

Montana State University-Northern
Emergency Medical Technician (EMT) Lab & Clinical Course
Fall 2025
Dr. Zuccala

***** SYLLABUS SUBJECT TO CHANGE *****

COURSE SCHEDULE: *(time/location TBD)*

COURSE CREDITS: 2 Semester Hours

INSTRUCTOR AND CONTACT INFORMATION:

Dr. Frank Zuccala

Office: Hagener 110

Email: frank.zuccala@msun.edu

CATALOG DESCRIPTION:

This course introduces students to clinical skills critical to a career in the emergency medical service (EMS). The course has laboratory skill instruction and clinical observation modalities that provide the students with an opportunity to master basic life-saving techniques.

COURSE OBJECTIVES:

1. Understand and apply the basic principles of EMS operations.
2. Evaluate medical and trauma situations based on validated assessment tools.
3. Learn and practice the specific trauma and medical assessments approved by the National Registry of Emergency Medical Technicians (NREMT).
4. Prepare for passage of the NREMT psychomotor exam stations.
5. Observe and participate in clinical observation hours at pre-approved and scheduled clinical sites appropriate for EMTs.
6. Learn and practice the Montana approved skill endorsements at the EMT level.

STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOMES

1. Students will engage in scenarios that allow for the acquisition of EMT skills during class time.
2. Students will learn and apply the lessons of basic patient assessment to allow for better recognition and treatment of life-threatening diseases, disorders, and injuries.
3. Students will understand the importance of the team-based approach to EMS operations.
4. Students will discuss and understand the key elements of safe and effective EMS operations within the pre-hospital working environment.
5. Students will acquire the EMT level skill endorsements.

REQUIRED TEXTBOOK:

Mistovich, J. & Karren, K. (2024). *Prehospital Emergency Care*. (12th ed.) Pearson Publishing, New York, NY.

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MONTANA STATE UNIVERSITY – NORTHERN NONDISCRIMINATION STATEMENT

Section 1000: Campus Policy

1001.7 Policy Statement

Montana State University's campuses are committed to providing an environment that emphasizes the dignity and worth of every member of its community and that is free from harassment and discrimination based upon race, color, religion, national origin, creed, service in the uniformed services (as defined in state and federal law), veteran status, sex, age, political ideas, marital or family status, pregnancy, physical or mental disability, genetic information, gender identity, gender expression, or sexual orientation. Such an environment is necessary to a healthy learning, working, and living atmosphere because discrimination and harassment undermine human dignity and the positive connection among all people at our University. Acts of discrimination, harassment, sexual misconduct, dating violence, domestic violence, stalking, and retaliation will be addressed consistent with this policy. <http://www.msun.edu/admin/policies/1000/1001-7.aspx>

DISABILITY STATEMENT

Any student and/or person with disabilities concerned about accessibility and/or accommodation issues should contact our Disability Service Coordinator at (406) 265-3581.

Further information and contacts for MSU-Northern's Disability Services can be found at the following link: <http://www.msun.edu/stuaffairs/disabilityserv/>

If a student does have accommodations as stated by disability services, the student's responsibilities for accommodations are the following:

1. Ensure that each instructor that needs to accommodate that student have the necessary forms to provide the accommodations.
2. Check in with instructor prior to each exam or situation needing accommodation to verify all accommodations are in place.

COURSE POLICIES:

Attendance:

CLASSROOM ATTENDANCE POLICY:

1. Students are expected to be in class and on time for every course. All instructors will take attendance at the beginning of each class.
2. Do not make doctor appointments, vacation plans etc....during class.
3. Attendance for the online portion of blended learning courses is determined by the student's

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participation in threaded discussion/activities and assignments per the course instructor's syllabus.

4. If a student leaves class during lecture, they need permission from the instructor.

5. Students cannot miss more than 2 lecture days per semester.

- 3 credit courses equal a maximum of 6 hours of missed lecture per semester
- 2 credit courses equal a maximum of 4 hours of missed lecture per semester

If students miss more than the allowed hours, the course objectives may not be met resulting in failure of the course.

Late Assignment and Work Completion:

Assignments are due on the day and at the time noted on a Course Instructor's syllabus. If an assignment is not submitted by the due date and time, the following will occur:

1. 10% deduction of total points on the assignment for each day the assignment is late (one day is defined as 24 hours);
2. If an assignment is five (5) days or more late, the assignment will earn zero points;
3. The assignment is required to be turned in for the student to pass the course, even if the assignment has earned a zero for being late.
4. Any assignment extension is at the discretion of the Course Instructor. Any request for an extension must be made prior to the stated due date and time.

SPECIFIC COURSE REQUIREMENTS AND EVALUATION

1. No cell phones will be allowed during class/lab. No recording of class is allowed
2. Students will attend and acquire an American Heart Association (AHA) Basic Life-Saver CPR certification in class.
3. Students will attend and complete the American College of Surgeons (ACS) approved "Stop-the-Bleed" course.
4. Students will receive instruction on and demonstrate the skills necessary to pass the NREMT psychomotor skill stations for certification and licensing as an EMT. These include but are not limited to:
 - a. Patient Assessment Management - Trauma
 - b. Patient Assessment Management – Medical
 - c. Cardiac Arrest Management/AED
 - d. Bag-Valve-Mask Apneic Patient
 - e. Spinal Immobilization (Supine Patient or Seated Patient)
 - f. Long Bone Injury
 - g. Joint Injury
 - h. Traction Splint
 - i. Bleeding Control/Shock Management

