

VIRGINIA WESTERN COMMUNITY COLLEGE

EMS 111/120 Emergency Medical Technician Syllabus

Fall 2024 Monday 0830-1630

Instructor Information

Instructors

Adam Amburgey
Matthew Scott

Email

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EMT@virginiawestern.edu

Office Location & Hours

Greenfield, Office hours are one-half hour before or after class or by appointment.

Contact Methods and Response Times

The preferred method of contact for all class-related matters is email. You will receive a response within 24 hours during the workweek. (Monday through Friday, 0700-1700) Emails sent outside of these hours will obtain a response by Monday evening at 1700. Include your last name, first initial, and course (EMT 120) in the subject line when emailing. All email correspondence must come from your VWCC email address and include a signature at the bottom of the email. Any emails not from the VWCC email address will not be returned.

The class will have a "GroupMe" chat, which the students can use to discuss class issues and have an open line of communication with each other. This is NOT to be used as a method of contact for illness or discussing personal matters with the instructors. Email must be used for this and be addressed to emt@virginiawestern.edu.

General Information

Course Dates and times

This course will meet every Monday from 0830-1630 at Greenfield campus.

Description

EMS 111 (7 credits) prepares students for certification as Virginia and National Registry EMTs. The focus is on all aspects of pre-hospital basic life support, as defined by the Virginia Office of Emergency Medical Services curriculum for Emergency Medicine Technicians. When enrolling in EMS 111, you must also enroll in EMS 120.

EMS 120 - (1 credit) Provides supervised direct patient contact and introduces the student to the assessment and emergency care of sick and injured patients. This course is a co-requisite for EMS 111; you must enroll in both.

Competencies and Learning Outcomes

- To develop the knowledge base and skills required to prepare the student to function as an "entry-level" Emergency Medical Technician (EMT).
- Eligibility to sit for the National Registry of Emergency Medical Technicians Psychomotor Exam
- Eligibility to sit for the National Registry of Emergency Medical Technicians Cognitive Exam

Course Requirements

- Reading proficiency
- Current American Heart Association (AHA) CPR for healthcare provider certification by final practical testing.
- Criminal background check.
- N-95 Fit test. (requires to be clean-shaven; a mustache is allowed)
- Ride time at local fire agencies

Co-requisite

- EMT 111/120 Emergency Medical Technician.

Required Materials

- Computer or tablet with internet access. (Available for use at VWCC library.)
- Blood pressure cuff, stethoscope. (Available at VWCC bookstore, Amazon, or store of choice)
- VWCC Uniform shirt
- Dark blue or black uniform pants, black socks, black belt, all black shoes/boots (no canvas mesh or soft side shoes).
- Watch with a secondhand or digital readout
- VWCC student ID badge.

Required Text

Textbook ISBN 9781284243765. This digital access program includes FISDAP, which can be purchased directly through the bookstore. The textbook is mandatory within the first week of class. All homework will be completed on Canvas, a Jones and Bartlett program, and all tests will be done through FISDAP. No exceptions will be made for late work due to a lack of a textbook.

Attendance

Students are expected to attend all class (lecture/lab) sessions. Students must email their instructor before class time if they cannot participate. To be considered an excused absence, you must provide a doctor's excuse if you or a family member (minor, child, or other dependents) is ill. There is a 5-point deduction from your **overall** grade for failure to follow this policy for each occurrence. An excused absence does not change your attendance but allows the makeup of missed in-class quizzes.

A student who is late or not in uniform is considered tardy. Two tardies equals an absence, or two times out of uniform equals an absence. No student can wear shorts or other non-approved attire to class at any time and may be sent home. **WEAR YOUR UNIFORM EACH SESSION, AND BE ON TIME!**

Virginia Office of EMS policy for class completion states that you must attend **eighty-five percent (85%)** of lectures and labs. If you do not meet these requirements, you can still complete the course through the college, but you will not be permitted to take the National Registry exam for EMT.

Grades

Grades will be based on the following scale:

90-100% = A, 80-89% = B, 70-79% = C (minimum passing grade), 60-69% = D, less than 60% = F

Assignments, Quizzes, and Exam percentages will not be rounded up throughout the semester. However, the course grade will be rounded to the nearest whole percent. A course grade below 0.5 rounds down and a course grade of 0.5 and above rounds up.

This is a reminder that the course grade (TOTAL) you see in Canvas may NOT reflect your FINAL course grade. There are MANY components to your grade. Canvas does not ROUND your combined lecture/lab average.

To successfully pass EMT, students must pass the class with a minimum of 70% overall grade, pass the final exam with the minimum FISDAP cut score, and pass the lab section. Any variation of the above will NOT be marked as completing the EMT class and will NOT be eligible to take the National Registry examination. This does not mean you have been removed from the VWCC class. You will still receive the course grade you earned.

EMT requires dedication and studying outside the structured class time to complete the course. The typical timeframe is 2-4 additional hours per credit hour, including reading, homework, and studying.

