



Quick Guide to the early years syllabus 2010

For trainees in generic, themed or run-through programmes

Why use this Quick Guide?

The revised Intercollegiate Surgical Curriculum (www.iscp.ac.uk) was released on 4th August 2010. There are now two routes in early years training; one for run-through programmes and one for generic and themed programmes. In addition, the modules that are mandatory for all trainees are more comprehensive and the specialty-specific element has been rationalised.

The Quick Guide is intended to help you navigate your way around the new format syllabus, step by step.

The range of syllabuses and which one to use is on page 3. A description of the content of each section of the syllabus for generic and themed programmes is on page 4 and for run-through programmes on page 6.

From the homepage, click on **Syllabus**

The screenshot shows the homepage of the Intercollegiate Surgical Curriculum Programme Website. At the top, there is a dark blue navigation bar with the following links: HOME (highlighted in orange), REGISTER HERE, and HELP. Below this is a light grey secondary navigation bar with links: Welcome, Start Here, Curriculum Overview, Syllabus (circled in black), Assessment & Feedback, Training System, Teaching & Learning, and Contact Us.

The main content area is titled "Welcome" and contains the following text:

Welcome to the Intercollegiate Surgical Curriculum Programme Website. This site houses the curriculum for the nine surgical specialties and, in a secure area, trainees' electronic portfolios and the learning agreements which support training. Go to the [Start Here](#) section for more information on the website and how to use it.

All trainees using the new curriculum need to register. Consultants and other professionals who will be training, assessing and supervising training need to register. You can [register to use the ISCP website](#) here.

Click here for the [ASCBI Surgeons Logbook](#)

Updates to the ISCP website

The 2010 syllabus is now online along with a new Multi Source Feedback form. These changes will not affect any existing records that you have recorded.

We appreciate your feedback on the site so if you have any comments about the ISCP website please [contact us](#).

On the right side of the page, there is a "LOG IN TO ISCP" section with two input fields for "Email address" and "Password", a "LOG IN" button, and a link for "Lost your password?". Below this is a "LATEST NEWS" section with three news items:

- 02 Aug 2010: ISCP upgrade on 3 August at 3pm
- 13 Jul 2010: ISCP Helpdesk closed
- 01 Jul 2010: New Paeds PBAs added to ISCP

A "View all News" link is located at the bottom right of the news section.

The syllabus

The syllabus lays down the standards of specialty-based knowledge and the clinical, technical/operative and professional skills that must be acquired at each stage of training in order to progress.

Trainees entering surgical training should use the 2010 syllabus and should ignore previous versions. If you are in a generic or themed programme use the Core Surgical Training syllabus. If you are in a run-through programme use your specialty syllabus.

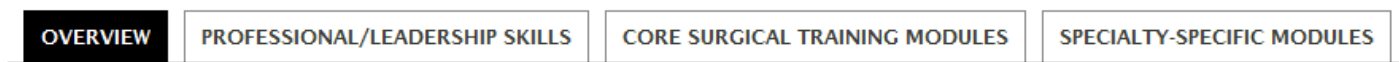
Trainees who have previously used older versions are encouraged switch to the 2010 versions although previous versions are still accessible.

| Syllabus | Previous versions | 2010 |
|------------------------------------|-------------------|------|
| Core Surgical Training | | 2010 |
| Professional Skills and Behaviour* | 2007 | |
| Cardiothoracic Surgery | 2007 | 2010 |
| General Surgery | 2007 | 2010 |
| Neurosurgery | 2007 | 2010 |
| Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery | 2007 2009 | 2010 |
| Otolaryngology | 2007 | 2010 |
| Paediatric Surgery | 2007 | 2010 |
| Plastic Surgery | 2007 | 2010 |
| Trauma and Orthopaedic Surgery | 2007 | 2010 |
| Urology | 2007 2008 | 2010 |

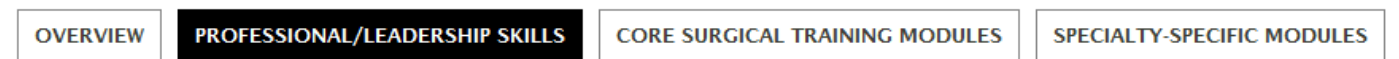
**For those on a pre-2010 syllabus only. For 2010 onwards see Professional/Leadership skills in your specialty*

Core Surgical Training Syllabus

At the top of the web page there are four section tabs.

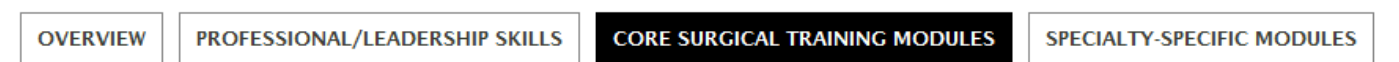


The overview sets out in general terms how training is shaped.



Professional behaviour is recognised as an essential element of good surgical practice and the *Professional Behaviour and Leadership Skills* syllabus is a mandatory component of the curriculum. Trainees are expected to demonstrate professional behaviour in all aspects of clinical practice; on the ward, in clinic, in theatre and with colleagues and patients.

Within each topic heading there are learning objectives for knowledge, skills and behaviour. At the end of each section there are examples and descriptors which illustrate the type of activities you should be able to undertake. You should focus on those for the end of core surgical training.



There are nine modules¹ listed on the right-hand side of the page which make up the largest component of the syllabus and are mandatory for all early years trainees.

Within each topic there are learning objectives under the domains of knowledge, clinical skills and technical skills.

