

**J. Sargeant Reynolds Community College  
Course Content Summary**

**Course Prefix and Number:** EMS 121

**Credits:** 2

**Course Title:** Preparatory Foundations

**Course Description:** Introduces fundamental concepts established by the National Emergency Medical Service Education Standards (NEMSES) for Advanced EMT and Paramedic curricula. Includes EMS systems, introduction to research, workforce safety and wellness, EMS system communications, introduction to public health, legal and ethical issues. Prerequisite: Current Virginia EMT and CPR certification as approved by the Virginia Office of EMS. Lecture 2 hours per week.

**General Course Purpose:** The purpose of this course is to introduce the novice student to the foundational aspects of advanced life support care.

**Course Prerequisites and Co-requisites:**

Prerequisite: Current Virginia EMT and CPR certification as approved by the Virginia Office of EMS

**Student Learning Outcomes:**

Upon completing the course, the student will be able to

- a. Identify components of the Emergency Medical Services (EMS) system;
- b. Correlate valid research findings to evidence-based practice;
- c. Identify elements of workforce safety and wellness;
- d. Define components of EMS communication systems;
- e. Demonstrate understanding of effective communication;
- f. Describe legal aspects related to patient care; and
- g. Explain ethical and moral issues related to patient care.

**Major Topics to Be Included:**

- a. EMS Systems
  - History of EMS
  - EMS systems
  - Roles and responsibilities of EMS personnel
  - Quality improvement
  - Patient safety
- b. Research
  - Overview of research principles
  - Interpretation of literature
  - Evidence-based practice

- c. Workforce Safety and Wellness
  - Provider safety and well-being
  - Standard safety precautions
  - Personal protective equipment
  - Stress management
  - Prevention of work-related injuries
  - Lifting and moving patients
  - Disease transmission
  - Wellness principles
  
- d. EMS System Communication
  - EMS communication system components
  - Radio communications
  - Communicating with other health care professionals
  - Team communication and dynamics
  - Therapeutic communication
  - Medical terminology
  
- e. Legal Issues Related to Patient Care
  - Types of consent
  - Refusal of care
  - Aspects of confidentiality
  - Advanced directives
  - Tort law
  - Criminal law
  - Statutory responsibilities
  - Mandatory reporting
  - Health care regulation
  - Patient rights
  - End of life issues
  - Employment law
  
- f. Ethical Issues Related to Patient Care
  - Ethical principles
  - Moral obligations
  - Ethical tests of decision-making

**Date Created/Updated (Month, Day, and Year):** September 21, 2018