

Bergen Community College  
Division of Health Professions  
Paramedic Science

PAR 206 Paramedic Field Externship I

Date of most recent syllabus revision: New Course

Course typically offered: Summer Semester

Syllabus last reviewed by: BCC General Education Committee \_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Ad Hoc Committee on Learning Assessment

Curriculum Committee \_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

**Basic Information About Course and Instructor**

Semester and Year Summer U 2015

Course and Section Number PAR 2XX-001

Meeting Times and Locations: 36 hours per week at off-site clinical affiliates

Instructor: TBD

Office Location: TBD

Phone: TBD

Department Secretary: TBD

Office Hours: TBD

Email Address: TBD

**Course Description**

0 Lecture 0 lab 4 Clinical Total 4 credits

This course provides the student with the opportunity to connect theory and clinical skills learned through the Paramedic Program with the reality of rendering patient care in the pre-hospital environment. Students will be exposed to suburban, urban and rural patient care environments. Travel is required to off-site clinical affiliates throughout the state. Clinical [336 field hours.]

Prerequisite[s]: PAR-200, PAR-201, PAR-202, PAR-203, PAR-204. Corequisite[s]: PAR-205.

## **Paramedic Program Core Competencies:**

### **A. Ethics and EMS Structure**

- A1. Exhibit a professional code of conduct with personal and professional integrity.
- A1. Provide compassionate care to all populations while respecting cultural differences.
- A3. Comply with all state and federal regulation/laws for an entry-level paramedic.

### **B. Patient Assessment and Skills**

- B1. Utilize a systematic assessment to determine appropriate modalities for medical and trauma patients of all ages while prioritizing interventions needed to improve patient outcomes.
- B2. Demonstrate skill proficiency in all entry-level psychomotor skills, utilizing them when clinically appropriate and at the correct time to improve patient outcomes.
- B3. Function as a member of the paramedic team by using effective communication and proper behavior that promotes customer service and efficient care.

### **C. Safety and Personal Wellness**

- C1. Correctly identifies potential hazards to promote a safe environment for self, co-workers, patients and bystanders.
- C2. Uses critical thinking skills to properly manage and diffuse stressful environments.
- C3. Identifies personal stress and utilizes stress management techniques to ensure physical and emotional health.

## **Student Learning Objectives:**

**As a result of meeting the requirements in this course, students will be able to:**

### **Field Externship Minimum Hours**

#### **Phase 1: 2 shifts / 24 Hours**

Summarize the operational activities to starting and ending a paramedic shift.

#### **Phase 2: 12 shifts / 144 Hours**

Participate as part of the Paramedic Team completing systematic patient assessments and clinical skills with accuracy.

#### **Phase 3: 12 shifts / 144 Hours**

Construct an accurate verbal and written report that inclusively depicts the emergency situation including all factors relevant to the case and care.

## **Instructional Resources**

Available in the library and computer labs

Annals of Emergency Medicine  
Journal of Emergency Medical Services (JEMS)  
Journal of Accident and Emergency Medicine  
New England Journal of Medicine  
Pre-Hospital Emergency Care Journal

## Means of Assessment

In accordance with accreditation standards, students will be provided ample feedback to allow them the ability to improve performance in cognitive, psychomotor and affective domains of learning. Assessment for this course will include feedback in the following areas written, psychomotor and behavior.

Quiz (4)	20%
Affective Behavior Assessment - 1/assigned shift	15%
Clinical Evaluation Form - 1/assigned shift	20%
Patient Cases/Medication Cards	15%
Final Written Exam	20%
Participation	10%

## From the BCC Distance Learning Education Website:

**Partially online course:** A partially online (hybrid) course (indicated by a suffix of **HY** -- eg., WRT-101-005**HY**) is a class that meets part of the time in a traditional classroom setting and the rest of the class work is done online via the Internet. Typically, a partially online (hybrid) course replaces at least one meeting time per week with online course activities through Moodle. The online work is completed within the week before the next in-class meeting, but normally does not require a student to be at their computer at a specific time of the day.

