Hillsborough Community College
Course Outline

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course Number and Title</th>
<th>Credit and Contact Hours</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>EMS 2668 Paramedic Field Internship</td>
<td>3 Credit; 130 hours / 10 separate days</td>
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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Prerequisites</th>
<th>Co-requisites</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>EMS 2666 Paramedic Clinical I and EMS 2667 Paramedic II</td>
<td>None</td>
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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Textbooks and/or Bibliography</th>
<th>Materials / equipment required by students</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Bledsoe, Brady, Essentials of Paramedic Care</td>
<td>Students are required to have a stethoscope, watch, pen with black ink, and uniforms.</td>
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<th>Special fees required by students</th>
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<td>None</td>
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Beginning Clinical III
Clinical III “Field Internship” will not begin earlier than approximately 8 weeks before the end of the semester.

Preceptor Assignments:
The student will be required to provide the names of no than three (3) preceptors to the Program Manager for approval during the Field Internship.

Course objectives

PREHOSPITAL (FIELD) EMS CLINICAL OBJECTIVES:

Upon completion of EMS 2668, the student will:

- establish an efficient, empathetic patient rapport.
- relate to patients' friends and family members in a professional, empathetic manner.
- relate to hospital and fire-rescue personnel in a professional, cooperative manner.
  - a. be receptive to constructive criticism.
  - b. attempt to correct mistakes.
- take a patient history, including chief complaint, history of this illness/injury, past medical history, medications, and allergies.
- perform a primary exam, focused physical exam, and vital signs.
- demonstrate proficiency in a variety of patient assessments, including: pediatric, geriatric, cardio-pulmonary, surgical/trauma, and misc. medical.
- demonstrate knowledge of medications: classifications, actions, indications, contraindications, side effects, correct doses, and routes of all medications administered by the student in the hospital clinical setting.
- correctly administer drugs by the following routes: I.M., I.V. push, piggyback, S.Q., topical, sublingual, inhalation, E.T.
- consistently start I.V.s successfully, using correct equipment and solutions.
- correctly set I.V. drip rates or pump rates.
- demonstrate correct use of glucometer.
- demonstrate correct venipuncture technique for obtaining blood samples, and obtain blood samples from I.V. catheters.
- demonstrate correct use of the cardiac monitor and pulse oximetry equipment: electrode placement, machine operations, trouble-shooting.
- demonstrate ability to interpret cardiac rhythms from monitor strips.
- perform C.P.R. and assist in the management of cardiac arrest patients.
- manage airway patency using adjuncts if necessary: oral/nasal airway, E.T.T., head positioning, bag-valve mask device.
- deliver oxygen correctly and safely, using appropriate equipment: nasal cannula, simple mask, NRB mask, bag-valve mask, mechanical ventilator, O2 tanks.
- efficiently manage patient positioning, transfers to stretchers, use of stretchers.
[List of course objectives]

**Detailed course content**

Paramedic Field Internship is an EMS rotation that occurs in conjunction with the final evaluative portions of the Paramedic Program’s Curriculum. Paramedic Interns will participate in EMS rotations on Advanced Life Support units and will function as the Team Leader whenever possible. The Paramedic Intern will be evaluated by a Field Preceptor to determine whether the Intern has met the objectives of the program and is prepared to work as an entry-level paramedic on an EMS team.

The Program faculty members will serve as liaisons between the field Paramedic Preceptors and the college academic and administrative staff. The Clinical Coordinator will have contact with the Paramedic Preceptors to discuss the Paramedic Interns’ progress and competency. The Clinical Instructor / Program Manager are responsible for evaluations, grading of written assignments, and counseling. Any problems or situations arising from the clinical experience are first handled by the Clinical Coordinator who assists the clinical instructors with coordinating fire-rescue assignments and acts as a liaison between the clinical instructors, fire-rescue personnel, hospital staff, program faculty, administration, and students.

**Assessment methods**

Paramedic Interns are graded based on performance evaluations. They should be able to demonstrate mastery of the basic objectives of the entire paramedic program. During this final rotation, they will be assessed for their ability to function as the Team Leader and integrate all aspects of the medical incident. The Paramedic Intern will function in the role of the EMS Team Leader at actual medical emergencies, under the direction of the Paramedic Preceptor who will evaluate the Intern’s performance and assure that proper treatment protocols are followed.

**A failing grade can result from:**

- failure to reach minimum performance standards by the end of the term,
- disciplinary action resulting from failure to adhere to the Code of Conduct, or excessive absenteeism.

Paramedic Interns must pass the Internship (EMS 2668) to graduate from the program. With approval from the Paramedic Program Medical Director, students may retake EMS 2668 Internship for credit. Only one repeat attempt at EMS 2668 Internship is allowed. Paramedic Preceptors will evaluate the Interns based on observations of performance in the EMS Advanced Life Support setting. This information is documented on Student Evaluation Reports. Evaluations will be periodically discussed between the Paramedic Preceptors, Clinical Coordinator and students.

**Student Evaluation Reports will be written and discussed with students whenever unsatisfactory clinical performance is observed.** A plan for improving clinical performance to a satisfactory level will be implemented prior to any potential or actual clinical module failure grade being awarded. Unsatisfactory Student Evaluation Reports will also be discussed with the academic faculty and the Medical Director. The final decision regarding whether a student passes or fails rests with the Medical Director.