Emergency Medical Services Risk Management and Safety

Course Description: This course introduces the student to the risk management principles of an Emergency Medical Services (EMS) agency. Emphasis is on safety from the perspective of the field provider.

Prerequisites: None

Course Objectives:

Module 1: Introduction

The students will:
1. Differentiate between risk management and loss control.
2. Define safety as it applies to EMS risk management.

Module 2: Safety Program Management

The students will:
1. Discuss current cultural perspective on safety.
2. Design a safety management program.
3. Outline financial aspects of a risk management program.
4. Identify the need for insurance and coverage necessary.

Module 3: Developing a Safety Program

The students will:
1. Identify goals of a risk management program.
2. Discuss staffing positions and roles.
3. Define program components.
4. Discuss methods of creating a safety culture.
5. Identify required postings.
6. Outline safety committee structure roles and responsibilities.

Module 4: Risk Management Process

The students will:
1. Define risk management.
3. Identify the cost associated with risk control.

Module 5: Vehicle Driving

The students will:
1. Discuss defensive driving techniques.
2. Identify criteria for driver selection.
3. Outline vehicle maintenance procedures.
4. Write standard operating procedures/standard operating guidelines for a driver/operator position.
Module 6: Scene Operations

The students will:
1. Identify potential risks associated with street and roadway scenes.
2. Identify EMS risks present at structure fires.
3. Discuss infectious diseases and associate risks to EMS responders.
4. Identify risks associated with patient handling.
5. Identify risks associated with crime scenes.
6. Describe procedures for handling violent situations.
7. Identify risks associated with acts of terrorism.
8. Identify risks and EMS procedures at hazmat scenes.

Module 7: Station Safety

The students will:
1. Define office safety.
2. Identify the risks in handling compressed gases.
3. Identify safety hazards associated with various station work areas.
4. Discuss safety issues in vehicle maintenance areas.
5. Identify risks associated with various storage facilities within a station.

Module 8: Accident Investigation

The students will:
1. Outline the preparation needs to conduct an investigation.
2. Define the reporting process and report agency requirements.
3. Identify proper investigation process and procedures.
4. Define the investigation phases.
5. Execute an investigation scenario beginning with initial reporting and ending with final report.

Module 9: Record Keeping

The students will:
1. Identify infectious diseases and risk management programs.
2. Define safety audits and how they are related to a risk management program.
3. Outline a staff training program.
4. Identify necessary information required of accident reports.
5. Discuss the necessity of injury reports.
6. Present a topical safety meeting.

Module 10: Safety Officer

The students will:
1. Define the role of the safety officer.
2. Differentiate between a safety officer, incident safety officer, and health and safety officer.
Module 11: Resources for Risk Management and Safety

The students will:
1. Identify regulating agencies as information resources.
2. Identify associations as resource providers.
3. Identify education and training resources.

Outcomes:
1. Define risk management and differentiate this concept from the concepts of prevention and loss control.
2. Outline the steps that are required to conduct a comprehensive investigation into a workplace accident.
3. Identify five safety-related areas of concern within their organization that could be addressed or improved by the application of risk management principles and practices.
4. Identify and analyze the major causes of line-of-duty deaths (LODDs) related to health, wellness, fitness and vehicle operations.
5. Draft a model policy, procedure or guideline that can be implemented within an organization to address a specific area of safety or risk management.
6. Identify and analyze the major causes involved in LODDs related to health, wellness, fitness and vehicle operations.

Suggested Student Texts:
TBD by instructor

Supporting References:
National Institute for Standards and Technology

Assessment:
Students will be evaluated for mastery of learning objectives by methods of evaluation to be determined by the instructor.

Method of Instruction:
Lecture, class discussion, audiovisual, demonstration, illustration, practical application by students.

Attendance Policy:
The faculty of Southern Illinois University Carbondale affirm the importance of prompt and regular attendance on the part of all undergraduate students. Quality instruction clearly depends upon active participation in the classroom or its equivalent learning environment. This concept is further expounded upon in the Southern Illinois University Carbondale Undergraduate Catalog. Students who are absent from more than one-third (1/3) of a course’s instructional hours will seriously jeopardize their grade for the course. Students who stop attending or never attend a class without officially dropping that class will be awarded a grade of WF for the class. The WF grade is designed for students who enroll in a course but don’t attend or quit.
attending and do not drop the course. When awarding the WF grade the last date of attendance or nonattendance must be reported along with the grade.

**Academic Dishonesty Policy:**
Students may be subject to disciplinary proceedings resulting in an academic penalty or disciplinary penalty for academic dishonesty. Academic dishonesty includes, but is not limited to, cheating on a test, plagiarism, and collusion.

**ADA Statement for Students Requiring Special Accommodations:**
As per Section 504 of the Vocational Rehabilitation Act of 1973 and the American Disabilities Act (ADA) of 1990, if accommodations are needed, inform your instructor as soon as possible.

**Safety Instructions:**
Instructors will provide guidance and direction to students in the classroom in the event of an emergency affecting your location. It is important that you follow these instructions and stay with your instructor during an evacuation or sheltering emergency. If you are located on a military installation, and depending on the type emergency a senior military member may take control of the situation and direct you on the action to take. Please follow their instructions and do as asked. Similarly, if you are at a community college, their security personnel may arrive and take control of a situation please follow their instructions as well.