

ASSERT CENTRE

College of Medicine
& Health, UCC

Technical and
Non-Technical
Skills Courses

SCHEDULE
2025 - 2026



UCC

University College Cork, Ireland
Coláiste na hOllscoile Corcaigh



ASSERT
Enabling Better Safer Healthcare

CLIENT TESTIMONIALS

“ASSERT is on par with the best centres we have used globally. The facilities, support, and expertise create an unparalleled training experience.”

“The use of cadaveric specimens is the pinnacle of realistic training. ASSERT provides access to high-quality resources and expert support we cannot get anywhere else.”

“ASSERT provided the organisational expertise, well laid out and equipped clinical spaces and tissue specimens that we required to run a complex high-level training course.”



OUR MOTTO

“ENABLING BETTER SAFER HEALTHCARE”

WELCOME TO THE ASSERT CENTRE, COLLEGE OF MEDICINE & HEALTH, UCC

ASSERT (Application of Science to Simulation in Education, Research and Technology in medicine).

Welcome to ASSERT Simulation Centre's prospectus of skills courses for the academic year 2025-2026.

At the ASSERT Centre, we have collaborated with medical, surgical, and nursing experts in the design and delivery of this carefully curated suite of courses, which will upskill participants and improve patient management going forward. The choice of course offerings is based on regional and national needs, and we are open, here in the Centre, to working and collaborating with you in the creation of future courses. We believe here at ASSERT that many technical (clinical examination, catheter/cannula insertion, surgical skills) and non-technical skills (clinical knowledge, teamwork, communication, situation awareness) are conducive to experiential learning and practice, in a simulated safe environment, with expert faculty feedback.

At ASSERT we believe that the future of healthcare depends on innovation, collaboration, and realism in training. In the courses offered, every effort is made to ensure fidelity. The fully equipped surgical skills lab and minor skills lab support up-to-date surgical equipment to be used with cadavers, biological tissue, or bespoke synthetic task trainers. Our simulation suite, simulated hospital ward and immersive curved walled suite, all support manikins (Sim-Man, Victoria birthing, paediatric Hal, Super Tory infant), simulated patients or actors. A simulated environment for medical, surgical, nursing, pharmacy, paramedic, the therapies, and public health personnel is provided for courses. We work closely with our expert faculty for the most up-to-date content and custom-designed clinical scenarios, and our industry partners to equip our courses with state-of-the-art equipment to enable mastery of their ergonomic application in surgery.

ASSERT is a hub for translational simulation, where clinicians, researchers, educators, and industry partners come together to improve patient outcomes through cutting-edge simulation, clinical research, and education. From training the next generation of healthcare professionals to accelerating the development of medical technologies, we are committed to supporting excellence at every stage of the healthcare journey.

All our courses will be CPD accredited and in most cases, the course fee is amenable to The Training Support Scheme (TSS) application and refund.

COURSE SCHEDULE

2025 – 2026

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2	6 & 7 Nov 25	International Vascular Cork Course
2	12 Nov 25	Neurosurgical Approaches to Intracranial Compartments
3	1 Dec 25	Debriefing Skills for Healthcare Facilitators
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We have included brief course descriptions in the brochure. Full details, including learning outcomes, can be found on our website, please see the next page for information.

How to Book Your ASSERT Course

Step 1: Visit Our Website

 Go to <https://www.ucc.ie/en/assert/trainingandcourses/> to explore available courses

Step 2: Choose Your Course

 Browse the course list and select the one that fits your needs

Step 3: Register Online

 Click “Book Now” and complete the registration form

Step 4: Make a Payment

 Pay securely online

Step 5: Need Help?

 Email us at assertcentre@ucc.ie or call +353 21 420 5605/9

Quick Access

Scan the QR Code to go directly to our booking page



Title: Interdisciplinary Paediatric Airway Management

Day/Date: Wednesday, 20th August 2025

**Suitable for: SHOs & Early Registrars in ENT, Paediatric Surgery & Anaesthesiology,
& Nurses working in these specialities**

Through hands-on simulated stations and team-based scenarios, participants will develop key technical skills and enhance their approach to shared airway challenges and emergencies. Endotracheal intubation and ventilation will be practiced in common and obstructive pediatric scenarios. Decision making and practice of front-of neck airway access will be acquired.

