

PM 201: PARAMEDIC THEORY

Proposer:**Name:**

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Effective Term:

Fall 2027

Does this course use a CA Common Course Number

No

Credit Status:

Credit - Degree Applicable

Subject:

PM - Paramedicine

Course Number:

201

Discipline:

And/Or	(Discipline)
		Emergency Medical Technologies	

Catalog Title

Paramedic Theory

COS Course Description

Contains the didactic material necessary to establish a foundation to practice as a paramedic. Includes applied anatomy and physiology, pathophysiology, intravenous therapy, basic and advanced life support, patient assessment, management of trauma, medical conditions, emergency medical system operations, and special considerations when caring for patients throughout the life span and those with special challenges.

Prerequisites

PM 230 or equivalent college course with a minimum grade of C

Corequisites

PM 402 must be taken concurrently

Validation**Validation Type**

Required by Statute or Regulation

Course

PM 230

State the exact statute or regulation:

California Code of Regulations, Title 22 Division 9. Pre-Hospital Emergency Medical Services Chapter 4: Paramedic

Validation Type

Closely Related Lecture/Lab

Course

PM 402

Justification

PM 402 Skills lab will provide outside instruction on skills and assessments of the paramedic student outside of the normally scheduled lab hours.

Advisory on Recommended Preparation:

NURS 256 or equivalent college course with a minimum grade of C; BIOL 030 and BIOL 031 are recommended

Limitation on Enrollment:

Acceptance into the Paramedic program

Method of Instruction:

Distance Education (Emergency Addendum)
Laboratory
Lecture and/or Discussion

Course Units/Hours:

Course Units Minimum:

16

Lecture Hours Minimum (week)

14

Lab Hours Minimum (week)

7

Total Contact Hours Minimum (semester)

367.5

Total Outside Hours Minimum (semester)

490

Total Student Learning Minimum Hours (semester)

857.5

Repeatability:

No

Open Entry/Exit:

No

Field Trips:

Not Required

Grade Mode:

Standard Letter

TOP Code:

125100 - * Paramedic

SAM Code:

C - Clearly Occupational

Course Content

COS Methods of Evaluation:

Essay quizzes or exams
Multiple choice tests
Oral presentations

Problem solving assignments or activities
 Problem solving quizzes or exams
 Short answer quizzes or exams
 Skill demonstrations
 Written essays or extended papers

COS Course Topics:

COS Course Topics	
1	Preparatory - Role as a Professional (NSC same title) A. EMS Systems, Roles and Responsibilities B. EMS Research C. Documentation D. Workforce Safety and Wellness - Medical Mistakes E. EMS System Communication F. Therapeutic Communication G. Medical/Legal and Ethics H. Life Span Development I. Public Health J. Central California EMS System and Standing Orders K. Successful Hospital and Field Clinical Internships
2	General Principles of Anatomy/Physiology, Medical Terminology, and Pathophysiology (NSC same title) A. Anatomy and Physiology - Major Systems B. Pathophysiology - Oxygenation, Fluids, Electrolytes, Acids and Bases, Transfusions, Neurologic Disorders, Gastrointestinal Disorders, Pulmonary Disorders, Cardiovascular Disorders C. Medical Terminology
3	Pharmacology (NSC same title) A. Principles of Pharmacology - General Pharmacology and Drug Classifications B. Orange County EMS Formulary and Standing Orders C. National Formulary and State Scope of Practice D. Medication Administration and Administration
4	Patient assessment (NSC same title) A. Scene-Up B. Primary/Initial Assessment C. History Taking D. Secondary Assessment E. Monitoring Devices F. Reassessment

- 5 Medical (NSC same title)
- A. Medical Overview
 - B. Cardiovascular
 - 1. Cardiovascular Diseases
 - 2. Chest Pain and Syncope
 - 3. Basic ECG and Sinus Dysrhythmias
 - 4. Atrial and Junctional Dysrhythmias
 - 5. Ventricular Dysrhythmias
 - 6. AV blocks
 - 7. Pacemakers and AICD
 - 8. Basic 12-lead ECG
 - C. Pulmonary
 - 1. Respiratory Emergencies
 - D. Neurology
 - 1. Stroke
 - 2. Intracranial Hemorrhage
 - 3. Degenerative Neurologic Disorders
 - E. Endocrinology
 - F. Immunology, Allergies and Anaphylaxis
 - G. Gastroenterology, Abdominal Disorders
 - H. Renal/Genitourinary Diseases
 - I. Gynecology Emergencies
 - J. Infectious Diseases
 - K. Infectious Diseases
 - L. Behavioral and Psychiatric Conditions
 - M. Toxicology, Poisoning and Overdose
- 6 Trauma (NSC same title)
- A. Trauma Overview - Trauma Triage Guideline – Multisystem Trauma
 - B. Head, Face, Neck, and Spine Trauma
 - C. Bleeding
 - D. Chest Trauma
 - E. Abdominal/Genitourinary Trauma
 - F. Orthopedic Trauma
 - G. Soft Tissue Trauma
 - H. Nervous System Trauma - Traumatic brain injury
 - I. Special Considerations in Trauma
 - J. Environmental Emergencies
- 7 Airway and Ventilation (NSC same title)
- A. Airway management – Basic and Advanced
 - B. Respiration
 - C. Artificial Ventilation
- 8 Special Patient Populations (NSC same title)
- A. Obstetrics
 - B. Neonatal
 - C. Pediatric
 - D. Geriatrics
 - E. Patients with Special Needs
- 9 Operations (NSC same title)
- A. Principles of Safely Operating a Ground Ambulance
 - B. Incident Management
 - C. Weapons of Mass Destruction/Terrorism, and Disaster
 - D. Multiple Casualty Incidents
 - E. Air Medical
 - F. Vehicle Extrication
 - G. Hazardous Materials Awareness
- 10 Shock and Resuscitation (NSC same title)
- A. Shock and Resuscitation

