

Course Objectives/Course Outline
Spokane Community College

Course Title: Introduction to DMS

Prefix and Course Number: SONO 111

Course Learning Outcomes:

By the end of this course, a student should be able to:

This course is an introduction to the field of diagnostic Sonography and the role of the sonographer. The importance of professionalism, ethical and legal issues including AIDS and written communication is stressed. Various types of sonographic procedures are discussed and applications to abdominal scanning. Various discussion groups are an integral component of this course.

- Demonstrate the ability to discuss the sonographer role within the healthcare system through the practice of industry acceptable behaviors at multiple levels.
- Determine methods of minimizing exposure to medical legal consequences as it relates to their professional scope of practice through education in legal process, principles of decision making, ethical dilemmas, HIPAA (Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act), and coding and reimbursement.
- Interact with patients and healthcare team members through an understanding of personality, age, gender, culture, behavior, and conditions.
- Utilize proactive techniques and proper ergonomics to minimized and/or prevent short and long-term consequences of scanning [work-related musculoskeletal disorders] to achieve career longevity.
- Communicate effectively with patients, the public, and the healthcare team through oral and written methods using proper grammar and sentence. Communication skills are important in insuring that the patient will receive appropriate care.
- Participate in and contribute to all class and group discussions / activities / assignments in professional manner.
- Demonstrate working knowledge of medical law as it relates to professional scope of practice.
- Demonstrate ability to arrange examination room equipment, patient and sonographer in manner utilizing proper ergonomics for the sonographer.

Course Outline:

- I. Sonography as a Profession
 - A. Historical Overview
 - B. Diagnostic Medical Sonography
 - C. Medical Applications
 - D. Past and Present Ultrasound Pioneer Work
 - E. Role of Sonographer
 - F. Sonography Work Positions
 - G. Professional Organizations and Credentials
- II. Ethical and Legal Foundations
 - A. Law and types of law
 - B. The legal process
 - C. Risk Mitigation
 - D. Sonographer code of ethics
 - E. Expected behavior and performance of a sonographer
 - F. Sonographer scope of practice
- III. Communications & Critical Thinking Skills
 - A. Work Settings

- B. Departmental Duties
- C. Job Search
- D. Employment Preparation
- IV. Communication and Professionalism
 - A. Patient Interaction
 - B. Patient Rights
 - C. Informed Consent
 - D. Confidentiality
 - E. HIPPA
 - F. Lab Compliance
- V. Sonographer Safety
 - A. Ergonomics
 - B. Infection control
 - C. Sterile set up
- VI. Patient Management
 - A. History Taking
 - B. Scheduling
 - C. Request Forms
 - D. Coding
 - E. Patient Scenarios & Assisting Patients
- VII. Reimbursements
 - A. Insurance Process
 - B. Patient Forms
- VIII. Sonographic Imaging Guidelines
 - A. Abdominal Applications
 - B. Cardiovascular Applications
 - C. OB/GYN Applications