Course Syllabus
EMSP 2430.HB 2504
Special Populations

Prerequisite: (1) Current BCLS (CPR) certification at the Health Care Provider level by the American Heart Association or equivalent, (2) Successful completion of EMSP 1338 or EMSP 1438 and EMSP 1356, (3) Current certification by the Texas Department of State Health Services as an Emergency Medical Technician-Basic or higher.

Course Description: A detailed study of the knowledge and skills necessary to reach competence in the assessment and management of ill or injured patients in nontraditional populations. (3 Lec., 2 Lab.)

Course Objectives
1. List, identify, assess and discuss specific conditions affecting pediatric, geriatric and obstetrical patients including the sign and symptoms, assessment techniques, potential complications and their management in the prehospital setting.
2. Discuss various behavioral conditions that may present in the prehospital setting, and how these are appropriately managed.
3. Identify and discuss the classification, therapeutic action, dosage, indications, precautions, side effects and contraindications of medications given for pediatric, obstetrical, geriatric and behavioral emergencies.
4. Participate and complete lab assignments that focus on special patients.
5. Recognize the importance of theprehospital provider’s role in dealing with death and dying situations that occur in the field.
6. Recognize the effects of stress in the prehospital environment, and the appropriate access of Critical Incident Stress Management.

Textbook
Required textbook for this course is The Paramedic – by Chapleau and Basic Arrhythmias by Walraven.

Academic Performance
Student grades, conduct/professional behavior, and skills performance are factors in successful completion of each course. All three (3) must be satisfactory for the student to continue in the program and graduate.

1. GRADING SCALE:
The following grading scale is used for all courses:
   A  100 – 94
   B  93 – 84
   C  83 – 75
   Less than 75 – Failure

2. BEHAVIOR
   Students must demonstrate satisfactory progress toward achievement of
   The identified Behavioral competencies (integrity, empathy, self-motivation, appearance and personal hygiene, professional maturity/self-confidence, communications/critical thinking, time management, teamwork and diplomacy, respect, patient advocacy, and careful delivery of service.)

3. SKILLS EXAM
   Mastery of the skills is required for successful completion of the program inability to demonstrate proficiency following retraining and retesting constitutes failure of the course.

4. LAB ACTIVITIES
   All lab assignments must be successfully completed in order to pass the course.

5. DIDACTIVE GRADE CALCULATION
   a. QUIZ GRADES
      Quiz average constitutes 30% of course grade. A student that scores less than 75% on any quiz is eligible to retake the quiz within a period of time specified by the instructor. If the quiz re-examination score is above 75%, then a 75% will be recorded as the quiz grade. If the quiz re-examination score is less than 75%, the highest score will stand.
b. **FINAL WRITTEN EXAM**

The final exam constitutes 70% of the course grade. A minimum score of 75% is required. A score of less than 75% constitutes failure of the course.

Course grade:

- Quizzes = 30%
- Final = 70%

---

**Course Content - Schedule**  
**Note:** Schedule is subject to change.

**WEEK 1:**
- Neonatology
- Pharmacology
- Lab: scenarios, alternative airways

**WEEK 2 & 3:**
- Sepsis
- Shock
- OB delivery, normal and abnormal
- OB emergencies
- Poisoning
- Lab: scenarios

**WEEK 4:**
- Patients with special challenges
- Geriatrics
- Lab: patient assessment, on board drugs, toxicology

**WEEK 5:**
- On board drugs
- Medical and infectious diseases
- Pediatric protocol
- Child maltreatment
- Children with special health care needs
- Pediatric airway and ventilation review
- Vascular access
- Pediatric cardiac arrest
- Pediatric trauma
- Lab: physical exam, newborn scenarios, OB scenarios

**WEEK 6:**
- Geriatrics, patho and assessment
- Behavioral emergencies
- Client management
- Pediatric case management
- Death and Dying
- Clinical application
- Lab: Nursing homes, cardioversion, pacing, scenarios, on board drugs and administration

**WEEK 7:**
- Stress management
- Pediatric drug dose calculation review
- PEPP course
- Lab: PEPP course