



# Introduction to Critical Care Ultrasound

February 16 – 18, 2026

**Attention!** This course includes the following pre-course online videos: “Imaging Fundamentals” by Lori Green, BA, RDMS, RDCS, RVT and “Abdominal Scan Fundamentals” by Trisha Reo, AAS, RDMS, RVT. Login to your account at [gcus.com](http://gcus.com) and navigate to “My Activities” to complete this video **prior** to the first day of this course.

Monday, February 16, 2026		
7:45	Welcome and Continental Breakfast	
7:55	Interactive Polling Session	
8:05	Ultrasound Evaluation of Abdominal Aortic Aneurysm & Case Studies	James Mateer, MD, RDMS
8:35	Point-of-Care Ultrasound Evaluation of Biliary & Renal Colic	
9:30	Break	
9:40	US-Guided Central & Peripheral Vascular Access	Bret Nelson, MD, RDMS, FACEP
10:40	Break out Groups	
10:45	Main Lecture Room	Scan Lab
	Extended Focused Assessment with Sonography in Trauma (E-FAST) Bret Nelson, MD, RDMS, FACEP	Hands-On Scanning Standardized Patient Models: Focused Aorta, Renal & Biliary or US-Guided Central & Peripheral Vascular Access
12:00	Lunch On Your Own – Return to Main Lecture Room for Break-Out Groups	
1:00	Main Lecture Room	Scan Lab
	Extended Focused Assessment with Sonography in Trauma (E-FAST) Bret Nelson, MD, RDMS, FACEP	Hands-On Scanning Standardized Patient Models: Focused Aorta, Renal & Biliary or US-Guided Central & Peripheral Vascular Access
2:15	Break & Switch Groups	
2:20	Main Lecture Room	Scan Lab
	Focused 2D Cardiac Ultrasound James Mateer, MD, RDMS	Hands-On Scanning Standardized Patient Models: Focused Aorta, Renal & Biliary or US-Guided Central & Peripheral Vascular Access
3:35	Break & Switch Groups	
3:45	Main Lecture Room	Scan Lab
	Focused 2D Cardiac Ultrasound James Mateer, MD, RDMS	Hands-On Scanning Standardized Patient Models: Focused Aorta, Renal & Biliary or US-Guided Central & Peripheral Vascular Access
5:00	Adjourn	

## Tuesday, February 17, 2026

7:30	Continental Breakfast	
7:45	General Session: Ultrasound Guided Procedures <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Pericardiocentesis</li><li>• Thoracentesis</li><li>• Paracentesis</li><li>• Lumbar Puncture</li></ul>	Bret Nelson, MD, RDMS, FACEP
8:30	Break Out Groups	
8:40	Main Lecture Room	Scan Lab
	Rapid Ultrasound for Shock & Hypotension Ultrasound Assessment for DVT Bret Nelson, MD, RDMS, FACEP	Hands-On Scanning Standardized Patient Models: Focused Cardiac & E-FAST
10:10	Break & Switch Groups	
10:20	Main Lecture Room	Scan Lab
	Rapid Ultrasound for Shock & Hypotension Ultrasound Assessment for DVT Bret Nelson, MD, RDMS, FACEP	Hands-On Scanning Standardized Patient Models: Focused Cardiac & E-FAST
11:50	Lunch On Your Own	
12:15	Optional Lunch Lecture: Soft Tissue & Musculoskeletal Ultrasound Applications <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Cellulitis, Abscess &amp; Cutaneous Masses</li><li>• Joint Effusion &amp; Aspiration</li><li>• Tendon Injury</li><li>• Foreign Body Detection &amp; Removal</li><li>• Fracture Assessment &amp; Reduction</li></ul>	Andrew Laudенbach, MD
1:00	Break Out Groups	
1:10	Main Lecture Room	Scan Lab
	Ocular, Airway & Thoracic Ultrasound Andrew Laudенbach, MD	Hands-On Scanning Standardized Patient Models: RUSH/DVT USG Procedures & MSK/Soft Tissue
	Emergency Medicine & Critical Care Ultrasound Case Studies Andrew Laudенbach, MD	
3:00	Break & Switch Groups	
3:10	Main Lecture Room	Scan Lab
	Ocular, Airway & Thoracic Ultrasound Andrew Laudенbach, MD	Hands-On Scanning Standardized Patient Models: RUSH/DVT USG Procedures & MSK/Soft Tissue
	Emergency Medicine & Critical Care Ultrasound Case Studies Andrew Laudенbach, MD	
5:00	Adjourn	

