Course Prefix and Number: EMS 151  Credits: 4

Course Title: Introduction to Advanced Life Support

Course Description: Prepares the student for Virginia Enhanced certification eligibility and begins the sequence for National Registry Intermediate and/or Paramedic certification. Includes the theory and application of the following: foundations, human systems, pharmacology, overview of shock, venous access, airway management, patient assessment, respiratory emergencies, allergic reaction, and assessment-based management. Conforms at a minimum to the Virginia Office of Emergency Medical Services curriculum. Co-requisite: EMS 170. Lecture 3 hours. Laboratory 2 hours. Total 5 hours per week.

General Course Purposes: Includes the theory and application of the following: foundations, human systems, pharmacology, overview of shock, venous access, airway management, patient assessment, respiratory emergencies, allergic reaction, and assessment-based management.

Course Prerequisites and Co-requisites:
Co-requisite: EMS 170

Course Objectives:
Upon completing the course, students will be able to
a. Understand their roles and responsibilities within an EMS system, and how these roles and responsibilities differ from other levels of providers;
b. Understand and value the importance of personal wellness in EMS and serve as a healthy role model for peers;
c. Integrate the implementation of primary injury prevention activities as an effective way to reduce death, disabilities, and health care costs;
d. Understand the legal issues that impact decisions made in the out-of-hospital environment;
e. Understand the role that ethics plays in decision-making in the out-of-hospital environment;
f. Apply the general concepts of pathophysiology for the assessment and management of emergency patients;
g. Integrate pathophysiological principles of pharmacology and the assessment findings to formulate a field impression and implement a pharmacologic management plan;
h. Safely and precisely access the venous circulation and administer medications;
i. Integrate the principles of therapeutic communication to effectively communicate with any patient while providing care;
j. Integrate the physiological, psychological, and sociological changes throughout human development with assessment and communication strategies for patients of all ages; and
k. Establish and/or maintain a patent airway, oxygenate, and ventilate a patient.

Major Topics to be Included:
a. Roles and responsibilities
b. Medical legal
c. EMS systems
d. Illness and injury prevention
e. Ethics
f. Documentation
g. Communication
h. Medical terminology
i. Human systems
j. Emergency pharmacology
k. Medical math
l. Medication administration
m. Respiratory A&P
n. Basic and advanced airway
o. Respiratory emergencies

Effective Date of Course Content Summary: April 6, 2009