

Las Positas College
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Course Outline for EMS 50
EMT-P PREPARATORY THEORY
Effective: Fall 2014

I. CATALOG DESCRIPTION:

EMS 50 — EMT-P PREPARATORY THEORY — 5.00 units

Overview of the emergency health care profession and the role of the Paramedic within the Emergency Medical Service (EMS) system. Development of communication competency skills in the use of radio equipment and when speaking to adjunct medical staff and EMS partner. Emphasis on legal issues and medical emergency record keeping. Principles and application of the language and terminology of medicine. Overview of the structure and function of the major body systems, organization of the body, and homeostatic mechanisms. Emphasis on evaluation and documentation skills used in the delivery of emergency care. Prerequisites: Emergency Medical Services 81 (completed with a grade of "B" or higher or current valid certification as an EMT-Basic); and Biology 50 and Health Science 52 (both completed with a grade of "C" or higher). 5 hours lecture.

5.00 Units Lecture

Prerequisite

EMS 20 - Emergency Medical Technician

BIO 50 - Anatomy and Physiology

HSCI 52 - BASIC MEDICAL TERMINIOLOGY
with a minimum grade of c

Grading Methods:

Letter Grade

Discipline:

	MIN
Lecture Hours:	90.00
Total Hours:	90.00

II. NUMBER OF TIMES COURSE MAY BE TAKEN FOR CREDIT: 1

III. PREREQUISITE AND/OR ADVISORY SKILLS:

Before entering the course a student should be able to:

- A. EMS20
- B. BIO50
- C. HSCI52

IV. MEASURABLE OBJECTIVES:

Upon completion of this course, the student should be able to:

1. compare and contrast EMS systems, the safety/well-being of the paramedic, and medical/legal and ethical issues which are intended to improve the health of EMS personnel, patients, and the community
2. describe the history of EMS, demonstrates an understanding of EMS systems, roles/responsibilities/professionalism of EMS personnel, principles of quality improvement and patient safety with a complex depth, and comprehensive breadth of knowledge
3. analyze research principles to interpret literature and advocate for evidence-based practice
4. assess and implement provider safety techniques, understand standard safety precautions, personal protective equipment, lifting and moving patients and preventing disease transmission
5. practice wellness principles including stress management, coping with death and dying, and preventing workplace injuries
6. produce a comprehensive and in depth report that lists and describes the components of a prehospital medical record and produce a comprehensive report from data provided
7. demonstrate an understanding of, EMS communication systems, interpersonal communications with other health care professionals, and paramedic team communication processes
8. demonstrate an understanding of principles of communicating with patients in a calm and professional manner that achieves a positive patient care giver relationship. Compare and contrast factors that affect communication between members of the EMS health care team
9. identify interviewing techniques designed for dealing with difficult patients. Compare and contrast methods of adjusting communication strategies for patients with different ages, stages of development, and patients with special needs

10. demonstrate an understanding and knowledge of medical legal topics such as: Consent/refusal of care , Confidentiality of medical records, Advance health care directives, Tort and criminal actions, Statutory responsibilities, Mandatory reporting for the health care provider, Health care regulation
11. summarize the relevant issues regarding the following topics in medical ethics facing the paramedic: Patient rights/advocacy, End-of-life Issues, Ethical principles/moral obligations, Ethical tests and decision making
12. apply fundamental knowledge of principles of public health and epidemiology including public health emergencies, health promotion, and illness and injury prevention

V. CONTENT:

- A. History of EMS
 1. EMS prior to World War 1
 2. EMS between World War I and II
 3. Post-World War II
- B. EMS Systems
 1. Components of the EMS System
 2. Chain of survival
 3. Service types
 4. Trauma systems
 5. Medical direction
- C. Roles/Responsibilities/Professionalism of EMS Personnel
 1. Roles and responsibilities
 2. Leadership/affective characteristics
 3. Administration
 4. Less traditional roles
 5. Operational responsibilities
 6. Education
 7. Professionalism
 8. Affective characteristics
- D. Quality Improvement
 1. System for continually evaluating and improving care
 2. Continuous quality improvement (CQI)
 3. Dynamic process
- E. Patient Safety
 1. Significant-one of the most urgent health care challenges
 2. Incidence-IoM report "To Err is Human" up to 98,000 patients die due to medical errors
 3. High risk activities
 4. How errors happen
 5. Preventing errors
- F. Research
 1. Introduction to research
 2. Importance of research in EMS
 3. Types of research
 4. Ethical considerations in research
 5. Literature review
 6. Statistics
 7. Relating research to EMS
 8. Evidence-based decision making
- G. Provider Safety and Wellbeing
 1. Hand washing
 2. Adherence to standard precautions/OSHA regulations
 3. Safe operation of EMS/patient care equipment
 4. Environmental control
 5. Occupational health and blood borne pathogens
 6. Personal protective equipment
 7. Stress management
 8. Types of stress reactions
 9. Stress management
 10. Dealing with death and dying
 11. Stages of death and dying
 12. Prevention of work-related injuries
 13. Vehicle restraint systems
 14. Safe lifting techniques
 15. Adequate sleep
 16. Physical fitness and nutrition
 17. Hazard awareness
 18. Adherence to standard precautions/OSHA regulations
 19. Disease transmission prevention -- communicable versus blood borne
 20. Lifting and moving patients
 21. Lifting techniques
 22. Safe lifting of cots and stretchers.
 23. Power lift or squat lift position
 24. Power grip
 25. Back in locked-in position
 26. Carrying
 27. Reaching
 28. Pushing and pulling guidelines
 29. Equipment
- H. Disease transmission
- I. Wellness Principles
 1. Physical wellbeing
 2. Mental wellbeing
- J. Principles of medical documentation and report writing
 1. Minimum data set
 2. Prehospital care report
 3. Falsification issues
 4. Documentation of patient refusal
 5. Special situations/reports/incident reporting
 6. Reason for transfer
 7. Treatment prior to arrival