COS Course Objectives:

COS Course Objectives	
1	Describe the roles and responsibilities of a paramedic.
2	Compare and contrast the role of the paramedic from other providers
3	Represent and serve as a healthy role model for peers and others.
4	Institute primary injury prevention measures
5	Describe the major legal issues that impact decisions made in the pre-hospital environment.
6	Apply and use ethical principles in decision making.
7	Apply the general concepts of pathophysiology in the assessment and management of emergency patients.
8	Integrate pathophysiological principles in the emergency care of patients
9	Establish a field impression of a problem and implement a plan of treatment including the use of medications.
10	Safely and precisely administer medications.
11	Access the venous system.
12	Use communication, assessment and treatment strategies which integrate the physiological, psychological and developmental level of the patient.
13	Establish and/or maintain a patent airway, oxygenate and ventilate a patient.
14	Obtain a medical history from the patient.
15	Explain the pathophysiological significance of assessment findings
16	Apply a process of clinical decision making to form a field impression or initial assessment of a patient
17	Document an assessment using the approved Orange County format
18	Verbally transmit an assessment over radio or telephone
19	Integrate pathophysiological principles and assessment findings to formulate a field impression and treatment plan for a trauma patient
20	Integrate pathophysiological principles and assessment findings to formulate a field impression and treatment plan for a medical patient.
21	Formulate a field impression or initial assessment and develop a treatment for neonatal or pediatric patients.
22	Formulate a field impression and treatment plan for geriatric patients.

Course Outcomes:

Course Outcomes	
1	Students will be able to identify their roles and responsibilities as a paramedic.
2	Students will be able to differentiate between paramedic and other providers.
3	Students will demonstrate qualities consistent with being a role model for peers and others.
4	Students will demonstrate implementation of injury prevention measures.
5	Students will be able to describe the major legal issues that impact decisions made in the pre-hospital environment.
6	Students use and apply ethical principles in decision making.
7	Students will be able to demonstrate competent assessment including obtaining of a health history, and management of care for patients, with evident knowledge of pathophysiology.
8	Students will demonstrate competent medication administration techniques including IV medication administration and IV access initiation.
9	Students will demonstrate an understanding of developmental levels of patients and appropriate treatment of patients based on that developmental level.
10	Students will be able to use competent communication strategies that incorporate knowledge of developmental level, psychological issues and physiological processes.
11	Students will be able to establish an airway, oxygenate and ventilate a patient competently.
12	Students will demonstrate decision making skills that allow them to form a field impression and initiate assessment of a patient.

- 13 Students will demonstrate correct use of the approved county assessment documentation system.
- 14 Students will competently communicate using skills including verbal, written and body language.

Assignments:

Assignment Type:	Details
Writing	The student will be evaluated on ability to demonstrate consistency and effectiveness in verbal and written communication including patient and family rapport, reassurance, patient history, physical examination, consent, patient teaching, medical records and verbal or radio reports.
Lab	Skill Demonstrations, for example, students will be evaluated on consistent demonstration of safe and effective care of patients including all medical procedures, medication administration and medical record documentation.
Reading	Typical Reading Assignments 1. Daily reading assignments of college-level textbooks 2. Professional journals
Writing	Typical Writing Assignments 1. Written evaluation of simulation performance 2. Completion of study guides
Homework	Typical Oral Assignments 1. Skills station critiques 2. Patient scenario simulations

Representative Texts, Manuals, and/or OER that is equivalent, Other Support Materials:

Texts used by individual institutions and even individual sections will vary. The list of representative texts must include at least one text with a publication date within five (5) years of the course outline approval date.

COS Textbooks or other support materials

Resource Type:	Details
Books	Nancy Caroline's Emergency Care in the Streets Premier, 9th Ed. AAOS. 2023
Web/Other	Nancy Caroline's Emergency Care in the Streets Premier Hybrid Access 9th Ed. Navigate Course

Other Degree Attributes

Degree Applicable
Not Transferable
Not a Basic Skills Course

Materials Fee:

312

Banner Title:

Paramedic Theory

Course Control Number:

CCC000643602

Equity Review

Select elements of the COR that were reviewed for equity. Must select at least one:

Materials Fee