

EMS 240 Patients W/ Special Challenges

COURSE DESCRIPTION:

Prerequisites: EMS 122 **AND** EMS 130

Corequisites: None

This course includes concepts of crisis intervention and techniques of interacting with patients with special challenges and is required for paramedic certification. Topics include appropriate intervention and interaction for neglected, abused, terminally ill, chronically ill, technology assisted, bariatric, physically challenged, mentally challenged, or assaulted patients as well as behavioral emergencies. Upon completion, students should be able to recognize and manage the care of patients with special challenges.

Course Hours per Week: Class, 1. Lab Hours per week, 2. Semester Hours Credit, 2.

LEARNING OUTCOMES:

Upon completing requirements for this course, the student will be able to:

1. Modify communication strategies to best meet the needs of simulated patients as directed by instructor.
2. Modify physical assessment and history-taking to best meet the needs of simulated patients as directed by instructor.
3. Formulate appropriate treatment plans that consider patients' needs.
4. Accommodate special equipment or services that patients may require.
5. Demonstrate therapeutic communication strategies and treat all live and simulated patients with consideration and respect.
6. Identify patients who may need additional services as per the scenario.
7. Identify patients who are having a psychological crisis.
8. Describe the relationships between poverty, socioeconomic status, marginalization, and health disparity.

OUTLINE OF INSTRUCTION:

- I. Didactic
 - A. Sensitivity Crash Course, Identifying Biases, Therapeutic Communication
 - B. Victimized Patients, Abuse, Neglect, Assault
 - C. Patients with Chronic Illnesses
 - D. Patients with Visual and Hearing Impairments
 - E. Socially Marginalized Patients: Homeless, Substance Abuse, Prisoners, Mental Health
 - F. Patients with Speech Impairments and Language Barriers
 - G. Bariatric Patients
 - H. Patients with Spinal Cord Injuries/Impairment and Other Mobility Challenges
 - I. Patients with Chronic Mental Illnesses

- J. Patients on the Autism Spectrum
 - K. Patients with Down's Syndrome
- II. Special Challenges Midterm Paper
- III. Final Evaluation
- A. What Does it Mean to be a Patient Advocate (Discussion)?
 - B. Special Challenges Scenarios

REQUIRED TEXTBOOK AND MATERIAL:

AAOS: Sanders' Paramedic Textbook 5th Edition & Being Mortal