Wednesday, February 18, 2026		
8:00	Continental Breakfast	
8:10	Break Out Groups	
8:15	<b>Main Lecture Room</b> <b>ABC's: Sonography in Sepsis with Case Studies</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Pneumonia</li> <li>• Renal Sepsis</li> <li>• Peritonitis/Abscess</li> <li>• Biliary Sepsis</li> <li>• Acute Appendicitis</li> <li>• Bowel Obstruction</li> </ul> <b>Andrew Laudенbach, MD</b>	<b>Scan Lab</b> <b>Hands-On Scanning Standardized Patient Models:</b> <b>Ocular, Airway &amp; Thoracic US Applications</b> <b>Focused Cardiac</b>
9:45	Switch groups	
9:55	<b>Main Lecture Room</b> <b>ABC's: Sonography in Sepsis with Case Studies</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Pneumonia</li> <li>• Renal Sepsis</li> <li>• Peritonitis/Abscess</li> <li>• Biliary Sepsis</li> <li>• Acute Appendicitis</li> <li>• Bowel Obstruction</li> </ul> <b>Andrew Laudенbach, MD</b>	<b>Scan Lab</b> <b>Hands-On Scanning Standardized Patient Models:</b> <b>Ocular, Airway &amp; Thoracic US Applications</b> <b>Focused Cardiac</b>
11:25	Interactive Post Polling with Discussion	
11:35	Adjourn	

\*\* This is a tentative course itinerary. Lecture faculty, times and dates may be subject to change. Times listed are Eastern Time (ET).



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The Gulfcoast Ultrasound Institute is accredited by the Accreditation Council for Continuing Medical Education (ACCME) to provide continuing medical education for physicians.

The Gulfcoast Ultrasound Institute designates this live educational activity for a maximum of 20.0 *AMA PRA Category 1 Credits™*. Physicians should claim only the credit commensurate with the extent of their participation in the activity.

Successful completion of this CME activity, which includes participation in the evaluation component, enables the participant to earn up to 20.0 Medical Knowledge MOC points in the American Board of Internal Medicine's (ABIM) Maintenance of Certification (MOC) program. It is the CME activity provider's responsibility to submit participant completion information to ACCME for the purpose of granting ABIM MOC credit.

Approved by the American College of Emergency Physicians (ACEP) for a maximum of 20.0 hour(s) of Category I credit.

The Gulfcoast Ultrasound Institute designates an additional 1.25 *AMA PRA Category 1 Credits™* for the enduring educational activity "Imaging Fundamentals" and an additional 1.00 *AMA PRA Category 1 Credits™* for the enduring educational activity "Abdominal Scanning Fundamentals". Physicians should claim only credit commensurate with the extent of their participation in the educational activity.

This course also meets CME / CEU requirements for ARDMS. Note: While offering the CME credit hours noted above, activities are not intended to provide extensive training or certification for exam performance or interpretation.

## **NEEDS STATEMENT:**

The planning committee has determined a need for the following educational activity based on request from the medical community, expanded utilization of ultrasound, and lab accreditation requirements.

