



INSTRUCTIONAL PACKAGE

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EMS 118

Advanced Medical Life Support

AY 2020/2021

Spring 2021

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Part I: Course Information

Effective Term: 2020-20

COURSE PREFIX: EMS 118

COURSE TITLE: Advanced Medical Life Support

CONTACT HOURS: 1-0-1

CREDIT HOURS: 1

RATIONALE FOR THE COURSE:

Advanced Medical Life Support (AMLS) addresses how to fully assess and manage the most common medical crises in patients, offering a "think outside the box" methodology and emphasizing scene size-up, history, interactive group discussion on potential treatment strategies, and physical exam to systematically rule out and consider differential diagnoses.

COURSE DESCRIPTION:

This course is designed to present students with a practical method for the management of adult patients suffering from various medical emergencies. Students will be provided with the practical knowledge and skills to effectively manage on-scene adult medical emergencies.

PREREQUISITES/CO-REQUISITES:

Prerequisites: EMS 116, EMS 224, EMS 230, EMS 238

Corequisites: EMS 117, EMS 240, EMS 241 EMS 248, EMS 272

REQUIRED MATERIALS:

Please visit the [BOOKSTORE](#) online site for most current textbook information. Use the direct link below to find textbooks.

Enter the semester, course prefix, number and section when prompted and you will be linked to the correct textbook.

ADDITIONAL REQUIREMENTS:

Paramedic Functional Job Analysis / Technical Standards

Paramedic Characteristics

The Paramedic must be a confident leader who can accept the challenge and high degree of responsibility entailed in the position. The Paramedic must have excellent judgement and be able to prioritize decisions and act quickly in the best interest of the patient, must be self-disciplined, able to develop patient rapport, interview hostile patients, maintain safe distance, and recognize and utilize communication unique to

diverse multicultural groups and ages within those groups. Must be able to function independently at optimum level in a non-structured environment that is constantly changing.

Even though the Paramedic is generally part of a two-person team generally working with a lower skill and knowledge level Basic EMT, it is the Paramedic who is held responsible for safe and therapeutic administration of drugs including narcotics. Therefore, the Paramedic must not only be knowledgeable about medications but must be able to apply this knowledge in a practical sense. Knowledge and practical application of medications include thoroughly knowing and understanding the general properties of all types of drugs including analgesics, anesthetics, anti-anxiety drugs, sedatives and hypnotics, anti-convulsants, central nervous stimulants, psychotherapeutics which include antidepressants, and other anti-psychotics, anticholinergics, cholinergics, muscle relaxants, anti-dysrhythmics, anti-hypertensives, anticoagulants, diuretics, bronchodilators, ophthalmics, pituitary drugs, gastro-intestinal drugs, hormones, antibiotics, antifungals, antiinflammatories, serums, vaccines, anti-parasitics, and others.

The Paramedic is personally responsible, legally, ethically, and morally for each drug administered, for using correct precautions and techniques, observing and documenting the effects of the drugs administered, keeping one's own pharmacological knowledge base current as to changes and trends in administration and use, keeping abreast of all contraindications to administration of specific drugs to patients based on their constitutional make-up, and using drug reference literature.

The responsibility of the Paramedic includes obtaining a comprehensive drug history from the patient that includes names of drugs, strength, daily usage and dosage. The Paramedic must take into consideration that many factors, in relation to the history given, can affect the type medication to be given. For example, some patients may be taking several medications prescribed by several different doctors and some may lose track of what they have or have not taken. Some may be using nonprescription/over the counter drugs. Awareness of drug reactions and the synergistic effects of drugs combined with other medicines and in some instances, food, is imperative. The Paramedic must also take into consideration the possible risks of medication administered to a pregnant mother and the fetus, keeping in mind that drugs may cross the placenta.

The Paramedic must be cognizant of the impact of medications on pediatric patients based on size and weight, special concerns related to newborns, geriatric patients and the physiological effects of aging such as the way skin can tear in the geriatric population with relatively little to no pressure. There must be an awareness of the high abuse potential of controlled substances and the potential for addiction, therefore, the Paramedic must be thorough in report writing and able to justify why a particular narcotic was used and why a particular amount was given. The ability to measure and re-measure drip rates for controlled substances/medications is essential. Once medication is stopped or not used, the Paramedic must send back unused portions to proper inventory area.

