

**Common Course Outline**  
**EMST 254**  
**EMT-P Behavioral Emergencies**  
**1 Credits**

**The Community College of Baltimore County**

**Description**

This course is designed to provide training in the recognition and care of patient's exhibiting behavioral and emotional problems encountered by paramedics in the field. Includes emotional aspects of illness and injury, approach to the patient, psychiatric emergencies and management techniques.

Prerequisites: Admission to the EMT-P Program.

**Overall Course Objectives**

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

1. List examples of interpersonal, situational, organic, and intrapsychic causes of behavioral emergencies.
2. List three critical principles in dealing with a patient having a behavioral emergency.
3. Describe effective interviewing techniques.
4. Distinguish among key symptoms and management techniques for selected behavioral (psychiatric) illnesses.
5. Identify factors that must be considered when assessing suicide risk.
6. Formulate appropriate interview questions and explain management techniques for the patient who has attempted suicide.
7. Describe assessment of the potentially violent patient.
8. List situations when, and outline steps to be used in patient restraint.
9. Describe general safety measures to be taken when patient violence is anticipated.
10. Describe steps for self-protection when confronted with a violent patient.

## **Major Topics**

Understanding Behavioral Emergencies  
Domestic Violence  
Assessment of Behavioral Emergencies  
Specific Psychiatric Disorders  
    Anxiety  
    Phobia  
    Conversion Hysteria  
    Depression  
    Manic Disorders  
    Suicide and Suicide Threats  
    Paranoia  
    Schizophrenia  
Assessing the Potentially Violent Patient  
Personal Safety

## **Course Requirements**

Mastery level for all written examinations is 75%.

## **Other Course Information**

This course is offered during the Winter only.  
Successful completion of this course, in combination with EMST 252, EMST 256, EMST 257, EMST 259, and EMST 273 is required for the student to be eligible to sit for the National Registry of EMT-Paramedic examinations.