

**J. Sargeant Reynolds Community College  
Course Content Summary**

**Course Prefix and Number:** EMS 207

**Credits:** 3

**Course Title:** Advanced Patient Assessment

**Course Description:** Focuses on the principles of normal and abnormal physical exam. Emphasizes the analysis and interpretation of physiological data to assist in patient assessment and management. Applies principles during the assessment and management of trauma, medical, and specialty patients in laboratory environment. Lecture 2 hours. Laboratory 2 hours. Total 4 hours per week.

**General Course Purpose:** Includes preparations for the National Registry Intermediate/ Paramedic Exam. (Conforms to the 2005 Department of Transportation Curriculum for EMT-Intermediate/Paramedics.) Prepares the student for Virginia and National Registry Intermediate/Paramedic certification. Focuses on integrating pathophysiological principles and assessment findings to formulate an impression and implement a treatment plan for patients with common complaints.

**Course Prerequisites and Co-requisites:**

None

**Course Objectives:**

Upon completion of this course, the student will be able to

- a. Take a proper history and perform a comprehensive physical exam on any patient and communicate the findings to others;
- b. Use the appropriate techniques to obtain a medical history from a patient;
- c. Explain the pathophysiological significance of physical exam findings;
- d. Integrate the principles of history taking and techniques of physical exam to perform a patient assessment;
- e. Apply a process of clinical decision-making to use the assessment findings to help form a field impression;
- f. Follow an accepted format for dissemination of patient information in verbal form, either in person or over the radio; and
- g. Effectively document the essential elements of patient assessment, care, and transport.

**Major Topics to Be Covered:**

- a. Patient assessment
- b. History taking
- c. Techniques of physical examination
- d. Critical thinking and decision-making

**Effective Date of Course Content Summary:** April 6, 2009