In accordance with the Association for Surgical Education (ASE) and its Manual of Surgical Objectives, 4th Edition, the following topic areas define the core curriculum of this course.

At completion of the course, the student will be able to identify, evaluate, assess and manage patients with:

1. **Abdominal Mass**
   a) Abdominal Wall Mass
      - Gastrochisis/Omphalocele
      - Hernias
   b) Intra-abdominal Mass Lesions
      - Colon Cancer
      - Liver Mass
   c) Retroperitoneal Masses
      - Adrenal Mass

2. **Acute Abdominal Pain**
   a) Diverticulitis
   b) Acute Cholecystitis/Biliary Colic
   c) Intussusception
   d) Mesenteric Ischemia
   e) Acute Pancreatitis
   f) Incarcerated Abdominal Wall Hernia
      - Inguinal
      - Femoral
      - Umbilical
      - Incisional
   g) Right Lower Quadrant Pain
      - Crohn’s Disease
      - Mesenteric Adenitis
      - Acute Appendicitis
      - Meckel’s Diverticulum
   h) Bowel Obstruction
      - Small Bowel Obstruction
      - Colonic Volvulus
   i) Bowel Perforation

3. **Altered GI Function**
   a) Constipation
   b) Vomiting in the Newborn
      - Pyloric Stenosis
      - Malrotation
   c) Bowel Obstruction
   d) Ileus

4. **Altered Neurologic Status**
   a) Unconscious patient in trauma
   b) Concussion /Closed Head Injury
   c) TIA/Stroke

5. **Asymptomatic Patient/Positive Test/Finding**
   a) Lung Mass (new)
   b) Mammogram
   c) Carotid Bruit
   d) Aortic Aneurysm
   e) Unequal/Absent Pulses
   f) Abnormal Pre-op EKG

6. **Ano-rectal Disease**
   a) Peri-rectal Abscess
   b) Thrombosed Hemorrhoid
   c) Anal Fissure
   d) Anal Fistula (fistula in ano)

7. **Back Pain**
   a) Cervical and lumbar disc disease
   b) Radiculopathy

8. **Breast Conditions**
   a) Abnormal Mammogram
   b) Breast Mass
      - Benign – Fibroadenoma, Fibrocystic Disease
      - Malignant – Breast cancer
   c) Mastitis

9. **Chest Pain/Shortness of Air/Cardiac Disease**
   a) Gastroesophageal Reflux Disorder (GERD)
   b) Pulmonary Embolus
   c) Aspiration Pneumonitis
   d) Cardiac Valvular Disease/Cardiac Valve Replacement
   e) Coronary Artery Disease/Coronary Artery Bypass Graft (CABG)
   f) Pneumothorax

10. **ENT Problems**
    a) Zenker’s Diverticulum
    b) Oral/Upper Airway/Upper Digestive Cancer
    c) Indications for Tracheostomy

11. **Fluid/Electrolyte Problems**
    a) Hypo/Hyperkalemia
    b) Hypo/Hypernatremia
    c) Hypo/Hypercalcemia
    d) Acute Renal Failure/Azotemia
    e) Hypo/Hyperglycemia

12. **GI Bleeding**
    a) Upper GI Bleed
       - Duodenal Ulcer
       - Gastritis
       - Mallory Weiss Tear
    b) Lower GI Bleed
       - Ulcerative Colitis
       - Diverticulitis
       - Colon Cancer

13. **Jaundice**
    a) Common Bile Duct Obstruction
    b) Hepatitis
    c) Cholangitis
14. Leg Pain
   a) Claudication
      • Vascular
      • Neurogenic
      • Musculoskeletal
   b) Compartment Syndrome
   c) Deep Vein Thrombosis (DVT)
   d) Acute Arterial Occlusion/Embolus

15. Lung Nodule
   a) Solitary Pulmonary Nodule
   b) Lung Cancer

16. Neck Mass
   a) Thyroid Nodule/Goiter/Cancer
   b) Hyperparathyroidism
   c) Thyroglossal Duct Cyst
   d) Lymphadenopathy

17. Peri-operative Care
   a) Abnormal Chest X-ray
   b) Abnormal EKG
   c) Abnormal Urinalysis
   d) Abnormal Blood Test

18. Post-operative Care/Occurrences
   a) Wound Infection
   b) Wound Drainage
   c) Prosthetic Infection
   d) Wound Bleeding/Wound Hematoma
   e) Peripheral Nerve Dysfunction
   f) Wound Dehiscence/Evisceration
   g) Low Urine Output/Intake-Output Imbalance
   h) Sepsis
   i) DVT/Pulmonary Embolus
   j) Atelectasis/Pneumonitis
   k) Post Operative Pain
   l) Cardiac Arrhythmias

19. Scrotal Pain/Swelling
   a) Inguinal Hernia (with scrotal extension)
   b) Hydrocele
   c) Varicocele
   d) Testicular Torsion
   e) Epididymitis

20. Shock
   a) Hypovolemic/Hemorrhagic Shock
   b) Cardiogenic
   c) Neurogenic
   d) Septic
   e) Anaphylactic

21. Skin/Soft Tissue Lesions
   a) Skin Lesion
      • Melanoma
      • Squamous Cell Carcinoma
      • Basal Cell Carcinoma
   b) Lipoma
   c) Epidermal Inclusion Cyst/Sebaceous Cyst

22. Swallowing Problems/Dysphagia/Mediastinal Problems
   a) Esophageal Cancer
   b) Hiatal Hernia
   c) Paraesophageal Hernia
   d) Mediastinal Masses

23. Transplantation
   a) Liver transplant
   b) Kidney transplant

24. Trauma
   a) Burns
   b) Chest Trauma
      • Cardiac Tamponade
      • Tension Pneumothorax
      • Hemothorax
      • Open Pneumothorax
      • Traumatic Thoracic Aortic Injury
   c) Hemoperitoneum
   d) GI Tract Laceration
   e) Transfusions of Blood Products
   f) Acute Airway Obstruction
   g) Unconscious Patient in Trauma
   h) Spinal Injury/Fracture/Paraplegia
   i) Long Bone Fracture
   j) Closed Head Injury
   k) Crush Injury

25. Urinary Complaints
   a) Pain with Urination
   b) Hematuria
   c) Urinary Tract Stones

26. Various
   a) Ethical Considerations
      • Situations needing informed consent
      • Patients refusing blood/blood products
   b) Bariatics
   c) Malnourished Surgical Patients
   d) Conversion of peri-operative oral medications to parenteral form and the reverse
   f) Order Writing
   g) Note Writing
      • Pre-op Note
      • Post-op Note
      • History and Physical
      • SOAP Note