EMERGENCY MEDICAL SCIENCES AND ADMINISTRATION (EMSA)

EMSA 200. Introduction to EMS Systems. 3 Hours.
Semester course; 3 lecture hours. 3 credits. A survey of Emergency Medical Services systems in the U.S. Examines the 14 attributes of an EMS system to include the history of EMS, public and private organizations, delivery models, personnel, training and integration in the overall health care system.

EMSA 201. Emergency Medical Technician. 3 Hours.
Continuous courses; 4 lecture and 4 laboratory hours. 6-6 credits. Prerequisites: current CPR certification at the Health Care Provider level and permission of instructor; completion of EMSA 201 to enroll in EMSA 202. Students will learn to recognize the nature and seriousness of a patient’s condition or extent of injuries, to assess requirements for emergency medical care, and to administer appropriate emergency medical care based on assessment findings of the patient’s condition. Includes the lecture and laboratory elements needed to be eligible for certification as a Virginia and/or National Registry EMT-B as defined by the commonwealth of Virginia and the U.S. Department of Transportation’s National Curriculum for EMT-B.

EMSA 202. Emergency Medical Technician. 3 Hours.
Continuous courses; 4 lecture and 4 laboratory hours. 6-6 credits. Prerequisites: current CPR certification at the Health Care Provider level and permission of instructor; completion of EMSA 201 to enroll in EMSA 202. Students will learn to recognize the nature and seriousness of a patient’s condition or extent of injuries, to assess requirements for emergency medical care, and to administer appropriate emergency medical care based on assessment findings of the patient’s condition. Includes the lecture and laboratory elements needed to be eligible for certification as a Virginia and/or National Registry EMT-B as defined by the commonwealth of Virginia and the U.S. Department of Transportation’s National Curriculum for EMT-B.

EMSA 300. Foundations of Paramedic Practice. 4 Hours.
Semester course; 3 lecture and 2 laboratory hours. 4 credits. Open only to EMSA majors. Prerequisites: EMSA 200, 201-202. Foundation course covering medical ethics, medical legal issues, wellness and injury prevention, life span development, and communication with patients. Also reviews the anatomy and physiology of the airway and respiratory system, the assessment and establishment of airway including basic and advanced airway management.

EMSA 310. Clinical Practicum I. 2 Hours.
Semester course; 2 laboratory hours. 2 credits. (90-hour minimum.) Open to EMSA majors only. Corequisites: EMSA 310, 320, 400 and 405. First in a series of three application courses. Requires the student to apply the concepts being learned in the classroom to their patients under the supervision of a preceptor in hospital clinical areas. Covers professional behavior while acquiring and analyzing the patient’s history, performing a comprehensive physical examination of different developmental and ethnic groups, performing appropriate medication administration and management of the patient’s airway.

EMSA 320. Field Practicum I. 2 Hours.
Semester course; 2 laboratory hours. 2 credits. (90-hour minimum.) Open to EMSA majors only. Corequisites: EMSA 310, 320, 400 and 405. First in a series of three application courses. Requires the student to apply the concepts being learned in the classroom to their patients under the supervision of a preceptor in a mobile intensive care unit. Covers professional behavior while acquiring and analyzing the patient’s history, performing a comprehensive physical examination of different developmental and ethnic groups, performing appropriate medication administration and management of the patient’s airway. Develops the ability to team lead and manage a basic incident.

EMSA 340. Fundamentals of Pathophysiology. 2 Hours.
Semester course; 2 lecture hours. 2 credits. Open to EMSA majors only. Foundation course for subsequent courses on specific disease processes. Covers cellular metabolism, disease processes, shock, Multi Organ Dysfunction Syndrome (MODS), the immune system and inflammatory response.

EMSA 360. Field Operations and Safety. 3 Hours.
Semester course; 2 lecture and 2 laboratory hours. 3 credits. Open to EMSA majors only. The student will learn how to manage an incident and implement patient care in the pre-hospital environment. Students will integrate the principals of general incident management, management of mass casualty incidents and the safe rescue of patients from water, below grade, highway and hazardous situations.