It is the responsibility of the student to login to their online or hybrid course to continue weekly discussions and submit assignments at the best time of day or night for the student, giving these types of courses flexibility not available to a regular classroom course. You must be willing to come to campus (usually once a week) because face-to-face class time is required and an attendance policy will be enforced.

## Moodle Structure:

The delivery platform for this course is a hybrid format utilizing a Moodle program. Students must fully participate in both online and on campus components of the course to successfully complete the course.

The Moodle structure will provide opportunities for discussion boards, email communication, class announcements, online patient cases, and completion of tests and quizzes.

## Course Menu in Moodle:

- Online Syllabus
- Course Announcements
- Forums
- Assignments
- Email
- My grades

## Recommended Practice

To effectively manage this course for successful completion, you should do the following:

- Read and follow the course syllabus by adhering to the assigned dates of completion
- Read the messages under “Course Announcements”
- Follow the course calendar in Moodle
- Timely complete and submit all assignments – late assignments will not be accepted!
- Use the email communication platform to communicate with other students and the instructor.
- Actively participate in class and in online discussions

## Course Content

This course will offer students the ability to gain cognitive knowledge related to patient care principles. The majority of the class will require students to work individually. Occasional group assignments may be utilized.

## Special Features of the Course

### Pass Rate:

The Paramedic Department pass rate is an 80%. Students are required to obtain a final average of an 80% in each core curriculum course. At the end of the semester, any student not achieving an 80% will be unable to continue in the program.

### Course Texts

Aelert, Barbara. *ECGs Made Easy*, 4<sup>th</sup> Edition. 2009, Mosby JEMS (ISBN 978-0323069243)

American Heart Association. *Advanced Cardiovascular Life Support*, April 2011, American Heart Association Incorporated (ISBN – 978-1-6166-9010-6)

American Heart Association. *Advanced Cardiovascular Life Support Handbook*, April 2011, American Heart Association Incorporated (ISBN – 978-1-6166-9000-7)

American College of Surgeons. *Advanced Trauma Life Support*, 9<sup>th</sup> Edition, October 2012.

Caroline, Nancy. *Emergency Care in the Streets*, 6<sup>th</sup> Edition, 2008, Jones and Bartlett Publishing, Sudbury, Mass (ISBN – 978-0-7637-6469-2)

Walls, Ron. Manual of Emergency Airway Management, 4<sup>th</sup> Edition, 2012, Lippincott, Williams and Wilkins. (ISBN 9781451144918)

## Research, Writing and Examination Requirements

Students will be required to develop patient case studies that effectively depict a common medical emergency. Requirements will include appropriate description of signs, symptoms, patient presentation, pertinent medical history, medications and/or recent surgeries. Student will present their case to group.

In addition to the program pass rate, students are required to obtain a minimum grade of 77% on all final exams. Any student not obtaining a 77% on the final exam will be unable to continue in the program.

### **Grading Scale**

A	93-100
B+	89-92
B	85-88
C+	82-84
C	80-81
F	Below 80
N	Incomplete (course requirements not fulfilled)

### **Academic Conduct**

The paramedic program faculty adheres to the policy statement governing academic conduct as outlined in the Bergen Community College catalog.

- Faculty may not post exam grades publicly due to privacy laws.
- Scholastic dishonesty including but not limited to plagiarism, cheating, and collusion will not be tolerated. Any student who has demonstrated any of these behaviors will be disciplined according to the Policy and Procedure Manual of the program.

### **Attendance Policy**

Bergen Community College's attendance policy states: "All students are expected to attend punctually every scheduled meeting of each course in which they are registered. Attendance and lateness policies and sanctions are to be determined by the instructor of each course. These will be established in writing on the individual course outline."