Additional Information and Resources

Homework/Tests Policy

All homework will be completed online through Canvas by the due date and time. There will be no late assignments accepted. All Canvas and FISDAP assignments will be due the night before class by 23:59.

You will have five module exams and a final exam that must be completed at the college testing center outside the assigned class time. You will be given one week to take the test TWICE. The exam cannot be retaken within 24 hours. You are responsible for ensuring the testing center is open, and you have enough time to take the exam. Missing class or leaving early to take the exam will not be tolerated. Any alterations will be at the lead instructor's discretion.

Tests are to be completed by the date given, with no retakes. If you miss an exam, you MUST contact an instructor within 24 hours. Exceptions to this will be at the instructors' discretion and will require written documentation that supports/verifies the absence to be submitted. Any makeup exams are set at the instructor's discretion for dates and times. The makeup must occur within one week and will not be completed during regular class times.

The final will include both a written and a practical skills examination. You must pass both to complete the class. In failing one or more practical skills, one retake will be allowed. If the skill is failed again, the student will meet with the program medical director to determine the next steps. The medical director will be the final word on the students' passing or failing and ability to test with NREMT.

National Registry of Emergency Medical Technicians (NREMT)

The ability to pass and take the NREMT exam is at the discretion of the instructors and medical director. Suppose the student cannot meet attendance requirements, competency of knowledge, or skills by the end of the course. In that case, they will receive the overall course grade and credit for the college to which they received but will be marked as unsuccessful to sit and take the NREMT exam through the Virginia Office of EMS. The students will be made aware of an inability to test by the instructor prior to the end of the semester.

Quizzes

You will have graded quizzes during the class that should last no more than ten minutes to complete based on the information taught from the previous lesson. These quizzes will be part of your overall grade. You will not be allowed to take the exam if you are tardy. These quizzes are given on a computer, and you must have a device to access the internet.

Instructional Methods

Lecture, group discussion, self-study, assigned readings, case studies, use of electronic media, power points.

Lectures

A lecture is mandatory to complete the course. The Commonwealth of Virginia sets minimum standards for Emergency Medical Technicians. To successfully complete and test for EMT, you can only miss **15%** of all lectures/labs. Students are required to pre-read the materials for the upcoming class. A lecture is not a replacement for reading the book and subject materials. This supplements the materials and ensures a better grasp of what has been read.

***Computers/iPads/Phones are allowed in the classroom during lectures. Still, if an instructor sees that you are not taking notes or looking up lecture materials, there will be a 5-point deduction from your overall grade. No web surfing or homework during lecture unless directed to do so *** You will have ample breaks to get on your phones.

Lab

The lab is mandatory to complete the course and is graded. The Commonwealth of Virginia sets minimum standards to meet Emergency Medical Technicians. You can only miss **15%** of all lectures/labs to complete and test for EMT successfully. The lab will require physical fitness skills such as standing, stooping, kneeling, lifting, carrying, and pushing/pulling at various weights. If you are unable to complete these tasks, speak with an instructor.

Lab grades are based on testing and evaluations of the skills sheets.

Clinical/ Field Ride Along

This section of the course is EMS 120, a one-credit course. Attendance is mandatory, and no-call/no-show or calling in sick without a minimum of eight hours' notice will affect your overall grade in this course. Once scheduled, one missed day will reduce one letter grade for this course. Two or more will result in an F. Any exceptions will be at the instructors' discretion.

Virginia Office of EMS requires 24 hours of observation time and at least ten patient contacts to complete EMT. You will be assigned two 12-hour shifts to satisfy the requirement. Our contracted departments are American Medical Response, Botetourt Fire and EMS, Franklin County Department of Public Safety, and the Roanoke County Fire Rescue Department. During the clinical time, you reflect on VWCC and its constituents. You will arrive on time at the location, dressed in the appropriate uniform with your VWCC ID badge visible and a second form of ID (DL, Virginia ID card). You will listen/follow the direction of your trainer. You will have an evaluation form that must be filled out by the trainer, as well as a call sheet. The call sheet will contain basic call information (Do not include any information that will violate HIPAA or PHI). Instructors will be following up with every trainer to evaluate student behavior. Any unsafe or reckless conduct or actions will not be tolerated by the departments you visit or VWCC. They will lead to immediate dismissal from the EMT program at the instructor's discretion.

Uniform Policy

The VWCC EMT program will require a uniform to be purchased and worn during class lectures, lab, and clinical ride-along. The uniform will include a VWCC EMT shirt, dark blue or black uniform pants, black socks, all-black shoes/boots (no canvas mesh or soft side shoes), and a black belt. Shirts must always be tucked into pants while in uniform, and the uniform will be clean. Due to the necessity of wearing N95 masks, students must have facial grooming that would not interfere with the mask seal. The uniform shirts will be purchased directly from the instructors. The other uniform parts can be purchased at the retailer of your choice.

