

NorthWest Arkansas Community College Standard Course Outline

EMTP 1232 Emergency Cardiac Care II

Prerequisite: Admission into the paramedic program and enrolled as a student at NWACC

Course Description: This course prepares the EMT-P to assess and manage those cardiac emergencies that result from coronary atherosclerosis, along with a number of conditions involving pathology of the peripheral circulation. Emphasis will be placed on the interpretation of cardiac Dysrhythmia. Treatment of the patient's clinical signs and symptoms, not just EKG tracing will be stressed. The indication and administration of cardiac drug therapy along with defibrillation and synchronized cardioversion, will be presented and practiced in this course. ACLS course written test will be taken during this class time.

Target Audience: This course is for paramedic students only. Students must be actively enrolled in the paramedic program to take this course.

Credit Hours: 2 credit hour / This course does not typically transfer

Instructional Material: Advanced Cardiac Life Support by American Heart Association
Paramedic Textbook by Mosby
Workbook to Paramedic Textbook by Mosby

Course Objectives:

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

1. Identify risk factors and prevention strategies associated with cardiovascular disease.
2. Describe the normal physiology of the heart
3. Discuss electrophysiology as it relates to the normal electrical and mechanical events in the cardiac cycle
4. Outline the activity of each component of the electrical conduction system of the heart.
5. Outline the appropriate assessment of a patient who may be experiencing a cardiovascular disorder.
6. Describe basic monitoring techniques that permit electrocardiogram interpretation.
7. Explain the relationship of the ECG tracing to the heart's electrical activity.
8. Describe, in sequence, the steps in ECG interpretation.
9. Identify the characteristics of normal sinus rhythm.
10. When shown and ECG tracing, identify the rhythm, site of origin, possible causes, clinical significance, and prehospital management that is indicated.

11. Describe prehospital assessment and management of patients with selected cardiovascular disorders based on knowledge of the Pathophysiology of the illness.
12. List indications, contraindications, and prehospital considerations when using selected cardiac interventions, including basic life support, monitor-defibrillators, defibrillation, implantable cardio-defibrillators, synchronized cardioversion, and transcutaneous cardiac pacing.
13. List indication, contraindications, dose, and mechanism of action for pharmacological agents used in the management of cardiovascular disorders.
14. Identify appropriate actions that should be taken in the pre-hospital setting to terminate resuscitation.