

## Additional Course Information

**Description:** The Emergency Medical Technician-Basic course follows Texas Department of Health and U.S. Department of Transportation guidelines. The course lays the foundation and teaches the skills involved with basic pre-hospital care. This course will further prepare you both mentally and physically to provide emergency intervention that can potentially improve your patient's condition or even save their life. The EMT-Intermediate course will provide you with the knowledge necessary to perform well on both the TDH practical and written examinations that will complete your certification at the intermediate level. The state practical exam will be scheduled through this course, but you are responsible for scheduling your state written examination.

**Attendance:** Attendance in class is mandatory. Not only will absences result in missed material, but also there are a specific number of contact hours required by the state for your successful completion of the curriculum. Excused absences must be discussed with the instructor prior to the anticipated missed class.

**Exams:** There will be three take-home, closed-book examinations, and one comprehensive final examination.

**Research Paper:** An 8-10 page paper covering any topic involving EMS will be due prior to Thanksgiving Break. The topic must be approved by the course instructor. Students will present a ten minute lecture on the topic to the class.

**Requirements:** 3 take-home midterms, final exam, one research paper, and field and clinical internships. The grade breakdown is as follows:

Midterm Exams: 15% each (total of 45%)

Research Paper: 15%

Internships: 10%

Class Participation and Attendance: 10%

Final Exam: 20%

These percentages are subject to slight modification. You will be notified of any changes.

**Web Page:** Course information, such as the syllabus, a class roster, and the clinical schedules are available online at <http://www.ruf.rice.edu/~rem/education/basic/>

Any student with a documented disability needing academic adjustments or accommodations is requested to speak with me during the first two weeks of class. All discussions will remain confidential. Students with disabilities should also contact Disability Support Services in the Ley Student Center.

**Additional Requirements:** Students are required to complete 48 hours of ambulance rotations and 24 hours of emergency room rotations. These rotations will be scheduled through your instructor and must be completed outside of normal class hours. Proper documentation must also

be completed and turned in. If you fail to complete all of your rotations, you will be given an incomplete for the course and you will be responsible for personally paying for ER preceptors.

**Tutoring:** If you desire tutoring, it will be arranged for you through your instructor.

Successful completion of this course requires that all examinations have been taken and passed, the research project has been completed, and that all additional requirements have been completed.

## Internship Information

**Ambulance Internships:** You will be required to complete a minimum of 48 hours of field internship on an ambulance. In these 48 hours, you must have a minimum of 4 documented patient transports. The field internships will be scheduled through the instructor. The internships will be completed any time outside of class hours at one of several different EMS agencies. Shifts are typically 12 hours in length, but as much as 24 hours may be completed at once. The three agencies that REMS currently has contracts with are Cypress Creek EMS, Harris County Emergency Services District #1, and Montgomery County Hospital District EMS. Your preceptor is the lead paramedic on the unit.

**Clinical Internships:** You will be required to spend 24 hours in the Emergency Department of Hermann Hospital. Hermann is one of only two level-one trauma centers in Houston and provides for an excellent and broad-based learning experience. Hospital internships are 8 hours in length, and groups of 4 to 5 students will be scheduled at the same time. The groups will be accompanied by an experienced preceptor that will supervise you in the ER and enhance your learning experience. You will also be working closely with the nursing staff and, to a lesser extent, the physicians. You must fully document 2 patients per 8 hour shift.

**Participation:** The only way to learn and gain experience in the internship setting is to be an active participant. Get to know your preceptor before you actually make patient contact. Find out his or her expectations. Ask your preceptor for instruction and assistance, if needed. This is an excellent opportunity for you to gain the insight and perspective of someone other than your primary instructor. Be eager to help out in any way possible.

*Remember, though, that you may not perform any skills that are not part of the EMT-Basic curriculum or in the SDO and Treatment Protocols of REMS (i.e. manual defibrillation, IV insertion, or medication therapy out of your scope of practice). You may assist only with skills outside of your scope of practice. If you are unsure of anything, either clarify it with your preceptor or page your instructor.*

**Uniform:** The tuition for this course includes the uniform shirt and pants that must be worn during your field and clinical internships. The shirt is a white, uniform-style button-down with the Rice EMS patch on the left sleeve. The pants are navy blue “Dickie” style, straight-leg pants. You will need to wear plain black shoes or boots, dark blue or black socks if shoes are worn, and a plain black belt. You will be provided additionally with a Rice EMS student ID that must be displayed during internship time, a penlight, trauma shears, and a stethoscope. You must bring all of these items to your rotations. You must also wear a watch with a secondhand.

**General Appearance:** In addition to the above uniform requirements, there are a few other guidelines that should be followed. No jewelry should be worn to the internship with the exception of one small earring per ear. No other facial piercings should be worn. Makeup should be kept to a minimum, as well as perfume and cologne, since the scent can exacerbate certain medical conditions. Long hair must be put up so as not to interfere with patient care. Male students must be clean-shaven for internships. Uniforms should be clean and pressed. A solid-colored undershirt should be worn underneath your uniform shirt (preferably white, navy or black). Remember, you are not only representing yourself, but also Rice EMS during your internship time. Your preceptor will be instructed to send you home and not allow you to participate in the internship if you are unpresentable. You must also “appear” on time to your shifts. It would be wise to arrive at least a few minutes prior to the start of your shift.

**Documentation:** You will be provided with paperwork that must be completed for each internship completed in order to receive credit for the hours. For each twelve-hour ambulance shift, a minimum of one patient care report must be completed. If no patient contacts were made during the 12-hour shift, then you must document this on a patient care form. For each ER shift, a minimum of two patient care reports must be completed. Additionally, you will give your preceptor an evaluation of your performance to complete, that you will return to your instructor. You will also complete an evaluation of your preceptor that will also be returned to your instructor. All paperwork must be completed and turned in no later than one week from the date of that internship shift. You will also keep a record of all skills participated in during the course of the semester that will be turned in at the end of the course.