

Rice University
EMT-I: EMT-Intro Emergency Care II (Intermediate)
Course Syllabus

Course Instructor:

Denise Williams

Clinical Coordinator:

Keir Scrivener, LP

Course Coordinator:

Denise Williams

Medical Director:

Dr. George Kiss

Course Location:

Rice University, Houston, TX

Required Texts:

Bledsoe, B.E., Porter, R.S., and Cherry, R.A.:

Intermediate Emergency Care, Prentice Hall 2007 & Workbook

Campbell, J R

International Trauma Life Support, 5th edition

Course Times:

Monday and scheduled Wednesdays 6-10pm, Instructor-led lectures and skills sessions

Friday and scheduled Wednesdays 6-10pm, College Discussion Self-Study

Office Hours:

By appointment only

Course Description:

EMT-Intermediate is an exploration of the foundations necessary for mastery of the advanced topics of clinical practice (Intermediate 85) for the out of the hospital environment to include: a detailed study of the knowledge and skills required to reach competence in performing patient assessment and airway management, a comprehensive coverage of all aspects of the utilization of medications in treating emergency situations, a detailed study of the knowledge and skills necessary to reach competence in the assessment and management of patients with traumatic injuries, a method of instruction providing detailed education, training, and work-based experience, and direct patient/client care, generally at an internship site. Specific learning objectives are developed for each type of internship by the faculty. On-site clinical instruction, supervision, evaluation, and placement are the responsibility of the university and faculty. Note: the internship experiences are unpaid external learning experiences.

Prerequisites:

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Formal acceptance into EMS Program

Current Health Care Provider CPR Card (satisfactory to instructor, inquiry available)

HEAL 308 or EMT-Basic Course Completion (satisfactory to instructor, inquiry available)

Semester Objectives:

At the completion of this semester the student will:

- Understand the roles and responsibilities of an EMT-Intermediate within an EMS system
- Be able to apply the basic concepts of development, pathophysiology, and pharmacology to assessment and management of emergency patients
- Be able to communicate effectively with patients
- Be able to take a proper history and perform a comprehensive physical exam on any patient and communicate the findings to others
- Be able to establish and/or maintain a patent airway, oxygenate, and ventilate a patient
- Be able to safely and precisely access the venous circulation and administer medications
- Integrate pathophysiological principles and assessment findings to formulate a field impression and implement a treatment plan for a trauma patient

Course Objectives:

Included in the student handouts is a copy of the objectives from the National Standard Curriculum (adopted by the Texas Department of Health) that will be covered in EMT-I. These objectives define the knowledge, skills, and professional attitudes that must be mastered before successful completion of these courses. Course examinations will be based on these objectives.

It is the responsibility of the student to attain mastery of these objectives. This can be accomplished only through active participation in all classroom, laboratory, and Internship exercises and through careful study and review outside class

SCANS Competencies:

Resources: identifies, organizes, plans, and allocates resources

Information: acquires and evaluates information, organizes and maintains information, interprets and communicates information

Interpersonal: works with others, participates as member of team, teaches others new skills, serves clients/customers, exercises leadership, negotiates, works with diversity

Systems: understands complex interrelationships, understands systems, monitors and corrects performance

Technology: works with a variety of technologies, selects technology, applies technology to task, maintains and troubleshoots equipment

Basic Skills: reads, writes, performs arithmetic and mathematical operations, listens and speaks

Thinking Skills: thinks creatively, makes decisions, solves problems, visualizes, knows how to learn, and reasons

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Personal Qualities: displays responsibility, self-esteem, sociability, self-management, and integrity and honesty

Course Policies

Overview:

Course policies are consistent with those of the Rice EMS Department and University (as outlined in the Rice University Student Handbook). Specific policies are repeated here for clarification.

Disability Services:

Rice University will take the steps required for reasonable accommodation to ensure that no individual with a disability is excluded, denied service, segregated, or otherwise treated differently than other individuals because of the absence of auxiliary aids and services. Support assistance may include note takers, interpreters for the deaf, tutoring, counseling and advising, special arrangements, tape recorders, etc. Persons requesting disability services should complete a request for services by contacting the Office of Special Support Services. In many cases, recent documentation of disability may be required.

