

RESPIRATORY CARE

The Respiratory Care program educates students to become registered respiratory therapists. Respiratory therapists are health care professionals that work at the bedside of patients with respiratory or breathing problems. Using patient interviews and chest exams, respiratory therapists assist in diagnosing pulmonary conditions and recommending treatment. Respiratory therapists consult with physicians and recommend changes in therapy based on evaluations of the patient. They analyze breathing, tissue and blood specimens to determine levels of oxygen and other gases. Respiratory therapists manage ventilators and artificial airway devices of patients in the neonatal, pediatric, or adult ICU who can't breathe normally on their own. They respond to cardiac arrests, traumas, and other urgent calls for care in the ER and critical care units. Respiratory therapists also educate patients and families about lung disease to maximize their recovery. Additionally, respiratory therapists may also be found in home care, long-term ventilator-dependent, pulmonary rehabilitation, or pulmonary function facilities.

Program Description

The Respiratory Care program is a 24-month, six-semester program that begins in the fall semester. The Respiratory Care program is unique from other programs because students have clinical bedside experiences with their respiratory faculty every semester beginning in the first spring semester. Additionally, Respiratory Care students develop decision-making and critical thinking skills with the use of clinical simulation. Upon successful completion of the program, students earn an Associate in Applied Science degree and are eligible to take the National Board of Respiratory Care credentialing exams.

The AAS Degree Respiratory Therapy program located in Lancaster, PA, program number 200558, is accredited by the Commission on Accreditation for Respiratory Care (www.coarc.com). For more information, contact the Commission on Accreditation for Respiratory Care at 264 Precision Boulevard, Telford, TN 37690 or (817) 283-2835.

Mission

The mission of the Respiratory Care program is to create a dynamic learning environment that educates its students to be compassionate, competent professionals that obtain the registered respiratory therapist credential. The program will facilitate critical thinking and independent learning as well as development of therapeutic skills to enable graduates to function effectively as part of the health care team.

Learning Goals and Objectives

Goal 1: Demonstrate competence in the cognitive (knowledge), psychomotor (skills) and affective (behavior) learning domains of respiratory care practice as performed by registered respiratory therapists.

Goal 2: Function as an integral part of the health care team.

Goal 3: Provide patients with competent, efficient and professional cardiopulmonary care.

Goal 4: Utilize theoretical knowledge, clinical experience and critical thinking as the basis for professional practice.

Goal 5: Practice responsibly within the ethical and legal realm of the respiratory therapist.

Goal 6: Demonstrate compassionate and culturally sensitive patient care.

Associate Requirements

Code	Title	Hours
General Education		
BIO 175	A&P for Nursing & Allied Health	4
BIO 175L	A&P Nursing & Allied Health Lab	0
ENG 101	Craft of Language	3
MAT 112	College Algebra	3
CSS 101	College Studies Seminar	3
HSC 390	Medical Terminology	1
BIO 176	A&P Nursing & Allied Health II	4
BIO 176L	A&P Nursing & Allied Hlth II Lab	0
CHM 101	Chemistry for Allied Health	3
CHM 101L	Chemistry Allied Health Lab	0
PSY 100	Introductory Psychology	3
PHL 490	Ethical & Legal Dimen Hlth Sci	1
SOC 101	Intro to Sociology	3
or SOC 270	Special Topics	
INT 103	Methods of Patient Care	1
Respiratory Care		
RCP 110	Respiratory Care Proc I	3
RCP 110L	Respiratory Care Lab I	3
RCP 130	Respiratory Care Theory I	2
RCP 140	Respiratory Care Proc II	2
RCP 140L	Respiratory Care Lab II	1
RCP 160	Respiratory Care Theory II	2
RCP 201	Entry Level Review	2
RCP 230	Respiratory Care Theory III	2
RCP 210	Respiratory Care Proc III	3
RCP 210L	Respiratory Care Lab III	2
RCP 240	RC Clinical Level I	2
RCP 260	Resp Care Lab IV Clinical	0
RCP 260L	Respiratory Care Lab IV	3
RCP 271	RC Theory & Applic IV	3
RCP 280	Adv Level Resp Care Review	2
RCP 290	RC Clinical Level II	4
RCP 251	RC Proc & Diagnostics IV	3
Total Hours		68

Typical Course Sequence

Course	Title	Hours
First Year		
Fall		
BIO 175	A&P for Nursing & Allied Health	4
BIO 175L	A&P Nursing & Allied Health Lab	0
CSS 101	College Studies Seminar	3
ENG 101	Craft of Language	3
MAT 112	College Algebra	3
HSC 390	Medical Terminology	1
Hours		14

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Spring		
RCP 110	Respiratory Care Proc I	3
RCP 110L	Respiratory Care Lab I	3
RCP 130	Respiratory Care Theory I	2
BIO 176	A&P Nursing & Allied Health II	4
BIO 176L	A&P Nursing&Allied Hlth II Lab	0
CHM 101	Chemistry for Allied Health	3
CHM 101L	Chemistry Allied Health Lab	0
INT 103	Methods of Patient Care	1
Hours		16
Summer		
RCP 140	Respiratory Care Proc II	2
RCP 140L	Respiratory Care Lab II	1
RCP 160	Respiratory Care Theory II	2
Hours		5
Second Year		
Fall		
RCP 201	Entry Level Review	2
RCP 210	Respiratory Care Proc III	3
RCP 210L	Respiratory Care Lab III	2
RCP 230	Respiratory Care Theory III	2
RCP 240	RC Clinical Level I	2
PSY 100	Introductory Psychology	3
Hours		14
Spring		
RCP 251	RC Proc & Diagnostics IV	3
RCP 260	Resp Care Lab IV Clinical	0
RCP 260L	Respiratory Care Lab IV	3
RCP 271	RC Theory & Applic IV	3
PHL 490	Ethical & Legal Dimen Hlth Sci	1
SOC 101 or SOC 270	Intro to Sociology or Special Topics	3
Hours		13
Summer		
RCP 280	Adv Level Resp Care Review	2
RCP 290	RC Clinical Level II	4
Hours		6
Total Hours		68