I. FSM MISSION STATEMENT

The mission of the Public Safety Management Program (PSM) is to provide you, the Public Safety professional with highly trained and qualified instructors within the various fields of study in the PSM program. We are committed to the enhancement and advancement of Public Safety professionals through higher education.

II. COURSE DESCRIPTION:

Field Phase: Capstone Field Internship

The final phase of Paramedic education is the Capstone Field Internship. The Capstone Field Internship is the summative evaluation of Paramedic education where the student has all of the cognitive and psychomotor skills needed to act and serve as a Team Leader while delivering patient care. The Team Leader responsibilities are delegated by direct observation and under the responsibility of an approved and trained preceptor who is appropriately licensed and credentialed to work in an approved EMS system. This evaluation of the student’s ability to perform as a competent entry-level Paramedic is the last opportunity to identify areas that need remediation prior to the student becoming eligible for Paramedic certification. The ideal scenario would be that potential employers provide an appropriate orientation and evaluation process prior to allowing the new Paramedic to perform alone as the Team Leader. However, this competency package recognizes that there are EMS systems that will immediately place the newly state licensed Paramedics in an out-of-hospital situation with an EMT partner upon successful completion of certification. Therefore, it is imperative that evaluators provide a fair and objective evaluation of each student recognizing that they are expected to perform as an entry-level Paramedic.

The Capstone Field Internship should document a student’s progression to a competent entry-level Paramedic. There is evidence to suggest that decreasing the number of preceptors improves the validity of the field internship evaluation and decrease the overall time to achieve competency. This allows the preceptor to assess a student’s initial performance and for both student and preceptor to become comfortable with each other. As the Capstone Field Internship progresses, the student would ideally progress to at least minimal entry-level competency which would be documented by the preceptor. Although programs may not have the option to pair a student with a single preceptor, utilizing numerous preceptors for one student internship can complicate trust, expectations, and continuity for both student and preceptor, particularly with a student who is not exhibiting confidence or who is experiencing any difficulty in the progression from performing as a student to performing consistently as an entry-level Paramedic.
III. PREREQUISITE

All students must, in addition to SIU requirements, possess a valid CPR card for Healthcare Providers and Illinois EMT-B License through the entire time enrolled. If student possesses a valid NREMT license they must obtain an IL Basic License by week one of this class. It will be valid for 4 years or until student completes the Paramedic Exam.

A basic A& P class and Medical Terminology class is strongly recommended prior to beginning the Paramedic Classes.

IV. REQUIRED TEXTBOOK:

_Nancy Caroline’s Emergency Care in the Streets Premier Package
ISBN-13 9781284038316

BIBLIOGRAPHY:

Once the online account is created the above book will be used throughout the series. Supplemental books will be introduced as recommended or required throughout the series of courses. The above is the only requirement for PSM 101.

V. COURSE OBJECTIVES:

Each student will:

Skills Objectives

The Team Leader position is when students demonstrate that they are fully capable of organizing and directing patient care on an EMS call. Depending on the number of ALS EMS personnel present, the Team Leader should direct all Team Members, lead all patient care decisions, and provide patient care as needed to ensure timely patient treatment. The educational program should establish a minimum number of hours, competencies, and team leads that the student should achieve in order to be considered as successfully performing as a competent entry-level Paramedic. These goals should reflect the depth and breadth of the Paramedic profession. The Capstone Field Internship has the unique capacity to assess a student’s competence in all three learning domains performing as they will in the profession.
Competency is the extent to which an individual can handle the various situations that arise in the area of practice. The clinician who is competent, regardless of the complexity of the call, performs within the standard of care. The clinician who is incompetent needs partners to assist, direct or even perform an action when the performance approaches an unacceptable level. Perfection in a clinical occupation such as paramedicine will not be demonstrated on every call or every day throughout an individual’s career. There are too many variables in patient presentations, ages, illnesses, injuries and idiosyncratic responses to expect the ideal outcome on every call. Because of these variables, continuous education must be a part of continued competency.