The Paramedic must be able to apply basic principles of mathematics to the calculation of problems associated with medication dosages, perform conversion problems, differentiate temperature reading between centigrade and Fahrenheit scales, be able to use proper advanced life support equipment and supplies (i.e. proper size of intravenous needles) based on patient's age and condition of veins, and be able to locate sites for obtaining blood samples and perform this task, administer medication

intravenously, administer medications by gastric tube, administer oral medications, administer rectal medications, and comply with universal pre-cautions and body substance isolation, disposing of contaminated items and equipment properly.

The Paramedic must be able to apply knowledge and skills to assist overdosed patients to overcome trauma through antidotes and have knowledge of poisons and be able to administer treatment. The Paramedic must be knowledgeable as to the stages drugs/medications go through once they have entered the patient's system and be cognizant that route of administration is critical in relation to patient's needs and the effect that occurs.

The Paramedic must also be capable of providing advanced life support emergency medical services to patients including conducting of and interpreting electrocardiograms (EKGs), electrical interventions to support the cardiac functions, performing advanced endotracheal intubations in airway management and relief of pneumothorax and administering of appropriate intravenous fluids and drugs under direction of off-site designated physician.

The Paramedic is a person who must not only remain calm while working in difficult and stressful circumstances but must be capable of staying focused while assuming the leadership role inherent in carrying out the functions of the position. Good judgement along with advanced knowledge and technical skills are essential in directing other team members to assist as needed. The Paramedic must be able to provide top quality care, concurrently handle high levels of stress, and be willing to take on the personal responsibility required of the position. This includes not only all legal ramifications for precise documentation, but also the responsibility for using the knowledge and skills acquired in real life-threatening emergency situations.

The Paramedic must be able to deal with adverse and often dangerous situations which include responding to calls in districts known to have high crime and mortality rates. Self-confidence is critical, as is a desire to work with people, solid emotional stability, a tolerance for high stress, and the ability to meet the physical, intellectual, and cognitive requirements demanded by this position.

Physical Demands

Aptitudes required for work of this nature are good physical stamina, endurance, and body condition that would not be adversely affected by frequently having to walk, stand, lift, carry, and balance at times, in excess of 125 pounds. Motor coordination is necessary because over uneven terrain, the patient's, the Paramedic's, and other workers' well-being must not be jeopardized.

Comments

The Paramedic provides the most extensive pre-hospital care and may work for fire departments, private ambulance services, police departments or hospitals. Response times for nature of work are dependent upon nature of call. For example, a Paramedic working for a private ambulance service that transports the elderly from nursing homes to routine medical appointments and check-ups may endure somewhat less stressful circumstances than the Paramedic who works primarily with 911 calls in districts known to have high crime rates. Thus, the particular stresses inherent in the role of the Paramedic can vary,

depending on place and type of employment.

However, in general, in the analyst's opinion, the Paramedic must be flexible to meet the demands of the ever-changing emergency scene. When emergencies exist, the situation can be complex, and care of the patient must be started immediately. In essence, the Paramedic in the EMS system uses advanced training and equipment to extend emergency physician services to the ambulance. The Paramedic must be able to make accurate independent judgements while following oral directives. The ability to perform duties in a timely manner is essential, as it could mean the difference between life and death for the patient.

Use of the telephone or radio dispatch for coordination of prompt emergency services is required, as is a pager, depending on place of employment. Accurately discerning street names through map reading, and correctly distinguishing house numbers or business addresses are essential to task completion in the most expedient manner. Concisely and accurately describing orally to dispatcher and other concerned staff, one's impression of patient's condition, is critical as the Paramedic works in emergency conditions where there may not be time for deliberation. The Paramedic must also be able to accurately report orally and in writing, all relevant patient data. At times, reporting may require a detailed narrative on extenuating circumstances or conditions that go beyond what is required on a prescribed form. In some instances, the Paramedic must enter data on computer from a laptop in ambulance. Verbal skills and reasoning skills are used extensively.

Source: USDOT 1998 National Standard Paramedic Curriculum

TECHNICAL REQUIREMENTS:

Access to Desire2Learn (D2L), HGTC's student portal for course materials.
WaveNet and D2L email access.

