

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

**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