



INSTRUCTIONAL PACKAGE

EMS 238

Paramedic Ambulance Field Experience I

Effective Term

Fall 2024/Spring 2025/Summer 2025

INSTRUCTIONAL PACKAGE

Part I: Course Information

Effective Term: Fall 2024/Spring 2025/Summer 2025

COURSE PREFIX: EMS 238

COURSE TITLE: Paramedic Ambulance Field
Experience I

CONTACT HOURS: 9

CREDIT HOURS: 0-9-3

RATIONALE FOR THE COURSE:

To recognize paramedics as highly skilled and compassionate healthcare professionals who positively transform the experience of care within diverse populations.

COURSE DESCRIPTION:

This course introduces the concept of emergency medical care in the E-911 ambulance setting.

PREREQUISITES/CO-REQUISITES:

Prerequisites: EMS 119, EMS 113, EMS 150 and EMS 223

Co-requisites: EMS 116, EMS 230, and EMS 224

***Online/Hybrid** courses require students to complete the [Distance Learning Orientation Video](#) prior to enrolling in an online course.

REQUIRED MATERIALS:

Please visit the [BOOKSTORE](#) online site for most current textbook information.

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

ADDITIONAL REQUIREMENTS:

HGTC Polo Shirt & Stethoscope

EMS Work Pants, Safety Vest and Eye Protection

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 makeup, 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 arena. 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 everchanging 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.

TECHNICAL REQUIREMENTS:

Access to Desire2Learn (D2L), HGTC's learning management system (LMS) used for course materials.

Access to Platinum Planner Scheduling and Reporting Software

Access to myHGTC portal for student self-services.

College email access – this is the college's primary official form of communication.

STUDENT IDENTIFICATION VERIFICATION:

Students enrolled in online courses will be required to participate in a minimum of one (1) proctored assignment and/or one (1) virtual event to support student identification verification. Please refer to your Instructor Information Sheet for information regarding this requirement.

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.

SAFEGUARDS:

All activities required in the paramedic program must be educational and students must not be substituted for staff. For educational activities, individuals must be clearly identified as students, in a specific clinical / field experience / internship, under the auspices of the program medical director, and under the supervision of the designated preceptor prior to performing patient care. Students must not be substituted for staff. Students in the clinical and field internship phases of the program are always in a student role and are never substituted for agency staffing. The student may be paid as an employee while in the intern role but must at all times be considered a 'third rider'.

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 this rotation the student should be able to:
- Describe what is involved in the management and treatment plan of injured or ill patients with; compensated and decompensated shock, respiratory distress, respiratory failure, respiratory arrest, cardiac arrest, and other medical emergencies.
- Describe what is involved in the management and treatment of trauma patients.
- Recognize the difference between sick and not sick patients.
- Recognize areas in patient care that need improvement.
- Discuss a patient's complete medical history and treatment with the attending staff.
- Demonstrate proper communication skills with medical staff and patients.
- Discuss indications, dosages, route of administration and special considerations for medication administration in the emergency setting.
- Demonstrate the ability to safely administer medications by Oral, IM, SubQ, and IV techniques.
- Demonstrate appropriate intervention techniques with family and friends.

- Attend to the need for reassurance, empathy, and compassion for the family and friends.
- Demonstrate and advocate appropriate interaction with injured and ill patients that conveys respect for their position in life.
- Describe techniques for successful interaction with families and friends of injured and ill patients.
- Demonstrate and develop patient assessment skills.
- Demonstrate critical thinking skills in the emergency setting.
- Demonstrate proper technique for intravenous access for injured and ill patients.
- Develop teamwork skills by assisting the nursing staff in the care of emergency patients.
- Demonstrate psychomotor skill related to treatment and care of emergency patients.
- Demonstrate proper techniques for airway management in injured and ill patients to include oxygen delivery, suction, bag-valve-mask ventilation, LMA insertion, and endotracheal intubation.
- Demonstrate appropriate treatment/management of intubation complications for patients with respiratory distress, failure, and arrest.
- Discuss the treatment of injured and ill patients.

****Students – please refer to the Instructor’s Course Information sheet for specific information on assessments and due dates.***

Part III: Grading and Assessment

EVALUATION OF REQUIRED COURSE MEASURES/ARTIFACTS*:

Evaluating & Grading of the Paramedic Student during Clinical Internship

- The performance of the HCTG paramedic student will be evaluated daily by the Preceptor using the Daily Preceptor Evaluation form. Performance will also be assessed routinely using the professional behavior analysis form.
- Students will need to obtain a minimum of 160 ambulance experience hours for this semester.
- Students have to obtain 35% of competencies in each of the following areas to successfully complete the internship requirement for this course:
 - Skills / Interventions
 - Impressions
 - Complaints

- Ages
- Completion of the requirements = 100%
- Non-completion of the requirements = prorated on a percentage basis.
- Documentation
 - Appropriate and complete narrative.
 - Paperwork completed properly.
 - Paperwork completed in time frame.
- Late Platinum Planner entry will result in a 10 point deduction for each occurrence. Paperwork needs to be turned into the internship coordinator with 7 days of attendance – over a 7 day time frame will result in a 10 point deduction for each occurrence in addition to any late entry deductions.

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

EVALUATION*

160 Minimum Hours	(Required)
Clinical Performance & Professional Behavior Analysis	30%
Competencies	40%
Documentation	30%
Total	100%

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

GRADING SYSTEM:

State the College's or departmental grading system as delineated in the Catalog. Please note the College adheres to a 10-point grading scale A = 100 – 90, B = 89- 80, C = 79 – 70, D = 69 – 60, F = 59 and below. You must have your Dean's approval if changes in the scale are made.