The Commission on Accreditation of Allied Health Education Programs (CAAHEP) requires that students meet a minimum number of didactic/lab, clinical and Field Externship hours. Therefore students are expected to attend all class sessions.

No make-up quizzes, tests or exams will be given. Any student who is absent for a quiz, test, or exam will receive a grade of "0".

Students will be allowed one excused absence per semester. An absence is considered excused when a student notifies the professor prior to the start of class that they will be absent. Any additional absences will negatively affect the student's grade. For each unexcused absence the final grade will reduce by 1 point. For each excused absence the final grade will reduce by 0.5 point.

Tardiness will not be tolerated. In accordance with New Jersey state regulation, an attendance sheet will be available at the beginning of the class. If a student is tardy 3 times it will be calculated as an unexcused absence.

## **Other College, School and/or Departmental Policy Statements**

The Paramedic Program is accredited by two agencies, The Commission on Accreditation of Allied Health Education Programs (CAAHEP) and the New Jersey Department of Health and Human Service – Office of Emergency Medical Services.

The Paramedic Department Policy and Procedure Manual will be reviewed at orientation and revisited at the start of any core courses. The manual will address specific policies required by either the state or national accrediting bodies. The purpose of the manual is to clearly outline the role and responsibility of each stakeholder in the education process; the student, the patient, the faculty, the clinical affiliate and the college. Students and faculty are expected to adhere to the policies of the program.

### **Student and Faculty Services**

Students will be encouraged to utilize the support services offered by BCC. During the School of Health Profession orientation, these services will be highlighted. The faculty of the Paramedic Program will encourage students to access these services.

In addition, the Paramedic Program is structured to ensure the needs of the paramedic student will be met. Each squad will be assigned an adjunct faculty mentor to help facilitate their interaction positively within the program. There will be open skill labs and simulation sessions available to allow students to access adjunct faculty for support with any learning difficulties. Peer tutors will be utilized to facilitate further success in the program.

### **Americans with Disabilities Act**

Students who require accommodations in accordance with Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) can request these services from the Office of Specialized Services. To learn more about the services offered at Bergen Community College, visit them at [www.bergen.edu/oss](http://www.bergen.edu/oss).

## Course Outline and Calendar

Week	Day	Topic	Assignments
1	Monday	Field Externship Orientation NJ Department of Health Overview	<i>Field Externship Handbook</i>
	Wednesday	Field Externship Phase 1(12 Hrs.)	
	Thursday	Field Externship Phase 1(12 Hrs.)	
2	Monday	Field Externship Phase 2 (12 Hrs.) Quiz #1	<i>Field Externship Handbook</i>
	Wednesday	Field Externship Phase 2(12 Hrs.)	<i>Field Externship Handbook</i>
	Thursday	Field Externship Phase 2 (12 Hrs.)	<i>Field Externship Handbook</i>
3	Monday	Field Externship Phase 2 (12 Hrs.)	<i>Field Externship Handbook</i>
	Wednesday	Field Externship Phase 2 (12 Hrs.)	<i>Field Externship Handbook</i>
	Thursday	Field Externship Phase 2 (12 Hrs.)	<i>Field Externship Handbook</i>
4	Monday	Field Externship Phase 2 (12 Hrs.)	<i>Field Externship Handbook</i>
	Wednesday	Field Externship Phase 2 (12 Hrs.)	<i>Field Externship Handbook</i>
	Thursday	Field Externship Phase 2 (12 Hrs.)	<i>Field Externship Handbook</i>
5	Monday	Field Externship Phase 2 (12 Hrs.)	<i>Field Externship Handbook</i>
	Wednesday	Field Externship Phase 2 (12 Hrs.)	<i>Field Externship Handbook</i>
	Thursday	Field Externship Phase 2 (12 Hrs.) Quiz #2	<i>Field Externship Handbook</i>
6	Monday	Field Externship Phase 3 (12 Hrs.)	<i>Field Externship Handbook</i>
	Wednesday	Field Externship Phase 3 (12 Hrs.)	<i>Field Externship Handbook</i>
	Thursday	Field Externship Phase 3 (12 Hrs.)	<i>Field Externship Handbook</i>
7	Monday	Field Externship Phase 3 (12 Hrs.)	<i>Field Externship Handbook</i>
	Wednesday	Field Externship Phase 3 (12 Hrs.)	<i>Field Externship Handbook</i>
	Thursday	Field Externship Phase 3 (12 Hrs.)	<i>Field Externship Handbook</i>

