



## COURSE OUTLINE

# PAR222 Legal and Ethical Practice in EMS (Emergency Medical Services)

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2021 | Semester 2

USC Sunshine Coast

**ON CAMPUS**

Most of your course is on campus but you may be able to do some components of this course online.

*Please go to the USC website for up to date information on the teaching sessions and campuses where this course is usually offered.*

## 1. What is this course about?

### 1.1. Description

In this course you will examine the complex array of legal and ethical issues associated with paramedic clinical practice and the implications the law and ethics have on your clinical practice as a contemporary paramedic. The law and bioethical principles impact upon every part of your clinical practice and your employment as a paramedic, with your decisions regarding the provision of clinical care increasingly subjected to public scrutiny. Contemporary legal and bioethical issues will be examined in order for you to critically appraise the decisions you make as a paramedic.

### 1.2. How will this course be delivered?

ACTIVITY	HOURS	BEGINNING WEEK	FREQUENCY
<b>ON CAMPUS</b>			
<b>Tutorial/Workshop 1</b>	2hrs	Week 1	13 times
<b>Lecture – Lecture</b>	1hr	Week 1	13 times

### 1.3. Course Topics

Regulation of the Australian Health Service  
Introduction to Ethical Theory and Decision Making  
Introduction to the Law  
Ethical and Legal Record Keeping  
Mental Health Law  
Consent – Fundamentals  
Consent – Impaired Capacity  
Death and Dying  
Negligence

## 2. What level is this course?

200 Level (Developing)

Building on and expanding the scope of introductory knowledge and skills, developing breadth or depth and applying knowledge and skills in a new context. May require pre-requisites where discipline specific introductory knowledge or skills is necessary. Normally, undertaken in the second or third full-time year of an undergraduate programs.

## 3. What is the unit value of this course?

12 units

## 4. How does this course contribute to my learning?

COURSE LEARNING OUTCOMES	GRADUATE QUALITIES
On successful completion of this course, you should be able to...	Completing these tasks successfully will contribute to you becoming...
1 Describe the criteria that constitute ethical professional practice.	Ethical
2 Apply the major ethical and moral theories to select healthcare situations.	Ethical
3 Describe ethical and legal principles and requirements as they relate to professional health practice.	Ethical
4 Describe the features of the Australian legal system and statutory bodies.	Knowledgeable
5 Apply legislation and case law to the practice of health professionals.	Empowered

## 5. Am I eligible to enrol in this course?

Refer to the [USC Glossary of terms](#) for definitions of “pre-requisites, co-requisites and anti-requisites”.

### 5.1. Pre-requisites

PAR101 and PAR103 and enrolled in Program SC395

### 5.2. Co-requisites

Not applicable

### 5.3. Anti-requisites

Not applicable

### 5.4. Specific assumed prior knowledge and skills (where applicable)

Not applicable

## 6. How am I going to be assessed?

### 6.1. Grading Scale

Standard Grading (GRD)

High Distinction (HD), Distinction (DN), Credit (CR), Pass (PS), Fail (FL).

### 6.2. Details of early feedback on progress

Students will be provided with informal opportunities for feedback in each of their workshops. Formalised feedback will be provided after each summative task via Bb+.

6.3. Assessment tasks

DELIVERY MODE	TASK NO.	ASSESSMENT PRODUCT	INDIVIDUAL OR GROUP	WEIGHTING %	WHAT IS THE DURATION / LENGTH?	WHEN SHOULD I SUBMIT?	WHERE SHOULD I SUBMIT IT?
All	1	Quiz/zes	Individual	20%	N/A	Refer to Format	Online Assignment Submission with plagiarism check
All	2	Activity Participation	Group	30%	1000 words	Week 9	Online Assignment Submission with plagiarism check
All	3	Written Piece	Individual	50%	2500 words	Week 13	Online Assignment Submission with plagiarism check

All - Assessment Task 1: Task 1a & 1b

<b>GOAL:</b>	To demonstrate your understanding of the legal and ethical principles related to your future clinical role.	
<b>PRODUCT:</b>	Quiz/zes	
<b>FORMAT:</b>	You will be required to complete two online quizzes that assess your knowledge of the content from the weekly readings, online lectures and workshop content from the previous weeks. To be completed weeks 6 and 12.	
<b>CRITERIA:</b>	<p><b>No.</b></p> <p>1 You will be assessed on: Ethical principles and their application to clinical services; Legal principles and their application to clinical services.</p>	<p><b>Learning Outcome assessed</b></p> <p>1 2 3</p>

All - Assessment Task 2: Bioethics Presentation

<b>GOAL:</b>	The aim of the bioethics presentation is to enable you to identify and discuss the key bioethical issues in paramedic practice.	
<b>PRODUCT:</b>	Activity Participation	
<b>FORMAT:</b>	An infographic (poster or webpage). In a group of 3-5 participants you will need to collaboratively decide on a bioethical issue in paramedic practice and present the issues in a creative form.	
<b>CRITERIA:</b>	<p><b>No.</b></p> <p>1 Explains the relevant bioethical principles underpinning paramedic practice; Application of bioethical principles to paramedic practice; Use of Technology to convey meaning; Use of referencing style; Presentation and Grammatical Conventions.</p>	<p><b>Learning Outcome assessed</b></p> <p>1 2 3 5</p>

All - Assessment Task 3: Legal Analysis

<b>GOAL:</b>	The aim of the legal analysis is to allow you to demonstrate an understanding of the legal aspects associated with the provision of paramedic care.	
<b>PRODUCT:</b>	Written Piece	
<b>FORMAT:</b>	Written document	

**CRITERIA:****No.****Learning Outcome assessed**

- 1 Explains the relevant legal and ethical concepts and fundamental principles underpinning paramedic practice  
Application of legal issues to paramedic practice  
Reaches an arguable conclusion on legal issues  
Use of referencing style  
Presentation and Gra

3 4 5

## 7. Directed study hours

A 12-unit course will have total of 150 learning hours which will include directed study hours (including online if required), self-directed learning and completion of assessable tasks. Directed study hours may vary by location. Student workload is calculated at 12.5 learning hours per one unit.