The Bureau of Emergency Management of the Texas Department of Health administers a separate process from the one used by Rice University for determining whether accommodations for disabilities will be granted during State credentialing examinations. The Bureau of Emergency Management will establish eligibility for accommodations on a case-by-case basis. Therefore, a student who receives an accommodation during an EMS course has no guarantee of receiving an accommodation for the State credentialing exam.

Attendance:

Attendance 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 an anticipated missed class. Additionally, your attendance and active participation in class are an integral component of not only your educational experience but also that of your classmates. Because of this, it is critical that you attend all classes and labs. Understanding the above items, you are in the best position to decide what is in your best interest on any particular day.

Internship Attendance:

We are restrained in determining our internship attendance policy by state and national accreditation standards, as well as the requirements of our internship sites. Therefore, internship absences may affect your internship grade as described in the grading policy. Additionally, it is important that you complete all of your internship paperwork in a timely manner. To encourage this, all internship paperwork will be due to the Internship Coordinator by the end of the 7th calendar day after the internship is completed.

Internship Scheduling:

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You will be responsible for scheduling all of your internship experiences through the Internship Coordinator. Required internship rotations are listed in this syllabus. Unscheduled internship rotations may NOT be counted toward satisfying course requirements. Repeated failure to follow Rice EMS Program policies regarding scheduling of internship rotations may result in dismissal from the program.

Student Employment/Volunteerism:

While students may be employed in or volunteer in the clinical setting outside of regular instructional hours, they may count time, procedures, and patient contacts toward course completion requirements ONLY if they are functioning in the capacity of a student on a scheduled clinical rotation.

Hospital employees may NEVER count on-duty activities toward clinical rotations.

Students who work or volunteer for an EMS provider with whom the Rice EMS program has an internship affiliation agreement are strongly encouraged to complete mobile intensive care unit and field internship requirements with another provider. If they must complete internship requirements with their employer, they must clearly be an additional member of the crew, functioning in the capacity of a student, and listed on the internship rotation schedule.

A student who knowingly attempts to count on-duty time in the internship setting toward completion of course requirements will, at a minimum, be required to repeat the internship rotations. Depending on the circumstances, the student may be dropped from the program and be reported to the DSHS for falsification of legal documentation.

A student may NEVER substitute for clinical or EMS agency personnel. Any procedures beyond the scope of the student's current level of EMS certification must be performed under the direct supervision of a preceptor or personnel from the internship unit to which the student is assigned.

Assignments:

All weekly assignments are due via email by Friday at midnight. Assignments can be found at the companion websites for both the textbook and the BTLS text. Review the objectives, complete the multiple choice questions for each section, submit for grading, and have the results emailed to the instructor. Each of these assignments will verify your completion of the required hours as well as provide a means to keep you on track and current which will ensure your successful completion of this course. All other assignments will be distributed in class or emailed to you.

Exams:

Make-up examinations or retests must be taken within 7 calendar days of the class date on which that exam is returned to the class, or before the date of the next scheduled exam, whichever comes first. If an exam retest is necessary, the recorded grade will be a maximum of 79.

Withdrawing:

You have the responsibility to formally withdraw from a course if you determine you will not be able to complete. If you fail to do so, you may receive a failing grade. You must drop the class according to the procedures outlined in the Rice University Student Handbook. Failure to follow proper procedures in withdrawing from course may jeopardize your opportunity to enroll in future Rice EMS Program Courses.

Program Completion:

The passing score for all EMS courses is a 'C' as defined by the Rice EMS Program. You must also pass each module exam, or a retest, in accordance with the "Exams" policy stated above or you will not be allowed to continue in the program.

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In addition to completion of all course requirements, graduation from the program requires successful completion of all internship requirements, verification of all required skills, demonstration of required internship competencies, and successful completion of BTLS. To establish eligibility to write a State/National certification examination you must meet ALL requirements established by the program in which you are enrolled. Meeting the minimum requirements established by the Texas Department of Health does NOT establish eligibility for certification.