- 8. Full assessment
- 9. Treatment provided enroute
- 10. Condition on arrival
- K. EMS Communication System
 - 1. System components
 - 2. Radio communications
- L. Communicating with other health care professionals
 - 1. Communication with medical control
 - 2. Communication with receiving facilities
 - 3. System maintenance
 - 4. Phone/wireless communications
- M. Team communication and dynamics
 - 1. Source
 - 2. Encoding
 - 3. Message
 - 4. Decoding
 - 5. Receiver
 - 6. Feedback
- N. Principles of communicating with patients in a manner that achieves a positive relationship
 - 1. Interpersonal communication
 - 2. Factors that affect communication
 - 3. Interviewing techniques
 - 4. Dealing with difficult patients
 - 5. Adjusting communication strategies
- O. Consent/refusal of care
 - 1. Consent to care
 - 2. Types of consent
 - 3. Refusal of care and/or transportation
- P. Confidentiality
 - 1. Obligation to protect patient Information
 - 2. HIPAA
 - 3. Responsibility arising from physician – patient relationship
 - 4. Privileged communications
 - 5. Breach of confidentiality
- Q. Advanced Directives
- R. Patient self-determination act
- S. Tort and Criminal Actions
 - 1. Basic legal concepts
 - 2. Criminality
 - 3. Civil tort
- T. Statutory Responsibilities
 - 1. Medical practice act
 - 2. Medical direction
 - 3. Duty to act
- U. Mandatory Reporting
 - 1. Legally compelled to notify authorities
 - 2. Arises from special relationship with patient
 - 3. Legal liability for failure to report
- V. Health Care Regulation
 - 1. Scope of practice
 - 2. Licensure
 - 3. Certification
 - 4. Credentialing
- W. Patient Rights/Advocacy
 - 1. Patient rights
 - 2. Patient advocacy
- X. End of Life Issues
 - 1. Limited resuscitation
 - 2. Withholding resuscitation and “Obvious Death” Criteria
 - 3. Termination of resuscitation
 - 4. Organ donation
- Y. Ethical Principles/Moral Obligations
 - 1. Morals and concepts of right and wrongs
 - 2. Ethics
 - 3. Applied ethics and use of ethical values
 - 4. Ethical conflicts
- A@. Ethical Tests and Decision Making
 - 1. Do no harm
 - 2. In Good Faith
 - 3. Patient’s best interest
- AA. Employment Law
 - 1. American with Disabilities Act
 - 2. Title VII – Civil Rights Act
 - 3. Amendments to Title VII
 - 4. Family Medical Leave Act
 - 5. Occupational Safety and Health Act
 - 6. Ryan White Act

VI. METHODS OF INSTRUCTION:

- A. **Discussion** - Group discussion
- B. **Lecture** -
- C. **Discussion** - Group discussion
- D. Learning Resource Center use
- E. Simulated problem solving
- F. **Written exercises and case studies** - Oral and written reports
- G. Reading Assignments
- H. **Audio-visual Activity** - Selected Video and AV Aids

VII. TYPICAL ASSIGNMENTS:

- A. Complete workbook exercises after completing lecture readings.
- B. Present simulated patient case history reports.
- C. Complete a short research project demonstrating that they can successfully use a medical literature search database.

VIII. EVALUATION:

A. **Methods**

- 1. Other:
 - a. Multiple choice examinations
 - b. Midterm examination
 - c. Final examination
 - d. Short essay examinations
 - e. Oral presentations

B. **Frequency**

- 1. Recommend weekly examinations
- 2. Homework assigned for each topic completed
- 3. Midterm and Final Exam

IX. TYPICAL TEXTS:

- 1. Bryan E. Bledsoe et. al. *Paramedic Care; Principles & Practice, Vol. 1-5*. 3rd ed., Brady-Prentice Hall Health, 2008.
- 2. Bryan E. Bledsoe et. al. *Student Workbook for Paramedic Care; Principles & Practice, Vol. 1-5*. 3rd ed., Brady-Prentice Hall Health, 2008.

X. OTHER MATERIALS REQUIRED OF STUDENTS:

- A. Stethoscope
- B. Penlight