## 8. What resources do I need to undertake this course?

Please note: Course information, including specific information of recommended readings, learning activities, resources, weekly readings, etc. are available on the course Blackboard site– Please log in as soon as possible.

### 8.1. Prescribed text(s) or course reader

Please note that you need to have regular access to the resource(s) listed below. Resources may be required or recommended.

REQUIRED?	AUTHOR	YEAR	TITLE	PUBLISHER
Required	Dominique Moritz	2019	Paramedic Law and Regulation in Australia	Thomson Reuters

### 8.2. Specific requirements

Not applicable

## 9. How are risks managed in this course?

Health and safety risks for this course have been assessed as low. It is your responsibility to review course material, search online, discuss with lecturers and peers and understand the health and safety risks associated with your specific course of study and to familiarise yourself with the University's general health and safety principles by reviewing the [online induction training for students](#), and following the instructions of the University staff.

## 10. What administrative information is relevant to this course?

### 10.1. Assessment: Academic Integrity

Academic integrity is the ethical standard of university participation. It ensures that students graduate as a result of proving they are competent in their discipline. This is integral in maintaining the value of academic qualifications. Each industry has expectations and standards of the skills and knowledge within that discipline and these are reflected in assessment.

Academic integrity means that you do not engage in any activity that is considered to be academic fraud; including plagiarism, collusion or outsourcing any part of any assessment item to any other person. You are expected to be honest and ethical by completing all work yourself and indicating in your work which ideas and information were developed by you and which were taken from others. You cannot provide your assessment work to others. You are also expected to provide evidence of wide and critical reading, usually by using appropriate academic references.

In order to minimise incidents of academic fraud, this course may require that some of its assessment tasks, when submitted to Blackboard, are electronically checked through SafeAssign. This software allows for text comparisons to be made between your submitted assessment item and all other work that SafeAssign has access to.

### 10.2. Assessment: Additional Requirements

Your eligibility for supplementary assessment in a course is dependent of the following conditions applying:

The final mark is in the percentage range 47% to 49.4%

The course is graded using the Standard Grading scale

You have not failed an assessment task in the course due to academic misconduct

### 10.3. Assessment: Submission penalties

Late submission of assessment tasks may be penalised at the following maximum rate:

- 5% (of the assessment task's identified value) per day for the first two days from the date identified as the due date for the assessment task.
- 10% (of the assessment task's identified value) for the third day - 20% (of the assessment task's identified value) for the fourth day and subsequent days up to and including seven days from the date identified as the due date for the assessment task.
- A result of zero is awarded for an assessment task submitted after seven days from the date identified as the due date for the assessment task. Weekdays and weekends are included in the calculation of days late. To request an extension you must contact your course coordinator to negotiate an outcome.

### 10.4. Study help

For help with course-specific advice, for example what information to include in your assessment, you should first contact your tutor, then your course coordinator, if needed.

If you require additional assistance, the Learning Advisers are trained professionals who are ready to help you develop a wide range of academic skills. Visit the [Learning Advisers](#) web page for more information, or contact Student Central for further assistance: +61 7 5430 2890 or [studentcentral@usc.edu.au](mailto:studentcentral@usc.edu.au).

### 10.5. Wellbeing Services

Student Wellbeing provide free and confidential counselling on a wide range of personal, academic, social and psychological matters, to foster positive mental health and wellbeing for your academic success.

To book a confidential appointment go to [Student Hub](#), email [studentwellbeing@usc.edu.au](mailto:studentwellbeing@usc.edu.au) or call 07 5430 1226.

### 10.6. AccessAbility Services

Ability Advisers ensure equal access to all aspects of university life. If your studies are affected by a disability, learning disorder mental health issue, , injury or illness, or you are a primary carer for someone with a disability or who is considered frail and aged, [AccessAbility Services](#) can provide access to appropriate reasonable adjustments and practical advice about the support and facilities available to you throughout the University.

To book a confidential appointment go to [Student Hub](#), email [AccessAbility@usc.edu.au](mailto:AccessAbility@usc.edu.au) or call 07 5430 2890.

### 10.7. Links to relevant University policy and procedures

For more information on Academic Learning & Teaching categories including:

- Assessment: Courses and Coursework Programs
- Review of Assessment and Final Grades
- Supplementary Assessment
- Administration of Central Examinations
- Deferred Examinations
- Student Academic Misconduct
- Students with a Disability

Visit the USC website: <http://www.usc.edu.au/explore/policies-and-procedures#academic-learning-and-teaching>

### 10.8. General Enquiries

#### In person:

- **USC Sunshine Coast** - Student Central, Ground Floor, Building C, 90 Sippy Downs Drive, Sippy Downs
- **USC Moreton Bay** - Service Centre, Ground Floor, Foundation Building, Gympie Road, Petrie
- **USC SouthBank** - Student Central, Building A4 (SW1), 52 Merivale Street, South Brisbane
- **USC Gympie** - Student Central, 71 Cartwright Road, Gympie
- **USC Fraser Coast** - Student Central, Student Central, Building A, 161 Old Maryborough Rd, Hervey Bay
- **USC Caboolture** - Student Central, Level 1 Building J, Cnr Manley and Tallon Street, Caboolture

**Tel:** +61 7 5430 2890

**Email:** [studentcentral@usc.edu.au](mailto:studentcentral@usc.edu.au)