Internship Requirements:

A minimum of the following must be completed before the end of the semester:

Internship Department	Minimum Required Clock Hours
Emergency Department	56 hours
Operating Room	2 shifts (~4 hours each) 8 hours
Ambulance Rotations	72 hours

In addition to the minimum hours listed above, you also will need to complete: certain clinical patient contacts as defined by the program. Including but not limited to clinical competencies in patient assessment, IV therapy, bag-valve-mask ventilation, and endotracheal intubation must be demonstrated and documented with a preceptor signature verifying satisfactory completion of skill

Students who do not meet these requirements in the minimum required hours, will be required to schedule additional rotations. This may be at the student's own expense to hire a program approved preceptor. Also, the coordinator has the authority to require students to schedule additional rotations if they have not yet demonstrated competence in the required cognitive, psychomotor, or affective objectives.

Grading:

Grading Scale for the EMT-I course is based on the following scale:

89.5-100	A
80.5-89.4	B
79.5-80.4	C
69.5-79.4	D
0-69.4	F

Lecture Grades:

Exams	35%
Daily Assignments	15%
Participation/Attendance	5%
Lab (Basic and Advanced Skills)	5%
Internship	20%
Final Exam	20%

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Total	100
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Laboratory Grades:

The laboratory sections of EMT-I require active participation. During laboratory sessions, skills proficiency will be verified. A numerical grade will be awarded for the first skills proficiency verification only. Students must verify proficiency in all required skills. Students who do not demonstrate proficiency on an initial attempt will be provided with remediation and given two additional opportunities to demonstrate proficiency. Students who do not demonstrate proficiency after three attempts will receive an F and will not be eligible to continue the program.

Internship Grades:

Your internship grade will be determined by your participation in internship rotations. You will receive a grade for each of the patient assessment reports you turn in to the Internship Coordinator. In the event of an internship absence, your internship grade will be reduced by 5% for each internship absence. This means you may not continue in the program if you accrue more than 4 internship absences of any type as defined in the course policies, including late paperwork! Internship paperwork submitted more than 7 calendar days after the date of the rotation counts as an internship absence. It is important that you attend all of your internship rotations on the date that you are assigned. If you need to cancel and reschedule a rotation, you may do so by contacting the Internship Coordinator in advance of the rotation. You will be allowed two 'free' cancellations. Each cancellation after that will count as an internship absence. Should you not appear for a rotation without prior notification, this will count as TWO internship absences. Additionally, the minimum required internship rotations must be completed by the end of the semester. If the minimum required internship rotations are not completed by the date of the final exam, the student's internship grade will be no greater than a 'C'. If the minimum required internship rotations are not completed by the starting date of the next semester, the student will receive an 'F' for the internship course grade. He or she will not be eligible to receive a course completion certificate.

Ambulance Internships:

You will be required to complete a minimum of 72 hours of field internship on an ambulance. In these 72 hours, you must meet the minimum requirements as outlined in the Internship Orientation Packet. The field internships will be scheduled through the Internship Coordinator. 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 TEMS 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 56 hours in the Emergency Department of at least two of our affiliated hospitals. In these 56 hours, you must meet the minimum requirements as outlined in the Clinical Orientation Packet. 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 ED and enhance your learning experience. In the event that you are unable to complete your Clinical Internship during the course of normal clinical rotations, you will be required to accompany and reimburse an experienced preceptor of our choosing. 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

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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 that you may not perform any skills that are not part of the EMT-Intermediate curriculum or in the SDO and Treatment Protocols of RMES (i.e. manual defibrillation, 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 does not include the uniform shirt and pants that must be worn during your field and clinical internships. The shirt is a black polo. The pants are black paramedic pants. You will need to wear plain black shoes or boots, black socks if shoes are worn, and a plain black belt. You will be provided with a Rice EMS student ID that must be displayed during internship time. You must bring a penlight, trauma shears, and a stethoscope 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 no more than 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 not presentable. You must also be 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 a master paperwork packet. One packet must be completed for each internship rotation 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 ED shift, a minimum of two patient care reports must be completed per 8 hours. Additionally, you will give your preceptor an evaluation of your performance to complete, that you will return to your internship coordinator. You will also complete an evaluation of your preceptor that will be returned to your clinical coordinator. All paperwork must be completed and turned in no later than one class period 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.

Concerns:

Concerns with the content and delivery of course instruction must be addressed to the course instructor, then to University EMT-I/chemistry Department as appropriate.

