promoting optimal patient outcomes by:

1. Demonstrating proficiency in evaluating and applying evidence-based research findings and best practices to enhance surgical nursing care, continually seeking opportunities to integrate the latest advancements into clinical practice
2. Engaging in ongoing professional development through attendance at surgical nursing conferences, workshops, and seminars, staying abreast of emerging trends and innovations to ensure the delivery of high-quality, evidence-based care
3. Contributing to quality improvement initiatives and research projects aimed at implementing evidence-based practices and evaluating their impact on patient outcomes, actively promoting a culture of continuous improvement and excellence in surgical nursing practice

**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
- Create strategies that can be used to fulfill personal, civic, and social responsibilities
- Demonstrate knowledge of ethical thinking and its application to issues in society