EMSA 400. Principles of Pharmacology. 4 Hours.
Semester course; 3 lecture and 2 laboratory hours. 4 credits. Open to EMSA majors only. Presents the classification of pharmaceuticals, pharmacokinetics and pharmacodynamics of medications. Integrated discussion of agents used for the peripheral and central nervous systems, and respiratory, cardiovascular, gastrointestinal and endocrine systems are addressed. Integrates these agents with the pathophysiology of each body system to form a plan for management and administration. The application of drug dosage calculations, medication preparation, sterile technique and standard precautions for the preparation and administration of medications.

EMSA 401. Pediatric Advanced Life Support (PALS). 1 Hour.
Semester course; 1 lecture hour. 1 credit. Prerequisite: certification/licensure as a paramedic, R.N., M.D., D.O., dentist, physician’s assistant, or enrolled as a paramedic, medical or nursing student. A comprehensive course that emphasizes early recognition of pre-arrest states and the prevention of cardiopulmonary arrest according to American Heart Association guidelines. Covers relevant priorities and techniques that enable effective intervention in pediatric resuscitation by physicians, nurses, paramedics and other health care workers who are licensed to do advanced practice intervention, including airway management, vascular access and intravenous fluid and medication administration.

EMSA 402. Advanced Cardiac Life Support (ACLS). 1 Hour.
Semester course; 1 lecture hour. 1 credit. Prerequisite: certification/licensure as a paramedic, R.N., M.D., D.O., dentist, physician’s assistant, or enrolled as a paramedic, medical or nursing student. A comprehensive course that emphasizes early recognition of pre-arrest states and the prevention of cardiopulmonary arrest according to American Heart Association guidelines. Covers relevant priorities and techniques that enable effective intervention in adult cardiac resuscitation by physicians, nurses, paramedics and other health care workers who are licensed to do advanced practice intervention, including airway management, vascular access and intravenous fluid and medication administration.
EMSA 405. Advanced Patient Assessment. 3 Hours.
Semester course; 2 lecture and 2 laboratory hours. 3 credits. Open to EMSA majors only. Covers the acquisition and analysis of patients’ histories and advanced physical assessments. Encompasses normal and abnormal variations of different developmental and ethnic groups to perform a comprehensive history and physical to form a clinical diagnosis. Incorporates appropriate documentation and communication through written, verbal and direct patient contact.

EMSA 411. Clinical Practicum II. 2 Hours.
Semester course; 2 laboratory hours. 2 credits. (90-hour minimum.) Open to EMSA majors only. Corequisites: EMSA 340, 360, 441 and 443. Requires the student to apply the concepts being learned in the classroom to their patients under the supervision of a preceptor in hospital clinical areas. Covers professional behavior while acquiring and analyzing the patient’s history, performing a comprehensive physical examination of different developmental and ethnic groups, performing appropriate medication administration and management of the patient’s condition.

EMSA 412. Clinical Practicum III. 2 Hours.
Semester course; 2 laboratory hours. 2 credits. (90-hour minimum.) Open to EMSA majors only. Corequisites: EMSA 430, 440, 442 and 450. Requires the student to apply the concepts being learned in the classroom to their patients under the supervision of a preceptor in hospital clinical areas. Covers professional behavior while acquiring and analyzing the patient’s history, performing a comprehensive physical examination of different developmental and ethnic groups, performing appropriate medication administration and management of the patient’s condition.

EMSA 421. Field Practicum II. 2 Hours.
Semester course; 2 laboratory hours. 2 credits. (90-hour minimum.) Open to EMSA majors only. Corequisites: EMSA 340, 360, 441 and 443. Focuses on the patient presenting with cardiopulmonary, obstetrical and gynecological pathologies, and pediatric patients, under the supervision of a preceptor in a mobile intensive care unit. Requires the synthesis of the assessment of the pathology to form a clinical diagnosis and treatment plan for each patient. Demonstrates the ability to assess, perform and coordinate advanced patient care under supervision.