8	Monday	Field Externship Phase 3 (12 Hrs.)	<i>Field Externship Handbook</i>
	Wednesday	Field Externship Phase 3 (12 Hrs.)	<i>Field Externship Handbook</i>
	Thursday	Field Externship Phase 3 (12 Hrs.)	<i>Field Externship Handbook</i>
9	Monday	Field Externship Phase 3 (12 Hrs.) Quiz #3	<i>Field Externship Handbook</i>
	Wednesday	Field Externship Phase 3 (12 Hrs.)	<i>Field Externship Handbook</i>
	Thursday	Field Externship Phase 3 (12 Hrs.)	<i>Field Externship Handbook</i>
10	Monday	Field Externship Phase 3(12 Hrs.)	<i>Field Externship Handbook</i>
	Wednesday	Field Externship Phase 3(12 Hrs.)	<i>Field Externship Handbook</i>
	Thursday	Field Externship Phase 3(12 Hrs.)	<i>Field Externship Handbook</i>
11	Monday	Medical Simulation Review	<i>Field Externship Handbook</i>
	Wednesday	Medical Simulation Review	<i>Field Externship Handbook</i>
	Thursday	Final Exam	

***Syllabus Subject to Change***



## **Unit Objectives:**

**As a result of meeting the requirements in this course, students will be able to:**

### **Field Externship**

The Field Externship is designed to provide the paramedic student with exposure to a variety of patient care experiences and opportunities for skill performance in the pre-hospital setting. Regardless of assigned field location, volume and activity levels vary widely from day to day and are hard to predict. The minimum hours for each Phase of the internship reflect the minimum time in which a student may meet the objectives for that Phase. The hours listed are minimum requirements – the typical student completes additional hours in some Phases.

Successful completion of a Phase is defined as completion of the required minimum hours, achieving all learning objectives, AND passing the end-of-Phase test. Additional hours may be required if any objective has not been met or if remediation is necessary; or alternative means of obtaining the necessary skill exposure may be provided. The Program Clinical Coordinator, Program Coordinator and Program Medical Director will determine successful completion. Remediation, if needed, will be provided as described in the course syllabus and the Policy and Procedure manual. The student will not be permitted to sit for the Phase test until all other Phase requirements are met.

The Learning Objectives, Required Activities, and Skill Expectations outlined within this document reflect the requirements for the BCC Paramedic Program, and include the minimum standards set forth in NJAC 8:41A. All students must comply with the training requirements set forth in NJAC 8:41A, in addition to fulfilling all program specific requirements.

### **Field Externship (336 Hours)**

The Field Externship provides for the pre-hospital application of the knowledge and skills obtained throughout the Didactic courses and Clinical Internship. This is a cumulative process – the learning objectives outlined for the Clinical Internship shall be reinforced throughout the Field Externship. The Required Activities and Skill Expectations outlined on this page apply for the duration of the Field Externship experience. The subsequent pages provide specific cognitive and psychomotor objectives for each phase of the Field Externship.

*THE STUDENT IS REQUIRED TO ACHIEVE ALL LEARNING OBJECTIVES AND MEET ALL SKILL EXPECTATIONS PRIOR TO THE TERMINAL COMPETENCY ASSESSMENT.*

### **Required Activities (throughout all Phases):**

- Complete a Patient Care Report (mock PCR during phase II, actual PCR during phases III & IV) for all patient contacts during the Field Externship.
- Maintain a binder with redacted (no patient identifiers) copies of a Patient Care Report from each patient contact during the Field Externship.
- Submit copies of all patient care reports to the Clinical Coordinator.

