NOVA COLLEGE-WIDE COURSE CONTENT SUMMARY
EMS 123 – EMS CLINICAL PREPARATION (1 CR.)

Course Description

Introduces the student to local clinical agencies and prepares the student for clinical activities above the level of EMT. Includes prerequisites required by clinical affiliates, therapeutic communication, primary assessment, history taking, secondary assessment, reassessment, monitoring devices and documentation.

Laboratory 2 hours. Total 2 hours per week.

General Course Purpose

The purpose of this course is to introduce the novice student to the clinical aspects of advanced life support care.

Course Prerequisites/Corequisites

Prerequisite: Current Virginia EMT and CPR certification as approved by the Virginia Office of EMS.

Course Objectives

Upon completing the course, the student will be able to:

a) Demonstrate the use of therapeutic communication while completing a health history and physical assessment
b) Demonstrate communication skills within a team
c) Perform a comprehensive normal adult patient assessment
d) Obtain a history from an alert and oriented patient
e) Demonstrate the ability to complete a comprehensive patient care report
f) Perform basic diagnostic procedures related to patient assessment

Major Topics to be Included

a) Safety Concepts
    a. Overview of safe practices
    b. Infectious disease precautions
    c. Assess the safety of a scene
b) Communication
    a. Interviewing skills
    b. Therapeutic communication
    c. Radio reports
    d. Reports to other healthcare professionals
    e. Team dynamics
c) Documentation
    a. Principles of documentation
    b. Report writing
    c. Special situations
    d. Confidentiality
d) Assessment Techniques
    a. Primary assessment
    b. Integration of Treatment/Procedures Needed to Preserve Life
    c. Evaluating Priority of Patient Care and Transport
    d. Special Considerations for Pediatric and Geriatric Patients
    e. Secondary assessment

e) Basic Diagnostic Techniques
    a. Pulse Oximetry
    b. Blood glucose determination
    c. Measure pulse
    d. Measure blood pressure
    e. Assess respirations
    f. Assess lung sounds