

**Bergen Community College  
Division of Health Professions  
Paramedic Science Program**

PAR 200      Paramedic Cardiac and Trauma Care

Semester and Year Winter 2015  
Course and Section Number PAR 200 - 001  
Meeting Times and Locations: M,T, W,TH 9 - 5 Meadowlands Campus  
Instructor: Professor McCarthy  
Office Location: P111E  
Phone: 201-301-1592  
Office Hours: before or after class  
Email Address: [jmccarthy@bergen.edu](mailto:jmccarthy@bergen.edu)

**Course Description**

1 Lecture 2 lab Total 2 credits

This course certifies students to the credentialing standards set by the American Heart Association for the Advanced Cardiac Life Support [ACLS] course and by the National Association of EMTs Pre-Hospital Trauma Life Support (PHTLS) course. Students must obtain the minimum requirements outlined by the independent credentialing agency to pass the course. Lecture [20.00], Lab 52.00].

Prerequisite[s]: PAR-101, PAR-102, PAR-103, PAR-104.

## **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:**

### **Advanced Cardiac Life Support**

#### **Course Objectives**

- 1. Recognize and initiate early management of peri-arrest conditions that may result in cardiac arrest or complicate resuscitation outcome.
- 2. Demonstrate proficiency in providing Basic Life Support (BLS) care, including prioritizing chest compressions and integrating automatic external defibrillator (AED) use.
- 3. Manage cardiac arrest until return of spontaneous circulation (ROSC), termination of resuscitation, or transfer of care.
- 4. Identify and treat ischemic chest pain and expedite the care of patients with acute coronary syndromes.
- 5. Recognize other life-threatening clinical situations, such as stroke, and provide effective initial care and transfer to reduce disability and death.
- 6. Demonstrate effective communication as a member or leader of a resuscitation team and recognize the impact of team dynamics on overall team performance.

## **Pre-Hospital Trauma Life Support**

### **Course Objectives**

Based on well-established principles and objectives of trauma management, the course is intended to provide students with ONE acceptable method for SAFE, immediate management and the basic knowledge necessary to:

1. Assess the patient's condition rapidly and accurately;
2. Resuscitate and stabilize the patient on a priority basis;
3. Determine if the patient case will likely exceed a facility's capabilities;
4. Arrange for the patient's inter-hospital transfer; and
5. Assure that optimum care is provided each step of the way.

### **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 with ample feedback to allow them the ability to improve performance in cognitive, psychomotor and affective domains of learning.

ACLS Pretest	10%
ACLS Test	30%
ACLS Practical	10%
PHTLS Pretest	10%
PHTLS Test	30%
PHTLS Practical	10%

### **ACLS Pretest:**

<http://www1.umn.edu/perio/adved/ACLS/contents/PrecourseSelfAssessment/SelfAssessment.html>

### **Course Content**

This course will offer students the ability to gain cognitive knowledge related to cardiac and trauma patient care techniques. Successful completion of this course will allow students to obtain two independent certifications; one through the American Heart Association – Advanced Cardiac Life Support (ACLS) and the other through the National Association of EMTs – PreHospital Trauma Life Support (PHTLS).

## Special Features of the Course

### Pass Rate:

Both certification programs require a minimum test score of 84% to obtain the certification cards. If a student does not achieve the minimum score required to obtain certification, remediation will be offered and the student will be given a second attempt to achieve the minimum score. The first attempt score will be used in calculation of the grade for the course.

The ACLS Practical score will be obtained using the Dynamic Cardiology skills sheet from NREMT and PHTLS practical score will be obtained using the Trauma Assessment skill sheet from the NREMT.

The pass rate for the course is a minimum grade of 80% and is required to continue in the paramedic science program.

### Squad Assignments

Students will be assigned to squads of no more than 6 students. The purpose of the squad is to promote teamwork, provide peer support and offer organization structure to the course. Students will take turns being the squad leader. The structure of squads will help instill comfort for the students prior to them being required to function in a clinical affiliate paramedic unit where teamwork and communication is paramount.

### Course Texts

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)

National Association of EMT. *PreHospital Trauma Life Support* 8<sup>th</sup> edition. ISBN 13: 9781284041736 (978-1-284-04173-6)

### 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 internship 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 Bergen Community College Paramedic Science Program has been issued a Letter of Review by the Committee on Accreditation of Educational Programs for the Emergency Medical Services Professions (CoAEMSP). This letter is NOT a CAAHEP accreditation status, it is a status signifying that a program seeking initial accreditation has demonstrated sufficient compliance with the accreditation Standards through the Letter of Review Self Study Report (LSSR) and other documentation. Letter of Review is recognized by the National Registry of Emergency Medical Technicians (NREMT) for eligibility to take the NREMT's Paramedic credentialing examination(s). However, it is NOT a guarantee of eventual accreditation.

To contact CoAEMSP:  
 8301 Lakeview Parkway Suite 111-312  
 Rowlett, TX 75088  
 214-703-8445  
 FAX 214-703-8992  
 www.coaemsp.org

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 Schedule

Week	Day	Topic	Assignment
1	Wed	Advanced Cardiac Life Support (ACLS) Course Overview ACLS Team Dynamics ACLS ACS/CVA ACLS Algorithms	<i>Advanced Cardiac Life Support Textbook</i>
	Thursday	Advanced Cardiac Life Support ACLS Pharmacology ACLS Algorithm Practice	<i>Advanced Cardiac Life Support Textbook</i>
	Monday	Advanced Cardiac Life Support ACLS Algorithm Review and Practice	<i>Advanced Cardiac Life Support Textbook</i>

2	Wednesday	Advanced Cardiac Life Support ACLS Practice ACLS Written and Practical Testing	ACLS Certification
	Thursday	Advanced Trauma Life Support (ATLS) Course Overview Trauma Overview System Structure Thoracic, Abdominal, Head Injury  Trauma Assessment Skills	<i>Advanced Trauma Life Support Textbook</i>
	Monday	Advanced Trauma Life Support Neurologic, SCI/TBI, Soft Tissue, Rescue Situations Trauma Assessment and Skills	<i>Advanced Trauma Life Support Textbook</i>
3	Wednesday	Advanced Trauma Life Support Trauma Environmental factors, Special populations and situations	<i>Advanced Trauma Life Support Textbook</i>
	Thursday	Advanced Trauma Life Support ATLS Review ATLS Written and Practical Exam	ATLS Certification

**Please note that the syllabi can modify to better meet the learning needs of the class. Students will be notified about any changes made to the assignments.**