- Submit to the Clinical Coordinator a field evaluation form completed by the preceptor after each shift.
- Submit a minimum of 2 patient case studies.
- Collect an ECG rhythm strip for all abnormal ECGs / dysrhythmias observed; label with rhythm identification and correct treatment.
- Document all patient assessments completed, skills performed, and medications administered on the clinical log sheet and/or FISDAP.

**Skill Expectations (prior to Terminal Competency Assessment):**

- The paramedic student is expected to achieve all Clinical Internship skill performance minimums prior to beginning the Field Externship. In the event that a skill performance minimum has not yet been achieved, the paramedic student may progress to the Field Externship only at the discretion of the Program Clinical Coordinator, Program Coordinator and Program Medical Director. Skill minimums not achieved during the Clinical Internship must be completed through skill performance during the Field Externship.
- **The following additional skill expectations are specific to the Field Externship:**
  - Complete a minimum of 40 patient assessments in the field setting.
  - Provide a minimum of 20 patient reports to the base physician.
  - Document a complete patient care report for a minimum of 40 patients seen in the field setting.

**Phase 1: 2 shifts / 24 Hours**

Phase 1 is intended to provide the Student with a thorough orientation to the MICU setting in which they will be completing the Field Externship. Priority will be given to communicating relevant policies and procedures, familiarizing the Student with the MICU vehicle and local response area, and orientation to unit/hospital-specific equipment.

The Student will be primarily observing during patient contacts, but may perform specific skills (i.e. Intubation, IV access, Electrical Therapy) at the discretion of the Preceptor.

**Cognitive Objectives:**

1. Discuss how to perform a proper and complete vehicle check.
2. Discuss how to perform proper radio procedures.
3. Become oriented to vehicle layout and equipment.
4. Observe and discuss of paramedic roles and responsibilities.
5. Discuss pertinent hospital and department policies as they relate to pre-hospital patient care.

**Psychomotor Objectives:**

1. Perform a proper and complete vehicle check.
2. Demonstrate knowledge of the various radio systems used by paramedics.

3. Perform proper radio procedures.
4. Demonstrate ability to operate and troubleshoot the vehicle and its equipment.

**Affective Objectives:**

1. Show eagerness for learning.
2. Facilitate a positive experience by exhibiting cohesive behaviors that bring the team together.
3. Participate with a professional demeanor that brings credibility to the paramedic profession.

**Phase 2: 12 shifts / 144 Hours**

Phase 2 is an opportunity for the Student to develop his/her physical assessment skills in the Field setting and become proficient in formulating appropriate patient treatment plans. As the Student progresses through Phase 2, clinical skills should increasingly be integrated with the physical assessment.

The Student will perform all patient assessments, forming a clinically appropriate field impression, considering relevant differential diagnoses. He/she will take an active role in implementing the treatment plan in an organized manner. The Student will also begin, through practice with the Preceptor, relaying a patient report to the base physician.

Nearing the end of Phase 2, Students should require minimal direction in routine cases.

**Cognitive Objectives:**

1. Discuss the techniques for performing a physical assessment,
2. Describe Advanced Life Support treatments, for both adult and pediatric patients, utilizing appropriate New Jersey Standing Orders, NJ state medication formulary and the NJ state Paramedic scope of practice.
3. Discuss how to become proficient in all aspects of patient assessment, obtaining and relaying a patient report to the base physician, skills performance and all aspects of complete patient management.
4. Discuss how to perform total scene management.

**Psychomotor Objectives:**

1. Demonstrate the ability to perform a systematic physical assessment, including focused assessments of body systems based on patient presentation, and formulate differential diagnoses.
2. Perform Advanced Life Support treatments, for patients of all ages and from all populations, utilizing appropriate New Jersey Standing Orders, NJ state medication formulary and the NJ state Paramedic scope of practice.
3. Demonstrate proficiency in all aspects of patient assessment, obtaining and relaying a patient report to the base physician, skills performance and all aspects of complete patient management.
4. Show evidence of implementing total scene management.