EMSA 422. Field Practicum III. 2 Hours.
Semester course; 2 laboratory hours. 2 credits. (90-hour minimum.) Open to EMSA majors only. Corequisites: EMSA 430, 440, 442 and 450. Focuses on the patient presenting with medical complaints or traumatic injury patients under the supervision of a preceptor in a mobile intensive care unit. Requires the synthesis of the assessment of the pathology to form a clinical diagnosis and treatment for each patient. Demonstrates the ability to assess, perform and coordinate advanced patient care under supervision.

EMSA 430. Trauma. 4 Hours.
Semester course; 3 lecture and 2 laboratory hours. 4 credits. Open to EMSA majors only. A comprehensive course integrating the anatomy, pathophysiology, epidemiology, mortality and morbidity of trauma. Covers the structure of trauma care systems, kinematics and epidemiology of trauma. Integrates the assessment, clinical diagnosis, development and application of a management plan for patients with hemorrhage, shock, burns, head, thoracic, abdominal, musculoskeletal and spinal injuries.

EMSA 440. Medical Emergencies. 4 Hours.
Semester course; 4 lecture hours. 4 credits. Open to EMSA majors only. Integrates the assessment, clinical diagnosis, development and application of a management plan for patients with needs in the following systems: endocrine, gastrointestinal, urological, neurological and hematological. Will also encompass patients presenting with toxicological, environmental and behavioral/psychiatric emergencies.

EMSA 441. Basic Electrocardiography. 3 Hours.
Semester course; 3 lecture hours. 3 credits. Permission of instructor required. Reviews the relevant anatomy, physiology and electrophysiology of the cardiac system. The acquisition, interpretation and diagnosis of cardiac dysrhythmias using three-lead electrocardiograms will be covered.

EMSA 442. Advanced Electrocardiography. 1 Hour.
Semester course; 1 lecture hour. 1 credit. Prerequisites: EMSA 441 or equivalent and permission of instructor. Reviews the relevant anatomy, physiology and electrophysiology of the cardiac system. The acquisition, interpretation and diagnosis of cardiac dysrhythmias using 12-lead electrocardiograms will be covered.

EMSA 443. Cardiopulmonary Medicine. 3 Hours.
Semester course; 2 lecture and 2 laboratory hours. 3 credits. Open to EMSA majors only. A comprehensive course integrating the anatomy, pathophysiology, epidemiology, mortality and morbidity of cardiopulmonary pathologies into the assessment, clinical diagnosis, development and application of a management plan.

EMSA 445. Assessment-based Management. 4 Hours.
Semester course; 4 lecture hours. 4 credits. Open to EMSA majors only. Students will synthesize and integrate the pathophysiological principles with assessment results to formulate a clinical impression, then develop and implement an appropriate treatment plan on a programmed patient or manikin. Patient complaints will be inclusive of the materials presented in previous courses for pediatric, adult and geriatric patient populations.

EMSA 450. Obstetrics, Gynecology and Pediatrics. 3 Hours.
Semester course; 2 lecture and 2 laboratory hours. 3 credits. Open to EMSA majors only. A comprehensive course integrating the anatomy, pathophysiology, epidemiology, mortality and morbidity of women and children into the assessment, clinical diagnosis, development and application of a management plan for women with gynecological emergencies, normal pregnancies and deliveries, and abnormal pregnancies and deliveries. Will also integrate the assessment, diagnosis and management of the neonatal and pediatric patient for medical and traumatic injuries and illness.

EMSA 460. EMS Operations. 3 Hours.
Semester course; 3 lecture hours. 3 credits. Topics presented include medical incident command, national incident management systems, post-9/11 issues and needs, interoperability of other agencies, interoperability of communications between agencies, deployment methods, OSHA regulations at incident scenes and field supervision.

EMSA 461. EMS Supervision and Human Resources. 3 Hours.
Semester course; 3 lecture hours. 3 credits. The principles of personnel management and processes for effective EMS organizations are explored. Employment regulations, job analysis, performance assessment, recruitment and retention, training and development, employee and labor relations. Also presented are the factors and processes relating to paid and volunteer personnel, medical directors, shift schedules and general personnel issues.
EMSA 462. Management of EMS Organizations. 3 Hours.
Semester course; 3 lecture hours. 3 credits. Examines theory, processes and techniques needed to manage the EMS agency. Will address regulatory, management, finance, reimbursement, legislation, regulation and other contemporary issues affecting EMS organizations.