CLASSROOM ETIQUETTE:

As a matter of courtesy to other students and your professor, please turn off cell phones and other communication/entertainment devices before class begins. If you are monitoring for an emergency, please notify your professor prior to class and switch cell phone ringers to vibrate.

NETIQUETTE: is the term commonly used to refer to conventions adopted by Internet users on the web, mailing lists, public forums, and in live chat focused on online communications etiquette. For more information regarding Netiquette expectations for distance learning courses, please visit [Online Netiquette](#).

Part II: Student Learning Outcomes

To prepare competent entry-level Emergency Medical Technician – Paramedics in the cognitive (knowledge), psychomotor (skills) and affective (behavior) learning domains.

COURSE LEARNING OUTCOMES and ASSESSMENTS*:

Upon completion of an AMLS course participants should be able to:

1. Use of scene size-up, history, interactive group discussion on potential treatment strategies, and physical exam to systematically rule out and consider possibilities and probabilities in treating patients' medical crises.
2. Use an initial assessment-based approach that progresses to a diagnostic-based approach to quickly develop the best treatment plan.
3. Discuss interactive/case-based lectures include the following topics: altered mental status and neurologic disorders, respiratory dysfunction, shock, Chest discomfort, Endocrine, metabolic and environmental disorders, abdominal discomfort, Infectious disease, and toxicological emergencies, hazardous materials and weapons of mass destruction.

Part III: Grading and Assessment

EVALUATION OF REQUIRED COURSE MEASURES/ARTIFACTS*

Students' performance will be assessed, and the weight associated with the various measures/artifacts are listed below.

EVALUATION*

Pretest	25%
Skills Stations	25%
Post Test	50%
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	100%

****Students, for the specific number and type of evaluations, please refer to the Instructor's Course Information Sheet.***

GRADING SYSTEM:

A = 100 – 90, B = 89- 80, C = 79 – 70, D = 69 – 60, F = 59 and below.

Grades earned in courses impact academic progression and financial aid status. Before withdrawing from a course, be sure to talk with your instructor and financial aid counselor about the implications of that course of action. Ds, Fs, Ws, WFs and Is also negatively impact academic progression and financial aid status.

The Add/Drop Period is the first 5 days of the semester for **full term** classes. Add/Drop periods are shorter for accelerated format courses. Please refer to the academic calendar for deadlines for add/drop ([ACADEMIC CALENDAR](#)). You must attend at least one meeting of all of your classes during that period. If you do not, you will be dropped from the course(s) and your Financial Aid will be reduced accordingly.

Part IV: Attendance

Horry-Georgetown Technical College maintains a general attendance policy requiring students to be present for a minimum of 80 percent (80%) of their classes in order to receive credit for any course. Due to the varied nature of courses taught at the college, some faculty may require up to 90 percent (90%) attendance. Pursuant to 34 Code of Federal Regulations 228.22 - Return to Title IV Funds, once a student has missed over 20% of the course or has missed two (2) consecutive weeks, the faculty is obligated to withdraw the student and a student may not be permitted to reenroll. **Instructors define absentee limits for their class at the beginning of each term.**

In Accordance with SC DHEC – Bureau of EMS a student may miss 10% of the total classroom hours for any reason. Under extenuating circumstances, the program coordinator may allow the student to miss **up to a total** of 20% of the total classroom hours. The student is responsible for documenting in writing to the program coordinator’s satisfaction, the extenuating circumstances. The program coordinator is under NO obligation to accept the student’s documentation or extend the student the additional 10% in allotted absences. The student should also understand that arriving to class late or leaving class early counts towards the allotted hours of time missed. Once the student exceeds the hours of absences, the student will be terminated from the course and will not be eligible to attempt the National Registry examination.

Part V: Student Resources



THE STUDENT SUCCESS AND TUTORING CENTER (SSTC):

The SSTC offers to all students the following **free** resources:

1. **Academic tutors** for most subject areas, **Writing Center support**, and **college success skills**.
2. Online **tutoring** and academic support resources.
3. Professional and interpersonal communication **coaching** in the EPIC Labs.

Visit the [Student Success & Tutoring Center](#) website for more information. To schedule tutoring appointments using TutorTrac, visit the Student Services tab in WaveNet. Email sstc@hgtc.edu or call SSTC Conway, 349-7872; SSTC Grand Strand, 477-2113; and SSTC Georgetown, 520-1455, or go to the [Online Resource Center](#) to access on-demand resources.

