



El Camino College
COURSE OUTLINE OF RECORD – Official

Course Acronym:	FTEC
Course Number:	137
Descriptive Title:	Emergency Medical Services (EMS) / Legal Aspects/Documentation
Division:	Health Sciences and Athletics
Department:	Fire and Emergency Technology
Course Disciplines:	Emergency Medical Technologies
Catalog Description:	This course covers the laws and legal authority which govern the scope of the practice for the paramedic. Also discussed are documentation techniques, paramedic report writing, and skills competency testing.
Prerequisite:	
Co-requisite:	
Recommended Preparation:	
Enrollment Limitation:	Admission to Paramedical Technician Program
Hours Lecture (per week):	2.17
Hours Laboratory (per week):	.72
Outside Study Hours:	4.34
Total Course Hours:	52
Course Units:	2
Grading Method:	Letter Grade only
Credit Status:	Credit, degree applicable
Transfer CSU:	No
Effective Date:	
Transfer UC:	No
Effective Date:	
General Education: ECC	
Term:	
Other:	
CSU GE:	
Term:	
Other:	
IGETC:	
Term:	
Other:	
CalGETC:	
Term:	

Other:	
Student Learning Outcomes:	SLO #1 Paramedic Field Reports Students successfully completing this course will categorize the information that should be included on all paramedic field reports, and will complete a field report for a medical emergency. SLO #2 Policies Students completing this course will be able to identify and define pre-hospital policies and be prepared to take the county's accreditation exam. SLO #3 Introduction to Clinical The students will be able to prepare for clinical internship by accomplishing hospital-specific modules in regards to HIPAA and Patient Safety Goals.
Course Objectives:	1. Analyze the legislation which authorizes paramedical - level field care in California. 2. Assess the paramedic's current legal responsibilities in suspected child abuse cases. 3. Evaluate and discuss the various circumstances when paramedics may pronounce death. 4. Differentiate among the four basic components of negligence. 5. Examine the paramedic's responsibilities in preserving evidence at a suspected crime scene. 6. Compare and contrast patient hospital destination policies for pediatric patients versus adult patients. 7. Categorize the information that should be included on all paramedic field reports. 8. Organize in proper order, the procedure for documenting and returning prehospital care records. 9. Demonstrate basic field paramedic skills.
Major Topics:	I. EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES (EMS) AND LEGAL ASPECTS (15 hours, lecture) A. State laws B. County practices C. Paramedic "scope of practice" D. Responsibilities of the local EMS agency E. Guidelines for patient care F. Child abuse/elder abuse G. "5150" holds II. PARAMEDIC POLICIES (16 hours, lecture) A. Determining death B. Against Medical Advice (AMA) C. Patient consent D. Licensing/recertification E. Definitions F. Evidence preservation G. Destination policies III. DOCUMENTATION AND REPORTS (4 hours, lecture) A. EMS reports B. Confidentially C. Special documentation situations D. Hospital records

	E. Patient refusal of treatment IV. SIMULATIONS (4 hours, lecture) A. Completing EMS reports B. Documentation C. Radio failure protocols D. Base station contact V. PARAMEDIC SKILLS COMPETENCE DEMONSTRATIONS (13 hours, lecture) A. Basic Life Support (BLS) skills B. Advanced Life Support (ALS) skills C. Drug therapy D. Oxygen, air way adjuncts E. Drug therapy F. Cardiopulmonary Resuscitation (CPR) G. Electrocardiogram interpretation H. Coronary emergencies I. Respiratory emergencies J. Childbirth K. Environmental emergencies L. Head, spine trauma M. Pediatric emergencies N. Behavior problems
Total Lecture Hours:	39
Total Laboratory Hours:	13
Total Hours:	52
A.1. Primary Methods of Evaluation (Part 1 - CCN courses only):	
A.2. Primary Method of Evaluation (Part 2 - all courses; choose one):	3) Skills demonstration
Typical Assignment Using Primary Method of Evaluation:	After viewing a PowerPoint presentation on the EMS responsibilities of both State and Los Angeles County Department of Health Services, inform your instructor in a verbal response the appropriate authority choice and destination site for medical treatment when given a specific patient transport scenario.
Critical Thinking Assignment 1:	After viewing a PowerPoint presentation, discuss with your instructor the following scenario. You respond to a patient who, in your opinion, has a severe mental disorder. The patient totally disregards any suggestions you have for treatment, yet treatment is necessary for this patient's welfare. Discuss your course of action. Would you implement a "5150" hold on this person, and if so, why? What other alternatives do you have? Compare those alternatives with a "5150" hold.
Critical Thinking Assignment 2:	In an oral report, explain to your instructor the differences between certification, licensure and accreditation. Which agencies perform these functions? What are their legal boundaries? Where does a practicing paramedic in Los Angeles County fit into these categories?
Other Evaluation Methods:	Class Performance, Completion, Homework Problems, Matching Items, Multiple Choice, Objective Exam, Performance Exams, Quizzes, True/False
Instructional Methods:	Demonstration, Discussion, Group Activities, Guest Speakers, Lecture, Role play/simulation

If other:	
Work Outside of Class:	Answer questions, Problem solving activity, Required reading, Skill practice, Study, Written work (such as essay/composition/report/analysis/research)
If Other:	
Up-To-Date Representative Texts:	The County of Los Angeles. <u>ADVANCED PREHOSPITAL CARE CURRICULUM</u> . Department of Health Services, 2004. Qualifier Text: Industry Standard, Andrew Pollack, Bob Elling, Mike Smith. <u>Nancy Caroline's EMERGENCY CARE IN THE STREETS</u> . 9th ed. American Academy of Orthopedic Surgeons, 2022.
Alternative Texts:	
Required Supplementary Readings:	
Other Required Materials:	
Requisite:	
Category:	
Requisite course(s): List both prerequisites and corequisites in this box.	
Requisite and Matching skill(s): Bold the requisite skill. List the corresponding course objective under each skill(s).	
Requisite Skill:	
Requisite Skill and Matching Skill(s): Bold the requisite skill(s). If applicable	
Requisite course:	
Requisite and Matching skill(s): Bold the requisite skill. List the corresponding course objective under each skill(s).	
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Requisite Skill and Matching skill(s): Bold the requisite skill. List the corresponding course objective under each skill(s). If applicable	

Enrollment Limitations and Category:	Admission to Paramedical Technician Program
Enrollment Limitations Impact:	
Course Created by:	Craig Neumann
Date:	02/01/1994
Original Board Approval Date:	05/16/1994
Last Reviewed and/or Revised by:	Kevin Huben
Date:	03/07/2025
Last Board Approval Date:	06/26/2025
Effective Term:	FA 2026