Knowledge domain

As a guide to the appropriate depth and level of knowledge² you should attain, click on the topic called Knowledge – Exemplar Texts as ringed below.

Core Surgical Training (2010)

OVERVIEW | PROFESSIONAL/LEADERSHIP SKILLS | **CORE SURGICAL TRAINING MODULES** | SPECIALTY-SPECIFIC MODULES

CT1 | CT2 | CT3 | CT4 | CT5 | CT6 | CT7 | CT8

Knowledge - Exemplar Texts

Knowledge - Exemplar Texts

In the early years of training, the appropriate depth and level of knowledge required can be found in exemplar texts tabulated below. Trainees are expected to have mastery at the depth within the texts and to be able to make use of that knowledge in the context of surgical practice defined in the core surgical component of the curriculum.

The curriculum requires a professional approach from surgical trainees who will be expected to have a deep understanding of the subjects, to the minimum standard laid out below. It is expected that trainees will read beyond the texts below and make critical use, where appropriate of original literature and peer scrutinised review articles in the related scientific and clinical literature such that they can aspire to an excellent standard in surgical practice.

The texts are not recommended as the sole source within their subject matter and there are alternative textbooks and web information which may better suit an individual's learning style. Over time it will be important for associated curriculum management systems to provide an expanded and critically reviewed list of supporting educational material.

OVERVIEW

- Overview of Core Surgical Training Modules
- Stage
- KNOWLEDGE - EXEMPLAR TEXTS**
- Knowledge - Exemplar Texts

GENERIC MODULE 1

Basic sciences

- Applied anatomy
- Physiology
- Pharmacology
- Pathology

The texts are examples of the depth of knowledge of the subject matter that should be acquired. The texts are not the sole source of the subject matter. They should be regarded as the minimum and you should read beyond these or any equivalent texts.

Clinical and Technical Skills domains

There are four descriptors that define the appropriate level of clinical and technical skills required and they are defined as follows:

- 1: Has observed
- 2: Can do with assistance
- 3: Can do whole but may need assistance
- 4: Competent to do without assistance, including complications

In the syllabus the levels 1 - 4 precede each clinical and technical skill. By the end of the stage you should have covered all topics to the required syllabus skill level. Your progression in each topic should be recorded in your Learning Agreement.

OVERVIEW

PROFESSIONAL/LEADERSHIP SKILLS

CORE SURGICAL TRAINING MODULES

SPECIALTY-SPECIFIC MODULES

It is necessary to develop a number of specialty-specific surgical skills in the specialty or specialties of interest. For each specialty there are three or more topic headings, including *Requirements for ST3*, *Early Years Training* and *Early Years Assessment*. If your placement offers exposure to additional specialty areas that appear in later stages of the syllabus, you can also download those topics into your Learning Agreement.

Contact us

If you need further information or help the ISCP Helpdesk is available on helpdesk@iscp.ac.uk and between 9am and 5pm Monday to Friday on 020 7869 6299.

Footnotes

1. In former syllabuses this section was called *Core Surgical Skills and Knowledge for All Specialties*.
2. In former syllabuses there were four skill levels for knowledge, the skill levels are still used in the later stages of the syllabus.

Syllabus for Run-through Programmes

At the top of the web page there are several section tabs.



The overview sets out in general terms how training is shaped.



By CCT, trainees must have covered all these essential topics and be able to manage them independently, including complications.



Professional behaviour is recognised as an essential element of good surgical practice and the *Professional Behaviour and Leadership Skills* syllabus is a mandatory component of the curriculum. Trainees are expected to demonstrate professional behaviour in all aspects of clinical practice; on the ward, in clinic, in theatre and with colleagues and patients.

Within each topic heading there are learning objectives for knowledge, skills and behaviour. At the end of each section there are examples and descriptors which illustrate the type of activities you should be able to undertake. You should focus on those for the end of core surgical training which is equivalent to the initial stage.

Click on the Initial Stage of training.



There are nine generic modules¹ listed on the right-hand side which are mandatory for all early years trainees.

In addition there are specialty-specific surgical skills. If your placement offers exposure to additional specialty areas that appear in later stages of the syllabus, you can also download those topics into your Learning Agreement.

You can download into your Learning Agreement the individual topics that are relevant to your placement. Within each topic there are learning objectives under the domains of knowledge, clinical skills and technical skills.

Knowledge domain

As a guide to the appropriate depth and level of knowledge² you should attain, click on the topic called Knowledge – Exemplar Texts as ringed below.

The screenshot shows the 'Core Surgical Training (2010)' website. The navigation menu includes 'OVERVIEW', 'PROFESSIONAL/LEADERSHIP SKILLS', 'CORE SURGICAL TRAINING MODULES', and 'SPECIALTY-SPECIFIC MODULES'. Under 'CORE SURGICAL TRAINING MODULES', there are tabs for CT1 through CT8. The 'Knowledge - Exemplar Texts' section is highlighted. The main content area is divided into two columns. The left column contains the title 'Knowledge - Exemplar Texts' and three paragraphs of text. The right column contains a sidebar with 'OVERVIEW' (including 'Overview of Core Surgical Training Modules Stage'), 'KNOWLEDGE - EXEMPLAR TEXTS' (highlighted with a red oval), 'GENERIC MODULE 1', and 'Basic sciences' (including 'Applied anatomy', 'Physiology', 'Pharmacology', and 'Pathology').

The texts are examples of the depth of knowledge of the subject matter that should be acquired. The texts are not the sole source of the subject matter. They should be regarded as the minimum and you should read beyond these or any equivalent texts.

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