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. 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; please refer to the Instructor Course Information Sheet.**

For online and hybrid courses, check your Instructor's Course Information Sheet for any required on-site meeting times. Please note, instructors may require tests to be taken at approved testing sites, and if you use a testing center other than those provided by HGTC, the center may charge a fee for its services.

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, contact the SSTC at ssc@hgtc.edu or self-schedule in the Penji iOS/Android app or at www.penjiapp.com. Email ssc@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, financial aid, registration, and payment plan support!
2. Use the [Online Resource Center \(ORC\)](#) including Office 365 support, password resets, and username information.
3. **In-person workshops, online tutorials and more services** are available in Desire2Learn, Student Portal, Degree Works, and Office 365.
4. **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.



HGTC LIBRARY:

Each campus location has a library where HGTC students, faculty, and staff may check out materials with their HGTC ID. All three HGTC campus libraries are equipped with computers to support academic research and related school work; printing is available as well. Visit the [Library](#) website for more information or call (843) 349-5268.

STUDENT TESTING:

Testing in an **online/hybrid** course and in **make-up exam** situations may be accomplished in a variety of ways:

- Test administered within D2L.
- Test administered in writing on paper.
- Test administered through Publisher Platforms (which may have a fee associated with the usage)

Furthermore, tests may have time limits and/or require a proctor.

Proctoring can be accomplished either face-to-face at an approved site or online through our online proctoring service. To find out more about proctoring services, please visit the [Online Testing](#) section of the HGTC's Testing Center webpage.

The **Instructor Information Sheet** will have more details on test requirements for your course.

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 Services staff will review documentation of the student's disability and, in a confidential setting with the student, engage in an interactive process to 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. Students will need to reach out to the Accessibility and Disability Services staff each semester to renew their accommodations.

COUNSELING SERVICES:

HGTC Counseling Services strives to optimize student success through managing personal and academic concerns that may interfere with achieving educational goals. Staff are available to every student for assistance and guidance on personal matters, academic concerns and other areas of concern. HGTC offers free in-person and telehealth counseling services to students. For more information about counseling services, please reach out to counseling@hgtc.edu or visit the website the [Counseling Services webpage](#).

STATEMENT OF EQUAL OPPORTUNITY/NON-DISCRIMINATION STATEMENT:

Horry-Georgetown Technical College shall not discriminate in employment or personnel decisions or in student admissions or in student decisions, or in all other segments of the College community 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 the educational programs and activities which it operates, and the college is prohibited from discrimination in such manner by applicable laws. Practices and requirements for nondiscrimination extend to the enrollment of students in programs and activities of the College and employment by the College.

All inquiries regarding the federal laws as they relate to discrimination on the basis of sex may be directed to Tamatha Sells, Title IX Coordinator, Horry-Georgetown Technical College, Building 1100C, Room 107B, 2050 Hwy 501 E, PO Box 261966, Conway, SC 29528-6066, 843-349-5218, tamatha.sells@hgtc.edu or to the US Department of Education Office of Civil Rights. (Telephone: 800-421-3481/Email: OCR@ed.gov).

Other employee and applicant inquiries concerning the federal laws and their application to the College may be directed to Jacquelyne Snyder, Vice President,

Human Resources and Employee Relations & the College's Affirmative Action/Equal Opportunity Officer, Horry-Georgetown Technical College, Building 200C, Room 205B, 2050 Hwy 501 E, PO Box 261966, Conway, SC 29528-6066, 843-349-5212, jacquelyne.snyder@hgtc.edu.

Other student and prospective student inquiries concerning the federal laws and their application to the College or any student decision may be directed to Dr. Melissa Batten, Vice President, Student Affairs, Section 504 & Title II Coordinator Horry-Georgetown Technical College, Building 1100C, Room 107A, 2050 Hwy 501 E, PO Box 261966, Conway, SC 29528-6066, 843-349-5228, melissa.batten@hgtc.edu.

TITLE IX REQUIREMENTS:

Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972 protects students, employees, applicants for admission and employment, and other persons from all forms of sex discrimination.

HGTC prohibits the offenses of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, and stalking and will provide students, faculty, and staff with necessary information regarding prevention, policies, procedures, and resources.

Any student, or other member of the college community, who believes that they have been a victim of sexual harassment, domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, or stalking may file a report with the college's Title IX Coordinator or campus law enforcement*.

*Faculty and Staff are required to report these incidents to the Title IX Coordinator 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).

For more information, contact Tamatha Sells, Title IX Coordinator, Conway Campus, Building 1100C, Room 107B, 843-349-5218, tamatha.sells@hgtc.edu.

PREGNANT ACCOMMODATIONS

Under Title IX, colleges must not exclude a pregnant student from participating in any part of an educational program. Horry-Georgetown Technical College is committed to ensuring that pregnant students receive reasonable accommodations to ensure access to our educational programs.

Students should advise the Title IX Coordinator of a potential need for accommodations as soon as they know they are pregnant. It is extremely important that communication between student, instructors, and the Title IX Coordinator begin as soon as possible. Each situation is unique and will be addressed individually.

Title IX accommodations DO NOT apply to Financial Aid. Financial Aid regulations do not give the College any discretion in terms of Financial Aid eligibility.

Certain educational programs may have strict certification requirements or requirements mandated by outside regulatory agencies. Therefore, in some programs, the application of Title IX accommodations may be limited.

To request pregnancy accommodations, please complete the [Pregnancy Intake Form](#).