## **COURSE OBJECTIVES:**

At the completion of the program the participant should be able to:

1. Increase the participant's knowledge to better perform and/or interpret emergency medicine and critical care ultrasound examinations.
2. Increase competence to incorporate protocols, scan techniques, and interpretation criteria into clinical practice
3. State the basic fundamentals of ultrasound physics and demonstrate appropriate optimization for system controls.
4. Demonstrate scan protocols for focused evaluation of the trauma patient (E-FAST exam), pneumothorax, abdomen, aorta/IVC, DVT, ocular & airway/thoracic, soft tissue and musculoskeletal applications, and adult heart.
5. State an algorithm for uses of bedside ultrasound during cardiac arrest, sepsis, shock, and hypotension.
6. Demonstrate image orientation, transducer preparation, and scan protocols for performing use of ultrasound guidance for central & peripheral vascular access, pericardiocentesis, paracentesis, thoracentesis, hemothorax, lumbar puncture, and joint aspiration.
7. Identify sonographic characteristics associated with abdominal sepsis involving the hepatobiliary, renal, and GI systems.

While offering CME credit hours this activity is not intended to provide extensive training or certification for performance of or interpretation of Ultrasound Examinations. We recommend working under supervised conditions until an acceptable level of proficiency has been achieved.

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**A special thanks to the following commercial companies who provide various (in kind) support to help make our programs possible (companies listed are as of the time of printing):**



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## **Disclosure of Presence/Absence of Relevant Financial Relationships with Ineligible Companies for Individuals in Control of Content**

Gulfoast Ultrasound Institute, Inc. endorses the Standards for Integrity and Independence in Accredited Continuing Education of the Accreditation Council for Continuing Medical Education (ACCME) for all activities. All individuals in control of content are required to disclose any financial relationships with ACCME defined ineligible companies, regardless of the amount. Full disclosure of the presence or absence of relevant financial relationships with ineligible companies is outlined in the course materials and will be verbally disclosed to all learners during opening remarks.

### **LECTURING FACULTY:**

#### **James Mateer, MD, RDMS**

Clinical Professor, Emergency Medicine  
Medical College of Wisconsin  
Milwaukee, WI

***No relevant financial relationships to disclose***

#### **Bret Nelson, MD, RDMS, FACEP**

Assistant Professor of Emergency Medicine  
Director of Emergency Ultrasound  
Department of Emergency Ultrasound  
Mount Sinai School of Medicine  
Mount Sinai Medical Center  
New York, NY

***No relevant financial relationships to disclose***

#### **Andrew Laudенbach, MD**

Ultrasound Fellowship Director  
Clinical Informaticist  
Associate Professor of Emergency Medicine  
Department of Emergency Medicine  
Hennepin Healthcare  
Minneapolis, MN

***No relevant financial relationships to disclose***



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### **Disclosure of Presence/Absence of Relevant Financial Relationships with Ineligible Companies for Individuals in Control of Content**

*In addition to the faculty listed on the previous page, the following individuals are recognized by GUI as being in control of content of this program:*

**James Mateer, MD, RDMS (Medical Director-planner & QI Task Force)**

Medical Director, Gulfcoast Ultrasound Institute  
Milwaukee, WI

***No relevant financial relationships to disclose***

**Charlotte Derr, MD, RDMS, FACEP, FPD-AEMUS (Co-Medical Director-planner & QI Task Force)**

Professor of Emergency Medicine  
Fellowship Director of Advanced Emergency Medicine Ultrasound Fellowship Program  
University of South Florida Morsani College of Medicine  
Tampa, FL

***No relevant financial relationships to disclose***

**Andreas Dewitz, MD, RDMS (Member of Advisory Board & QI Task Force Subcommittee)**

Clinical Professor of Emergency Medicine  
Clinical Director of POCUS Education, Solomont Simulation Center  
Department of Emergency Medicine  
Boston Medical Center  
Boston, MA