Concerns about internship experiences must be addressed to the clinical coordinator, then to the course instructor as appropriate.

Regulatory (TDSHS/National Registry) concerns must be addressed with the course coordinator, then to the specific agency as appropriate.

Concerns about Rice EMS must be addressed to the Director of EMS, then to the University administration as appropriate.

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Functional Position Description

Overview:

The following general position description should guide you when considering what qualifications, competencies, and tasks are required of the EMT-Basic and EMT-Intermediate (collectively referred to as medics). The ultimate responsibility for defining specific job descriptions lies with each EMS entity. This means that even though a student meets the requirements of Rice EMS Program, he or she is not guaranteed to meet those set by a specific employer or volunteer system..

Qualifications:

You must first successfully complete the course of study offered through the EMS Professions Department. The Texas Department of Health has approved all of our courses. You must then achieve a passing score on the state/national certification examination. You must be at least 18 years of age. Generally, you will need at least a high school education or its equivalent (a GED) to master the knowledge and skills required for successful completion. You must possess ability to communicate verbally face-to-face, by telephone, and by radio equipment; ability to lift, carry, and balance up to 125 pounds (250 with assistance); ability to interpret written and oral instructions; ability to use good judgment and remain calm in high stress situations; ability to work effectively in an environment with loud noises, flashing lights, and other distractions; ability to function effectively throughout and entire work shift (up to 24 hours without sleep); ability to calculate weight and volume ratios and read small print under life-threatening time constraints; ability to read and understand English language manuals and road maps; ability to discern street signs and address numbers; ability to interview patients, family members, and bystanders; ability to document, in writing, relevant information with medical and legal ramifications in a prescribed format; ability to converse in English with coworkers and hospital staff as to patient status; good manual dexterity, with ability to perform all tasks related to highest quality patient care; ability to bend, stoop, and crawl on uneven terrain; ability to withstand varied environmental conditions such as extreme heat, cold, and moisture; ability to work in low light, confined spaces, and other dangerous environments.

Competency Areas:

You must demonstrate competence in handling emergencies using all basic and advanced life support equipment and skills in accordance with all behavioral objectives in the EMT-Basic curriculum and the relevant portions of the EMT-Intermediate curriculum as defined by the Texas Department of State Health Services. Required skills include endotracheal intubation, intravenous catheterization, and administration of some medications, including glucose and naloxone.

Description of Tasks:

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Receives call from dispatcher; responds to emergency calls; reads maps; may drive ambulance to emergency site, using most expeditious route; observes traffic ordinances and regulations. Determines nature and extent of illness or injury; takes pulse, blood pressure, and respirations; observes changes in skin color and other diagnostic signs; auscultates breath sounds; makes determinations regarding patient status; establishes priority for emergency care; provides appropriate emergency care based on competency level; may administer intravenous drugs or fluid replacement as directed by physician or written protocols. May use equipment based on competency level, including but not limited to defibrillator, intravenous catheterization equipment, laryngoscope and endotracheal tubes, and pneumatic anti-shock garment. Assists in lifting, carrying, and transporting patients to ambulance. Reassures patients and bystanders; avoids undue haste and mishandling of patients; searches for medical information emblem to aid in care. Extricates patient from entrapment; assesses extent of injury; uses prescribed techniques and appliances; radios dispatcher for additional assistance or services; provides light rescue service if required; provides additional emergency care following established protocols. Complies with regulations in handling deceased, notifies authorities, and arranges for protection of property and evidence at scene. Determines appropriate facility to which patient will be transported, reports nature and extent of injuries to facility, and asks for direction from hospital physician or emergency department. Observes patient en route and administers care as directed by physician or emergency department, or according to written protocol. Identifies diagnostic signs that require communication with facility. Assists in removing patient from ambulance and into emergency facility. Reports observations about patient and patient care at scene and en route to facility both verbally and in writing, provides assistance to emergency staff as required. Replaces supplies; sends appropriate used supplies for sterilization; checks all equipment for future readiness; maintains ambulance in operable condition; ensures cleanliness of ambulance and orderliness of equipment and supplies; decontaminates vehicle interior; determines vehicle readiness by checking oil, gas, water in battery and radiator, and tire pressure; maintains familiarity with all specialized equipment.