

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

**Course Prefix and Number:** EMS 139    **Credits:** 1

**Course Title:** Special Populations

**Course Description:**

Focuses on the pre-hospital assessment and management of patients in a specific population including pediatrics, geriatrics, obstetrics/gynecology (OB/GYN), bariatric, abuse, sexual assault, and special needs. Prerequisites: Lecture 1 hour. Total 1 hour per week. EMS 121, EMS 123, EMS 125, EMS 126, EMS 127, EMS 128. Corequisite: EMS 140. Lecture 1 hour per week.

**General Course Purpose:**

The purpose of this course is to teach the student principles of care and management of patients in special populations.

**Course Prerequisites and Co-requisites:**

Prerequisites: Lecture 1 hour. Total 1 hour per week. EMS 121, EMS 123, EMS 125, EMS 126, EMS 127, EMS 128  
Corequisite: EMS 140

**Student Learning Outcomes:**

Upon completing the course, the student will be able to

- Discuss gynecological-related issues and management;
- Describe the stages of labor;
- Identify issues related to normal and abnormal labor and delivery;
- Identify differences in management of the pediatric patient;
- Identify differences in management of the geriatric patient;
- Describe issues related to patients with special health care needs; and
- Explain concepts related to neonatal resuscitation and care.

**Major Topics to Be Included:**

- a. Gynecology
  - Female reproductive system anatomy review
  - Menstrual and ovarian cycles
  - Abdominal/vaginal pain and bleeding
  - Consider pregnancy and/or sexually transmitted diseases
  - Sexual assault
  - Complications with the female reproductive system
  
- b. Obstetrics
  - Normal anatomical, physiological, and psychological changes in pregnancy
  - General system physiology, assessment, and management of the obstetrical patient.
  - Complications related to pregnancy
  - Complications of labor: pathophysiology, assessment, complications, management

- Complications of delivery: pathophysiology, assessment, complications, management
- c. Pediatrics and Infants
  - Pediatric anatomical variations and assessment
  - Growth and development
  - Pediatrics: specific pathophysiology, assessment, and management
  - Child abuse and neglect
  - Pediatrics developmental disabilities
  - Sudden Infant Death Syndrome
- d. Geriatrics
  - Normal and abnormal changes associated with aging
  - Sensory changes
  - Pharmacokinetic change
  - Polypharmacy
  - Specific conditions that occur more frequently in the elderly
- e. Patients with Special Challenges
  - Abuse and neglect
  - Homelessness/Poverty
  - Bariatric patients
  - Technology assisted/dependent
  - Hospice care and terminally ill
  - Tracheostomy care/dysfunction
  - Emotionally impaired
  - Physical needs/challenges
  - Patients with communicable diseases
  - Terminally ill patients
  - Mental needs/challenges
- f. Neonatal Care
  - General pathophysiology, assessment, and management
  - Meconium stained amniotic fluid
  - Apnea in the neonate
  - Diaphragmatic hernia in the neonate
  - Resuscitation care
- g. Special Considerations in Trauma
  - Trauma in pregnancy
  - Pediatric trauma
  - Geriatric trauma

**Effective Date/Updated:** September 21, 2018