***No relevant financial relationships to disclose***

**Lori Green, BA, RDMS, RDCS, RVT (Program Director-planner, Content Reviewer, QI Task Force)**

Gulfcoast Ultrasound Institute, Inc.  
St. Petersburg, FL

***No relevant financial relationships to disclose***

**Trisha Reo, AAS, RDMS, RVT (Program Coordinator-planner, Content Reviewer, QI Task Force)**

Gulfcoast Ultrasound Institute, Inc.  
St. Petersburg, FL

***No relevant financial relationships to disclose***

**Mark Swanson, RDMS, RVT (Senior Clinical Instructor/Product Specialist-planner, Content Reviewer, QI Task Force)**

Gulfcoast Ultrasound Institute, Inc.  
St. Petersburg, FL

***No relevant financial relationships to disclose***

**Hands-On Instructors:**

At the time of printing **all hands-on instructors for this program have signed disclosure forms and have no relevant financial relationships to disclose.** A verbal disclosure will be made during opening remarks. All scanning sessions are monitored by the Program Director and/or Program Coordinator to ensure education objectives are met and no commercial bias occurs.

**Content:**

All content for this CME activity were reviewed and approved by member(s) of the GUI staff to determine content validity and ensure that no commercial bias exists prior to final course material compilation and printing

**Reviewed & approved:**

Lori Green BA, RDMS, RDCS, RVT

Trisha Reo AAS, RDMS, RVT

Mark Swanson, RDMS, RVT



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# Welcome!!

The entire staff at Gulfcoast Ultrasound Institute would like to welcome you to our educational facility.

Our goal is to provide the highest quality continuing education possible in a relaxed and personal atmosphere. The content of each program has been carefully planned to provide you with the information needed to obtain a firm foundation to begin gaining the experience to perform and/or interpret ultrasound examinations in the specialty of your choice. The program will be structured with lectures in the morning and hands-on sessions during the afternoon to allow more individualized attention the program participants will be divided into groups for the hands-on workshops based on your experience level and type of equipment you work with.

*To help you get the most out of this program we would like to make the following recommendations:*

1. Attend the lectures and scheduled hands-on sessions.
2. When you are not involved in a scheduled afternoon session, take advantage of the SUPPLEMENTAL SCANNING WORKSHOP or check out a DVD from our library.
3. If you do not understand a particular concept, ASK FOR HELP!
4. Study your course workbook during the evening.
5. Remember excellence is not achieved overnight. Becoming proficient in any ultrasound specialty requires the commitment to continually study and perform multiple (at least 100) exams before an initial level of confidence is achieved. The AIUM guidelines suggest competency for interpretation requires a minimum of 500 exams per specialty.
6. Begin scanning immediately upon return to the ultrasound departments even if it's on a volunteer. We recommend scanning/interpretations under supervised conditions until an accepted level of proficiency has been obtained.

All of our instructors, guest speakers and office staff are here to serve you! If you have questions of any kind, please do not hesitate to ask.





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### ***Gulfcoast Ultrasound Institute*** **EQUIPMENT RECOMMENDATIONS**

Since 1985, Ultrasound Institute has taken great pride in our ability to provide quality continuing education programs while remaining unbiased regarding the recommendation of ultrasound equipment.

Our programs are supported by most of the major equipment manufacturers by providing their systems for use during the hands-on sessions. These companies have learned their products will be used and demonstrated to the best of our abilities in an educational setting and that no selling or promotion is done on our premises.

We realize that some of the course participants may currently be in the process of evaluating equipment for purchase and would like the opinions of our staff to determine the “best” system for your department. Everyone has a “favorite” ultrasound system (usually because it is the one they have worked with the most and are comfortable with) however, Gulfcoast Ultrasound must take an unbiased position in regards to equipment recommendations.

If you are currently evaluating equipment for purchase, we suggest you invite the equipment manufacturers to your facility for a private demonstration to determine image quality, ease of use, over-all capabilities etc. on an individual basis.

Thank you!

*Lori Green BA, RDMS, RDCS, RVT*

Lori Green, BA, RDMS, RDCS, RVT  
Program Director