

## EMC 340 Introduction to Clinical Medicine

01 Introduction

David Trigg, MD

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## Contact

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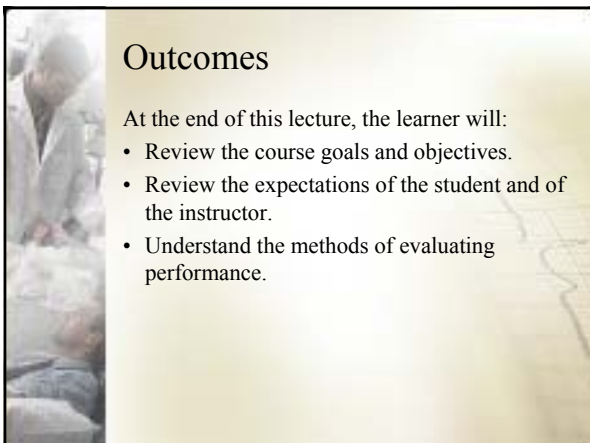
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## Outcomes

At the end of this lecture, the learner will:

- Review the course goals and objectives.
- Review the expectations of the student and of the instructor.
- Understand the methods of evaluating performance.

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## Course Description

*EMC-340 Introduction to Clinical Medicine*

Will provide the student with information important for :

- The new healthcare profession student.
- Mastery of basic clinical knowledge and skills.
- Necessary for expanded paramedic curriculum.

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## Course Goals

The student will be able to discuss:

- Clinical decision making.
- The new National Standard Curriculum.
- New expanded dimensions of paramedic practice.
- Professional and affective issues.

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## Clinical Skills

The student must be familiar with and skillful in:

- Taking a patient's history.
- Performing a comprehensive physical exam.
- Evaluating a problem specific history and physical exam .
- The process of clinical decision making.

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## New Dimensions

The student will be exposed to:

- Illness and injury prevention.
- Epidemiology.
- Research.

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## Professional & Affective Issues

The student will be exposed to:

- Medical ethics.
- Paramedic well-being.
- Death and dying.
- EMS systems.
- Paramedic education.

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## National Standard Curriculum

At the successful completion of this course, the learner will:

Interpret an array of clinical information and recognize relevant and efficient approaches to assessment and treatment (NSC 7-1)<sup>1</sup>

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## NSC EMT-P Objectives

At the successful completion of this course, the student will have covered all or parts of objectives:

- 1
- 3
- 5
- 6
- 7 (e.g., NSC 7-1 )<sup>1</sup>

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## Expectations

“Yours and mine”

- EMC 340 has traditionally been a demanding course for the young and old.
- The learner outcomes may vary according to levels of expertise
  - A young EMT basic college student
  - An experienced paramedic instructor

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## Tradition

The EMC program at Western Carolina University has a tradition of integrating adult learners with young college students.

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## Online Learning

- Online and distance learning is a fairly new way of presenting an EMS curriculum.
- It is available to on and off campus students.
- It also allows practicing paramedics to share or explore:
  - Perspectives
  - Questions
  - Arguments
  - Stories

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## Discussions and Participation

Each of the students are expected to try to:

- Constructively raise or answer questions.
- Demonstrate that you've read/reflected the assigned material.
- Encourage further dialogue.
- Avoid indulging in monologues.
- Resist the urge to recount "war stories".
- Become involved.

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## Your Role

- This course requires active participation
- Covers a great deal of material.
- Examines what is considered preconceived ideas.
- This course may be frustrating.
  - Growth is often painful.
  - Success will depend upon:
    - Disciplined preparation
    - Consistent involvement

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## Evaluation

### Written Tests

- Multiple choice
  - Not simply content recall
  - Will involve:
    - Application
    - Synthesis
    - Integration with previous material

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## Clinical Picture

This approach relates to:

- The relevant history (symptoms).
- The physical exam (signs).
- Clinical situations or scenarios.

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## Pathophysiology

This approach asks:

- **Why** certain parts of the physical exam are performed?  
and
- **What** is the significance of certain abnormalities on the physical exam?

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## Learning

### Scenario Based and Convergent Learning

- Is problem based
- Requires disciplined application of standard protocol for assessment
- Requires collaboration and communication with peers

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## Grades

- Are *not* bell-curved
- Cooperation is rewarded
- Criterion-based
  - Everyone may earn an A or an F.

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## Special Needs

Support can be provided for:

- Physical needs
- English as a second language
- Learning styles
- Religious obligations
- Other needs, not specified

Your Responsibility

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## Required Text

[Bates' Guide to Physical Examination and History Taking](#), 8<sup>th</sup> edition, Lippincott Williams & Wilkins Publishers.

[Paramedic Care: Principles & Practices. An Introduction to Advanced Prehospital Care](#), Vol. 1, Brady.

[Paramedic Care: Principles & Practices. An Introduction to Advanced Prehospital Care](#), Vol. 2, Brady.

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## School Policies

The EMC Department of WCU will follow school policies :

- [Academic honesty](#)
- Prejudiced behavior
- [Harassment](#)
- Privacy (HIPPA)

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## HIPPA

The Healthcare Information Privacy Protection Act.

- Requires patient ***confidentiality***
- Applies to universities as well as to clinical settings
- Familiarize yourself with [HIPPA](#)
- Give out no patient information to those not directly involved in patient care

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## Workload

- Average of 12 hours per week
- Deadlines
  - Work is due by the dates listed
  - Late work will have consequences

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## Late work

All work will be graded down if turned in or performed late.

- Practical exams
- Assignments
- Written Tests

[E-MAIL](#) me reference mitigating circumstances!

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## Respectful Behavior

[All students](#) should expect to treat and be treated equally and without favoritism.

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## Prior Experience

While experience and age can be invaluable resources; seniority, income, rank, or age **should not** interfere with

- respect, behavior, and interactions.
- methods of inquiry, participation, and learning.

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## Self Appraisal

Is this a good time for you?

This course is:

- Fast paced
- Easy to fall behind
- Success depends upon a thorough understanding of anatomy and physiology

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## Preparation

If you feel poorly prepared or have any impediments then you may wish to postpone this class.

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