Course Fee: Medical Trainees: €375, Nurses: €100



Title: Oculoplastic Masterclass

Day/Date: Monday, 22nd September 2025

Suitable for: Registrars in Ophthalmic Surgery

This course provides hands-on training in flap techniques, complex reconstruction, and graft techniques for ophthalmology registrars. Participants will enhance their skills through practical cadaveric sessions, performing all flap techniques under expert consultant-led supervision.

Course Fee: €550



Title: Trauma Resuscitation Anaesthesiology Course

Day/Date: Wednesday, 1st October 2025

Suitable for: Consultants in Anaesthesiology

This high level trauma skills course will practice technical skills such as finger thoracotomy, SALAD and vascular access in the acute setting. Scenarios based on real cases will enable deep discussion with faculty aiding future effective communication and teamwork.

Course Fee: €500



Title: Emergency & Resuscitative Surgery Skills Course (Cork)

Day/Date: Thursday, 2nd & Friday, 3rd October 2025

Suitable for: SHOs, Registrars & Consultants in all Surgical Specialities

This two-day multidisciplinary trauma management course covers the initial assessment, critical decision making and intervention in polytrauma patients. Hemostatic manoeuvres and damage control surgery will be practiced in cadaveric abdomens and thorax.

Course Fee: €1,250



Title: International Vascular Cork Course

Day/Date: Thursday, 6th & Friday, 7th November 2025

Suitable for: Registrars & Consultants in Vascular Surgery

The two-day intensive advanced vascular skills course will allow you to maximise your skills in multiple vascular deep exposure in the trunk and perfect methods of effective vascular anastomosis in a cadaver lab. You will also be performing ultrasound scans of peripheral veins, the aorta and the carotid artery.

Course Fee: €1,550



Title: Neurosurgical Approaches to Intracranial Compartments

Day/Date: Wednesday, 12th November 2025

Suitable for: Registrars in Neurosurgery (ST4 and above)

In this hands-on cadaver course, you will get one-to-one expert faculty feedback while learning operative approaches such as subfrontal, bicoronal and interhemispheric transcallosal. You will increase your knowledge of sellar and suprasellar lesions management.

Course Fee: €1,050



Title: Debriefing Skills for Healthcare Facilitators

Day/Date: Monday, 1st December 2025

Suitable for: Healthcare Personnel, Doctors, Nurses & Therapies Educators

Simulation based courses in medical education are great experiential learning opportunities for important technical and non-technical skills. Effective and safe feedback and debriefing is vital for meaningful outcomes. This course will equip you with skills to debrief students/participants in simulated scenario-based courses.

Course Fee: €375



Title: Advanced Endoscopy Series - ERCP

Day/Date: Wednesday, 3rd December 2025

Suitable for: Registrars & Consultants in Gastroenterology, Upper GI Surgeons & Endoscopy Nurses

This advanced endoscopic course will address both straightforward and challenging ERCP techniques including: biliary and pancreatic sphincterotomy, cannulating the pancreatic duct using the double wire technique, ampulla dilatation, stent insertion, closure techniques and the use of the Erbium YAG (Er:YAG) laser.

Course Fee: Registrars & Consultants: €375, Nurses: €100



Title: Advanced Endoscopic Ear Surgery Dissection Course

Day/Date: Wednesday, 10th & Thursday, 11th December 2025

Suitable for: Consultants (10th Dec), Senior Registrars/NCHD's in ENT & ENT Nurses (11th Dec)

This advanced intensive course will concentrate on techniques and clinical consideration for procedures such as atticotomy, ossiculoplasty and tympanoplasty. You will practice endoscopic fine tissue dissection and practice approaches to the sinus tympani and facial recess.

**Course Fee: Consultants: €1,050
Senior Registrars/NCHD's: €950, Nurses: €100**



Title: Upper Limb Injection Techniques for General Practice

Day/Date: Wednesday, 17th December 2025

Suitable for: General Practitioners & SHOs in Rheumatology

This practical course is designed for GPs and rheumatology trainees with experience in diagnosing musculoskeletal conditions and aims to enhance their skills in administering common upper limb joint injections. Under expert guidance, participants will perform injections on cadaveric models, with anatomical accuracy confirmed using a handheld ultrasound device.