Technology Resources

Students will need a computer with a camera, speakers, and microphone.

Students will need a reliable connection to the Internet.

Review the technology resources on your Canvas course's homepage to better understand and troubleshoot technology needs for this class. MyVCCS login credentials are required to view the technology resources in Canvas.

Accommodations

Virginia Western Community College will make reasonable accommodations for qualified students with documented disabilities following "The Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 (ADA)". If you wish to request accommodation, notify Student Support Services in suite 102 Student Center or call 540-857-7286.

Student Wellness

As a student, you may experience a range of challenges that can interfere with learning. If wellness concerns or stressful life events diminish your academic performance and reduce your ability to participate in daily activities, consider contacting student intervention services for assistance. To learn more about benefits to aid in your well-being, visit

<https://www.viriniawestern.edu/intervention/>.

Academic Honesty

Virginia Western Community College has zero tolerance for cheating or academic dishonesty. For information, refer to the VWCC student handbook, Section 5- Student Conduct Policy. Any policy violation will result in a zero on the assignment/quiz/test and a referral to the appropriate disciplinary office.

No Generative AI Usage Permitted: For the duration of this course, the use of Generative AI in assignments is strictly prohibited. Assignments are opportunities for personal growth, critical thinking, and applying your acquired knowledge. Your effort and creativity are essential in demonstrating your understanding of the course material. Dependence on AI undermines these objectives and compromises the integrity of the learning process. We appreciate your commitment to academic honesty and dedication to upholding this course's principles by refraining from using Generative AI in your assignments.

Grievance Policy

The student grievance policy and procedure aim to provide an equitable and orderly process to resolve grievances. A grievance is a difference or dispute between a student and a college employee regarding the following:

- o Grade dispute
- o Final grade appeal
- o Issue with an instructor or staff member
- o Issue with a class
- o Issue with a college procedure

To file a grievance appeal, use the following link: <https://www.viriniawestern.edu/about/policies/I-19.php>

Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act (HIPAA)

EMS falls under HIPAA and Protected Health Information (PHI). These regulations safeguard the patient's protected health information within the communities in which we serve. PHI is defined as demographic information identifying individuals, such as names, addresses, dates of birth, social

security numbers, and medical records. Sharing the above information with anyone not directly involved with patient care is a violation.

As a student of VWCC, you are to learn and abide by the rules of HIPAA and PHI. Any students who violate HIPAA and PHI are subject to disciplinary action up to and including dismissal from the program.

Illness/COVID-19

VWCC follows the CDC and current state and local mandates. Masks are not currently required. If the guidelines change, you will be notified via email and expected to follow them.

Subject to Change

This syllabus and the accompanying schedule are subject to change. Any revisions will be posted on Canvas, and an email and announcement will be sent notifying you of the modifications.

College Success Tips

College is a big transition from high school and requires you, the student, to be present, pay attention, and study as you learn better time management skills and responsibility.

Organization tips

Attend all classes.

Arrive at class on time. Don't be tardy.

Stay for the entire class. Do not leave early unless permission is given.

Read the textbook or other assigned material before coming to class.

Come to class fully prepared to discuss the subject.

Make a note of all assignments and homework in an assignment calendar.

Take thorough notes during class. Review them regularly.

Ask questions during class if you need clarification on anything.

Review your notes immediately after class.

Plan to spend approximately two hours outside of class in study time for each one hour of classroom time for the course.

Study tips

Schedule regular study sessions. Plan sessions for when you are most awake and alert.

Find a place to study that provides the environment that works best for you.

Some students need a quiet place, while others require "background noise" to concentrate best.

Join a study group with other members of your class.

Study in short, frequent sessions.

Take regular breaks.

Read the textbook and highlight key concepts and vocabulary words.

Make notes from the textbook.

Combine these notes with notes from the classroom.

Review these notes regularly.

Use note cards or flashcards to help you learn the material.

Recite the material out loud to reinforce your learning.

If any item is unclear, write down your questions and bring them to class.

Tips for taking tests

Review your notes and flashcards immediately before class.

Follow all test directions.

Read each question slowly and entirely for a clear understanding of the question.

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Emergency Medical Technician 111/120

I, _____, have read and understand the expectations of the course EMS 111/120 as stated in the syllabus. I understand that I must attend **at least 85%** of the course dates, maintain **at least a 70%** overall grade, pass the Fisdap final above the cut score, complete all skill requirements showing competency to pass for the ability to test for the NREMT exam after the end of class.

The instructors and the medical director can deny me the right to test for the NREMT exam if I cannot show competency in the skills or knowledge required to be an EMT.

I understand that it is my responsibility to state a disability and any need for assistance to the college, the instructors, and the Virginia Office of EMS within ten days of the start of class.

Suppose I have any problems that develop throughout the semester. In that case, I understand it is my responsibility to immediately reach out and maintain an open line of communication with my instructors, Adam Amburgey and Matthew Scott, at all times.

Student Signature: _____ Date: _____