5. Demonstrate, through practice with the Preceptor, providing a complete patient report to the base physician.

### **Affective Objectives**

1. Demonstrate professional behavior including when under stressful situations or while multi-tasking.
2. Treat patients of all cultures with respect and dignity.
3. Participate as part of the paramedic team in all aspects of activities including but not limited to: patient care, customer service activities, beginning and end of shift activities, preparing for next patient encounter, and facilitating a positive environment.
4. Be open to preceptor feedback.
5. Participate with a professional demeanor that brings credibility to the paramedic profession.

### **Phase 3: 12 shifts / 144 Hours**

During Phase 3, the Student will focus on mastering his/her ability to communicate a complete verbal and written patient report, and interact effectively with the base physician and all members of the patient care team.

The Student will provide a patient report to the base physician, with the Preceptor monitoring all physician contacts. The Student will complete a written patient care report (PCR), which must be co-signed by the Preceptor.

While focusing on communication and documentation, the Student may continue to perform patient assessment and treatment as practical.

The Student will progress towards achieving proficiency in all aspects of patient assessment, skill performance, and patient treatment. Clinical competency is expected to improve throughout Phase 3, with less direction needed from the Preceptor.

### **Cognitive Objectives:**

1. Discuss how to perform physical assessments for high priority or critically ill patients.
2. Discuss how to perform total scene management.
3. Discuss how to become proficient in all aspects of patient assessment, obtaining and relaying a patient report to the base physician, skills performance and all aspects of complete patient management.

### **Psychomotor Objectives:**

1. Maintain and improve upon previous objectives.
2. Perform physical assessments for high priority or critically ill patients.
3. Demonstrate proficiency in all aspects of patient assessment, obtaining and relaying a patient report to the base physician, skills performance and all aspects of complete patient management.
4. Provide a complete patient report to the base physician.

5. Perform total scene management.
6. Demonstrate proficiency in the skills of navigation and radio operations.
7. Demonstrate proficiency in all aspects of patient assessment, obtaining and relaying a pertinent history, skills performance and all aspects of complete patient management.

### **Affective Objectives**

1. Demonstrate professional behavior including when under stressful situations or while multi-tasking.
2. Treat patients of all cultures with respect and dignity.
3. Participate as part of the paramedic team in all aspects of activities including but not limited to: patient care, customer service activities, beginning and end of shift activities, preparing for next patient encounter, and facilitating a positive environment.
4. Be open to preceptor feedback.
5. Participate with a professional demeanor that brings credibility to the paramedic profession.

### **Student Learning Outcomes to be achieved prior to Terminal Competency**

#### **Assessment:**

1. Demonstrate professionalism in all aspects of care
2. Demonstrate the delivery of a highly technical level of patient care
3. Demonstrate compassion and respect for human dignity
4. Demonstrate the ability to provide emotional support for patients and families
5. Demonstrate mastery of the following as they relate to NJAC 8:41A
6. Demonstrate medical knowledge necessary to function as an entry-level paramedic
7. Demonstrate competency in performance of all paramedic clinical skills and special procedures
8. Demonstrate knowledge of treatment protocols, including NJ state Standing Orders, NJ state medication formulary, and NJ state paramedic scope of practice
9. Formulate a field impression and implement the appropriate medical care based on that impression.
10. Develop an appropriate treatment plan for patients experiencing a critical illness or injury.
11. Perform a complete patient assessment and assign priorities of care.
12. Assess the effects of all treatments.
13. Prepare for and transport the patient to the appropriate facility.
14. Transfer patient care and provide appropriate verbal and written documentation to the receiving medical team.
15. Complete a full and accurate documentation of the call.