Course Fee: €375



Title: Suturing Skills for Minor Trauma

Day/Date: Wednesday, 14th January 2026

Suitable for: SHOs in Surgery, Emergency Medicine, General Practitioners & Advanced Nurse Practitioners

This hands-on course will use carefully designed in-house simulated traumatic wounds to enable the acquisition of wound management, knot tying and suturing skills for superficial simple and complex traumatic wounds.

Course Fee: €375



Title: Irish Hand Society Upper Limb Course

Day/Date: Thursday, 15th January 2026

Suitable for: SHOs & Registrars in Plastic, Orthopaedic Surgery & Hand Therapists

Successful surgery on the upper limb is dependent on a deep understanding of the structural and applied anatomy of the upper limb. This hands-on cadaver course will be led by expert upper limb surgeons guiding surgical approaches to upper limb joints and key anatomical structures and planes.

Course Fee: Participants: €650, Observers: €150



Title: Endoscopic Sinus and Skull Base Surgery (FESS)

Day/Date: Tuesday, 27th & Wednesday, 28th January 2026

Suitable for: Registrars & Senior Registrars in ENT

The Endoscopic Sinus and Skull Base Surgery course is designed to enhance our skills in minimally invasive sinus surgery. A sample of the procedures practiced in this cadaver course include: Sphenoidotomy, hypophysectomy, uncinctomy, ethmoidectomy and craniotomy.

Course Fee: €1,100



Title: Irish Septorhinoplasty Dissection Course

Day/Date: Thursday, 29th January 2026

Suitable for: Registrars & Senior Registrars in ENT & Plastic Surgery

This hands-on cadaveric Rhinoplasty course will address planning and operative techniques for open and closed reconstructive procedures. You will practice skills such as endonasal incisions, osteotomies, cartilage harvesting and application techniques.

Course Fee: €750



Title: Surgical Haemostasis and Vessel Anastomosis

Day/Date: Wednesday, 4th February 2026

Suitable for: SHOs & Early Registrars in any surgical speciality

This hands-on course will address the recognition, arrest of and management of both minor and major bleeding. Haemostatic techniques such as pressure, clips, energy devices and suture application will be practiced. Vascular anastomosis will be practiced on synthetic and bleeding biological models.

Course Fee: €375



Title: Critical Decisions in Paediatric Emergency Medicine

Day/Date: Tuesday, 10th & Wednesday, 11th February 2026

Suitable for: Senior Registrars & Consultants in Emergency Medicine, Medicine & Critical Care

This intensive two-day course in paediatric emergencies will immerse you in important decision making and management strategies for the critically unwell child. Expert faculty will discuss challenging topics, and you will learn pertinent emergency procedures and management through a workshop and high-fidelity challenging simulated scenarios.

Course Fee: €450



Title: The Cadaveric Interventional Radiology Skills Course (CIRSC)

Day/Date: Thursday, 12th February 2026

Suitable for: Radiology Registrars with an interest in Interventional Radiology

This hands-on advanced intervention radiology cadaver course gives the opportunity for participants to practice advanced skills such as percutaneous ultrasound-guided targeted lesion biopsy, fluoroscopic vertebral body vertebroplasty and treat a simulated cerebral aneurysm.

Course Fee: €450



Title: Managing the Elderly Patient

Day/Date: Friday, 13th February 2026

Suitable for: SHOs & Early Registrars, especially in General & Geriatric Medicine & Advanced Nurse Practitioners

This scenario-based course will address clinical skills, communication and management skills in challenging geriatric medical cases. The course will sensitively help the participant to explore medical management of and communication with patients, such as those with a stroke, delirium or common challenging co-morbidities.

Course Fee: €375



Title: Transperineal Biopsy of the Prostate Gland

Day/Date: Friday, 13th February 2026

Suitable for: Consultants & Registrars in Interventional Radiology & Urology

In this hands-on cadaveric course, you will practice transperineal (TP) prostate biopsy under local anaesthetic under expert guidance. Participants will gain practical experience in ultrasound guidance, anatomical landmark identification, needle biopsy technique, supporting national guidelines and enhancing diagnostic safety.