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- j. Upper Airway Adjuncts and Suction
 - k. Mouth-to-Mask with Supplemental Oxygen
 - l. Supplemental Oxygen Administration
5. Students will attend scheduled clinical/observation shifts with a pre-approved site and will conduct a case debrief in lab regarding a complex clinical case from their shift.
- a. Clinical/Observation Hours:
 - i. Students will be provided the contact information for the point of contact (POC) for the approved clinical site. **Each student will be responsible for scheduling their own clinical/observation hours during the semester.**
 - 1. Each student must arrange and complete a minimum of (10) hours of clinical observation, complete (5) patient assessments, and observe (not perform) patient care on at least (5) patients.
 - 2. Students will submit proof of clinical hours and assessments/observations to Canvas.
 - 3. The point of contact (POC) for Havre Fire Department is Assistant Fire Chief Beau Paulsen. Students should call the HFD (406-265-6511) and ask to speak to Ast. Chief Paulsen as soon as possible and work on arranging their clinical/observation hours with HFD.
 - ii. **Without successful completion of clinical/observation, students will receive an incomplete for this class and may have to repeat the clinical class at another time.**
 - iii. Required prerequisites clinical/observation hours:
 - 1. Proof of required vaccination status (more detail within castle branch)
 - 2. Tuberculosis test (current through the end of the semester)
 - 3. Criminal background check
 - a. Any conviction of a felony, a drug-related offense, or violent crime precludes students from attending clinical/lab class.
 - i. Other criminal convictions will be evaluated on a case-by-case basis for waiver into the program with the ultimate decision being that of the COHS Dean with input from the clinical site POCs and professor.
 - b. The Montana Board of Medical Examiners and the National Registry of Emergency Medical Technicians (NREMT) has established rules about certification and licensing for those convicted (or charged) with crimes as above. See those certification/licensing bodies for additional details.
 - 4. Students must also acquire independent student-healthcare provider insurance (EMT level).

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5. Note: Proof of all of the above will be submitted within castle branch. It is the student's responsibility to ensure castle branch requirements are fulfilled and maintained. Any failure to ensure currency in castle branch will result in immediate prohibition from attending any clinical/observation hours.

COURSE EVALUATION

Tests and Quizzes	Points
AHA BLS Course Exam (and course completion)	100
Stop the Bleed Course Exam (and course completion)	50

Assignments	Points
Psychomotor Skills Completions (12 points x 10)	120
Clinical Experience Case Debriefs (20 points x 2)	40

Grading Scale:

- A = 94-100
- B = 87-93
- C = 80-86
- D = 67-79
- F = 66 and below

ACADEMIC INTEGRITY:

All students must practice academic honesty. Academic misconduct is subject to an academic sanction by the course instructor and the Provost (Chief Academic Office).

TEACHING STRATEGIES:

Lecture, quizzes and tests, and power point presentations.

TEACHING STRATEGIES:

Lecture, discussions, critical thinking assignments with evidence-based written papers, quizzes and tests, individual study, along with video or power point presentations.

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Draft Weekly Course Plan:

Didactic Class	In-Class Psychomotor Exam Practice	Assignments	Course Outcomes (CO) and Student Learning Outcomes (SLO)
Week			
Week 1:	"Stop-the-Bleed"	Syllabus Agreement	CO: 1 SLO: 1
Week 2:	AHA BLS Class	Review AHA Guidelines	CO: 1, 2, SLO: 1, 2
Week 3:	Patient Assessment Management - Trauma	Practice NREMT Psychomotor Exams	CO: 1, 2, 3 SLO: 1, 2
Week 4:	Patient Assessment Management – Medical	Practice NREMT Psychomotor Exams	CO: 1, 2, 3, 4 SLO: 1, 2

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Week 5:	Cardiac Arrest Management/AED	Practice NREMT Psychomotor Exams	CO: 1, 2, 3, 4 SLO: 1, 2, 3
Week 6:	Bag-Valve-Mask Apneic Patient	Practice NREMT Psychomotor Exams	CO: 1, 2, 3, 4, 5 SLO: 1, 2, 3
Week 7:	Spinal Immobilization (Supine Patient or Seated Patient)	Practice NREMT Psychomotor Exams	CO: 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 SLO: 1, 2, 3, 4
Week 8:	Long Bone Injury	Practice NREMT Psychomotor Exams	CO: 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 SLO: 1, 2, 3, 4

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Week 9:	Joint Injury	Practice NREMT Psychomotor Exams	CO: 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 SLO: 1, 2, 3, 4, 5
Week 10:	Traction Splinting	Practice NREMT Psychomotor Exams	CO: 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 SLO: 1, 2, 3, 4
Week 11:	Bleeding Control/Shock Management	Practice NREMT Psychomotor Exams	CO: 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 SLO: 1, 2, 3, 4
Week 12:	Upper Airway Adjuncts and Suction	Practice NREMT Psychomotor Exams	CO: 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 SLO: 1, 2, 3, 4
Week 13:	Mouth-to-Mask with Supplemental Oxygen	Practice NREMT Psychomotor Exams	CO: 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 SLO: 1, 2, 3, 4, 5

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Week 14:	Supplemental Oxygen Administration	Practice NREMT Psychomotor Exams	CO: 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 SLO: 1, 2, 3, 4
Week 15:	Final Testing	Practice NREMT Psychomotor Exams	CO: 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 SLO: 1, 2, 3, 4
Week 16:	Final Testing (cont.)	Practice NREMT Psychomotor Exams	CO: 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 SLO: 1, 2, 3, 4, 5
Finals	Make-up Exams as needed	Course Complete	CO: 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 SLO: 1, 2, 3, 4