STUDENT INFORMATION CENTER: TECH Central



TECH Central offers to all students the following **free** resources:

1. **Getting around HGTC:** General information and guidance for enrollment!
2. Use the [Online Resource Center \(ORC\)](#), including scheduled technology training, Office 365 support, password resets, and username information.
3. **Drop-in technology support or scheduled training** in the Center or in class.
4. **In-person workshops, online tutorials and more services** are available.
5. **Chat with our staff on TECH Talk**, our live chat service. TECH Talk can be accessed on the student portal and on TECH Central's website, or by texting questions to (843) 375-8552.

Visit the [Tech Central](#) website for more information. Live Chat and Center locations are posted on the website. Or please call (843) 349 – TECH (8324).

DISABILITY SERVICES:

HGTC is committed to providing an accessible environment for students with disabilities. Inquiries may be directed to HGTC's [Accessibility and Disability Service webpage](#). The Accessibility and Disability staff will review documentation of the student's disability and, in a confidential setting with the student, develop an educational accommodation plan.

Note: It is the student's responsibility to self-identify as needing accommodations and to provide acceptable documentation. After a student has self-identified and submitted documentation of a disability, accommodations may be determined, accepted, and provided.

STATEMENT OF EQUAL OPPORTUNITY/NON-DISCRIMINATION STATEMENT:

Horry-Georgetown Technical College prohibits discrimination and harassment, including sexual harassment and abuse, on the basis of race, color, sex, national or ethnic origin, age, religion, disability, marital or family status, veteran status, political ideas, sexual orientation, gender identity, or pregnancy, childbirth, or related medical conditions, including, but not limited to, lactation in educational programs and/or activities.

TITLE IX REQUIREMENTS:

All students (as well as other persons) at Horry-Georgetown Technical College are protected by Title IX—regardless of their sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, part- or full-time status, disability, race, or national origin—in all aspects of educational programs and activities. Any student, or other member of the college community, who believes that he/she is or has been a victim of sexual harassment or sexual violence may file a report with the college's Chief Student Services Officer, campus law enforcement, or with the college's Title IX Coordinator, or designee.

*Faculty and Staff are required to report incidents to the Title IX Coordinators when involving students. The only HGTC employees exempt from mandatory reporting are licensed mental health professionals (only as part of their job description such as counseling services).

INQUIRIES REGARDING THE NON-DISCRIMINATION/TITLE IX POLICIES:

Student and prospective student inquiries concerning Section 504, Title II, and Title IX and their application to the College or any student decision may be directed to the Vice President for Student Affairs.

Dr. Melissa Batten, VP Student Affairs

Title IX Coordinator

Building 1100, Room 107A, Conway Campus

PO Box 261966, Conway, SC 29528-6066

843-349-5228

Melissa.Batten@hgtc.edu

Employee and applicant inquiries concerning Section 504, Title II, and Title IX and their application to the College may be directed to the Vice President for Human Resources.

Jacquelyne Snyder, VP Human Resources

EEO and Title IX Coordinator

Building 200, Room 212A, Conway Campus

PO Box 261966, Conway, SC 29528-6066

843-349-5212

Jacquelyne.Snyder@hgtc.edu

Accident Occurring on or off Campus

Accidents involving Faculty, Staff and Student Workers (work-study, clinical student or students on a required internship):

An accident/illness involving faculty, staff or student worker must be reported immediately to the Human Resources Department (843.349.7134) before seeking medical treatment, if possible, so an accident/incident report can be completed and Worker's Compensation can be notified. In the event someone in Human Resources cannot be notified, the injured party may contact the College's Worker's Compensation insurance carrier, CompEndium Services, to complete an accident/incident report and to receive clearance for treatment at 877.709.2667. If the incident is an emergency, please notify Human Resources as soon as the proper medical attention has been rendered for verification of workers' compensation coverage.

In any event, if an accident occurs, proper documentation needs to be completed. An accident report needs to be filled out stating the name of the injured party, the location of the accident, his/her identification number (social or H number), his/her address & phone number, the date & time of the accident, whether there were witnesses, and a brief description of what occurred. Attached is a copy of the Accident/Incident Report form. A copy of the report needs to be distributed to the following departments: Human Resources, the respective Supervisor, and the Dean/Provost of the specific campus.