Course Fee: €650



Title: Endoscopy from First Principles

Day/Date: Wednesday, 25th February 2026

Suitable for: SHOs in General Medicine & Surgery, Gastroenterology & Colorectal Surgery

This hands-on endoscopy course for novice doctors will introduce concepts and recommendations on endoscopic equipment use, its application for effective visualisation and the importance of patient interaction during endoscopy. There will be discussions on avoiding complications, intervention choices and pathology identification.

Course Fee: €375



Title: Minor Surgery for Dermatologists

Day/Date: Wednesday, 4th March 2026

Suitable for: SHOs & Early Registrars in Dermatology, General Practice & Plastic Surgery

This hands-on course will address the recognition, pathology and management of both benign and malignant skin lesions. There will be an emphasis on biopsy and excision with safe margins. Excision planning with suitable knot tying and suturing techniques will be practiced on high fidelity synthetic and biological models.

Course Fee: €375



Title: Advanced Endoscopy Series - TAMIS

Day/Date: Thursday, 5th March 2026

Suitable for: Registrars & Consultants in Gastroenterology & Upper GI Surgeons, Endoscopy Nurses

On this advanced transanal minimally invasive surgery (TAMIS) course you will learn how the GelPOINT path transanal access platform enables treatment of rectal neoplasia. Patient positioning, TAMIS procedure and post-operative management will be discussed.

**Course Fee: Registrars & Consultants: €650,
Nurses: €100**



Title: Critical Emergency Airway Course

Day/Date: Thursday, 12th March 2026

Suitable for: Consultants in Emergency Medicine

This hands-on cadaver and high-fidelity manikin course will address complex management of the emergency patient and will address challenging skills such as difficult intubation, surgical airway securement, and larynx decontamination. Other emergency skills include venous and open chest access and central venous access.

Course Fee: €950



Title: Airway Essentials: Hands-on RF Ablation for Tonsillectomy & Adenoidectomy

Day/Date: Thursday, 16th April 2026

Suitable for: Senior House Officers, Registrars & Nurses in ENT

This hands-on cadaver course will use Radiofrequency (RF) Ablation to perform and practice Tonsillectomy & Adenoidectomy. You will also take part in simulated case scenarios with further discussion on managing difficult cases.

**Course Fee: SHOs/ Registrars: €375,
Nurses: €100**



Title: Oncoplastic Breast Course

Day/Date: Tuesday, 21st April 2026

Suitable for: Early Registrars in Breast, Plastic & General Surgery

This hands-on cadaver course will be a great insight into the considered management of the breast cancer patient, safe tumour and adjacent lymph node removal. Advanced reconstructive techniques will be discussed, local tissue glandular flaps, various reduction mammoplasty techniques and local flap reconstruction will be performed.

Course Fee: €850



Title: Primary Healthcare Simulation

Day/Date: Wednesday, 29th April 2026

Suitable for: Multidisciplinary Healthcare Teams, Public Health Nurses & GPs

This scenario-based simulation course will address the challenges and nuances of managing patients in their own home. Real life challenges will be discussed and practiced with experts in this field, giving helpful management solutions and practical strategies.

Course Fee: €375



Title: Advanced Endoscopy Series – ESD

Day/Date: Friday, 22nd May 2026

Suitable for: Registrars & SpRs in Gastroenterology, Colorectal & Upper GI Surgery, Endoscopy Nurses

In this hands-on endoscopic course, you will get an in-depth guide on the indications and techniques in achieving endoscopic submucosal dissection (ESD) and en block resection of gastrointestinal lesions. You will use lifting solutions on animal models and discuss the avoidance and management of complications with experts.

Course Fee: Registrars and SpRs: €650, Nurses: €100



Our Facilities



Catering Space

Conference Room

Lecture Room



Immersive Suite

Pod Cast Room



Simulated Ward
Space



Hi-Fidelity
Simulation Suites



VR Suite



Surgical Skills Lab

Research/Minor
Skills Lab



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