EMSA 463. Legal Issues in Health Care. 3 Hours.
Semester course; 3 lecture hours. 3 credits. Examines basic principles and practices of law affecting EMS operations of ground and air transport systems. Topics will include the legal aspects of patient care and treatment, medical services, and hospital-patient related functions and health care and public safety employment law.

EMSA 464. Research and Quality Improvement. 3 Hours.
Semester course; 3 lecture hours. 3 credits. A review of published research in EMS. Selected studies will be reviewed with respect to their methodology, statistics, measurement and design. Basic research principles, scientific theory and the ability to critically interpret peer-reviewed literature will be emphasized.

EMSA 465. EMS Education. 3 Hours.
Semester course; 3 lecture hours. 3 credits. The principles of adult education and training will be presented. Topics will include domains of learning, principles of adult learning, construction of lesson plans and use of current technology for presentation of content. Dealing with barriers to effective education and special considerations for non-traditional teaching and learning settings will be presented. Students will prepare and function as assistant instructors in other EMS education programs.

EMSA 466. Injury Prevention and Control. 3 Hours.
Semester course; 3 lecture hours. 3 credits. An introduction to public health principles and an overview of injury prevention principles for EMS personnel and the community. Review of epidemiological principles and patterns of injuries related to occupation, transportation, interpersonal violence and related incidents. Emphasis will be placed on prevention of injuries. The success of fire prevention will be explored as an example. The role of public health and EMS in the post-9/11 world will be examined.

EMSA 470. Summative Field Internship. 1 Hour.
Semester course; 1 laboratory hour. 1 credit. (45-hour minimum.) May be repeated. Open to EMSA majors only. This is an evaluation of the student's ability to assess, perform and coordinate advanced patient care without the assistance of the preceptor.

EMSA 471. Summative Senior Seminar. 3 Hours.
Semester course; 3 credits. Open to EMSA majors only. The synthesis, integration and evaluation of the student's entire paramedic curriculum experience. Provides students with the opportunity to review and present their ability to assess, perform and coordinate advanced patient care. Prepares the student for transition into the profession.

EMSA 472. Professional Issues in EMS. 3 Hours.
Semester course; 3 credits. Open to EMSA majors only. Provides an overview of the current and potential issues facing EMS. Discussions and assignments are designed to enable the student to investigate and report on issues affecting delivery of health care, patient and provider safety, cost of care, research, legislation and issues affecting staffing and personnel.

EMSA 474. Critical Care Transportation Provider I. 3 Hours.
Semester course; 3 credits. Designed for the experienced paramedic or registered nurse. Objective is to offer formal training in the concepts and essential skills required for the treatment of critical care patients by ground or aeromedical mode. Topics covered include: flight physiology, aeromedical considerations, medical legal aspects, X-ray interpretation, lab data interpretation, hemodynamic monitoring, advanced airway management and mechanical ventilation, and a review of pathologies, assessment and management of medial and traumatically injured patients. Students must be paramedics, R.N.s or advanced providers and should have ALS certification for more than two years with current certification in ACLS, trauma life support, PALS and BLS health care provider.

EMSA 475. Critical Care Transportation Provider II. 3 Hours.
Semester course; 3 credits. A continuation of the concepts and ideas covered in EMSA 474.

EMSA 476. Critical Care Transport Provider Practicum. 1-3 Hours.
Semester course; variable hours. 1-3 credits. Prerequisite: completion of EMSA 474. May be taken concurrently with EMSA 475. Focuses on the patient with complicated multisystem health problems in the critical care environment. Provides an opportunity for observation and integration of classroom concepts in a critical care area.

EMSA 491. Special Topics. 4 Hours.
Semester course; variable hours. 1-4 credits. A study of selected topics in EMSA. See the Schedule of Classes for specific topics to be offered each semester.

EMSA 492. Independent Study. 1-4 Hours.
Semester course; variable hours. 1-4 credits. An independent study of selected topics in EMSA.