

PROGRAMS

RESPIRATORY THERAPY

Contact(s): Amy Witschey

The Respiratory Therapy curriculum offers career education for respiratory therapists, who specialize in the application of scientific knowledge and theory to clinical problems of respiratory care.

Respiratory therapists perform diagnostic testing, treatments, and management of patients with heart and lung diseases. The respiratory therapist is qualified to assume primary clinical responsibility for all respiratory care modalities and is frequently required to exercise considerable independent, clinical judgment in the respiratory care of patients under the direct or indirect supervision of a physician.

Students will master skills in patient assessment and treatment of cardiopulmonary diseases. These skills include ventilator management and monitoring, drug administration, and treatment of patients of all ages in a variety of settings. Graduates may be employed in wide variety of health-related areas including hospitals, clinics, skilled nursing care facilities, home care agencies, rehabilitation centers, industrial and educational institutions.

Upon completion of all required course work, the student will be awarded an Associate in Applied Science degree in Respiratory Therapy. Graduates of the Respiratory Therapy program are eligible to take the Therapist Multiple Choice exam from the National Board for Respiratory Care (NBRC), which will also allow them to apply for licensure in most states. (Licensure requirements vary by state.) Respiratory Therapy program graduates may also be eligible to take Advanced Practitioner examinations from the NBRC.

Learning Outcomes

Upon completion of this program, students will be able to:

- Perform specialized therapeutic and diagnostic procedures in clinical practice required for a respiratory therapist entering the profession.
- Create problem-solving strategies for therapeutic and life-supporting procedures based upon patient assessment.
- Develop therapeutic goals and respiratory care plans for patients with cardiopulmonary disease.
- Defend written and oral case studies with regards to evidence-based practice guidelines.
- Effectively employ interpersonal and communication skills to promote cardiopulmonary wellness and disease management given diverse population groups.
- Exhibit ethical decision making and professional responsibility according to the AARC Statement of Ethics and Professional Conduct.

Accreditation

The Respiratory Therapy program is accredited by the [Commission on Accreditation for Respiratory Care](#) and is a 2022, 2021, 2020, 2019 and 2018 recipient of the CoARC Distinguished RRT Credentialing Success Award.

Stanly Community College is CoARC program #200315 and outcome data can be found [here](#).

Respiratory Therapy Degree - A45720

| First Year | | |
|------------|----------------------------|--------------|
| Fall | | Credit Hours |
| BIO 163 | Basic Anatomy & Physiology | 5 |
| MAT 143 | Quantitative Literacy | 3 |
| RCP 110 | Intro to Respiratory Care | 4 |
| RCP 114 | C-P Anatomy & Physiology | 3 |
| RCP 115 | C-P Pathophysiology | 2 |
| | Credit Hours | 17 |
| Spring | | Credit Hours |
| RCP 111 | Therapeutics/Diagnostics | 5 |
| RCP 113 | RCP Pharmacology | 2 |
| RCP 123 | Special Practice Lab | 1 |
| RCP 144 | RCP Clinical Practice II | 4 |
| | Credit Hours | 12 |
| Summer | | Credit Hours |
| RCP 112 | Patient Management | 4 |
| RCP 154 | RCP Clinical Practice III | 4 |
| | Credit Hours | 8 |

Programs

| Second Year | | |
|-----------------------|--|---------------------|
| Fall | | Credit Hours |
| ENG 111 | Writing and Inquiry | 3 |
| PSY 150 | General Psychology | 3 |
| RCP 210 | Critical Care Concepts | 4 |
| RCP 213 | Neonatal/Ped's Concepts | 2 |
| RCP 234 | RCP Clinical Practice IV | 4 |
| | Credit Hours | 16 |
| Spring | | Credit Hours |
| ENG 112 or ENG 114 | Writing and Research in the Disciplines Professional Research & Reporting | 3 |
| RCP 211 | Adv Monitoring/Procedures | 4 |
| RCP 215 | Career Preparation | 1 |
| RCP 222 | Special Practice Lab | 1 |
| RCP 246 | RCP Clinical Practice V | 6 |
| Humanities elective * | | 3 |
| | Credit Hours | 18 |
| | Total Credit Hours | 71 |

Respiratory Therapy 3 Year Course Sequence

| General Educations course completed prior to the start of the 3-Year Course sequence. | | Credit Hours |
|--|--|---------------------|
| BIO 163 | Basic Anatomy & Physiology | 5 |
| ENG 111 | Writing and Inquiry | 3 |
| ENG 112 or ENG 114 | Writing and Research in the Disciplines Professional Research & Reporting | 3 |
| MAT 143 | Quantitative Literacy | 3 |
| PSY 150 | General Psychology | 3 |
| Humanities elective * | | 3 |
| | Credit Hours | 20 |
| First Year - Fall | | Credit Hours |
| RCP 110 | Intro to Respiratory Care | 4 |
| RCP 114 | C-P Anatomy & Physiology | 3 |
| RCP 115 | C-P Pathophysiology | 2 |
| | Credit Hours | 9 |
| First Year - Spring | | Credit Hours |
| RCP 111 | Therapeutics/Diagnostics | 5 |
| RCP 113 | RCP Pharmacology | 2 |
| RCP 123 | Special Practice Lab | 1 |
| RCP 132 | RCP Clinical Practice I | 2 |
| | Credit Hours | 10 |
| First Year - Summer | | Credit Hours |

| | | |
|-----------------------------|---------------------------|---------------------|
| RCP 112 | Patient Management | 4 |
| RCP 142 | RCP Clinical Practice II | 2 |
| | Credit Hours | 6 |
| Second Year - Fall | | Credit Hours |
| RCP 144 | RCP Clinical Practice II | 4 |
| RCP 213 | Neonatal/Ped's Concepts | 2 |
| | Credit Hours | 6 |
| Second Year - Spring | | Credit Hours |
| RCP 222 | Special Practice Lab | 1 |
| | Credit Hours | 1 |
| Second Year - Summer | | Credit Hours |
| RCP 152 | RCP Clinical Practice III | 2 |
| | Credit Hours | 2 |
| Third Year - Fall | | Credit Hours |
| RCP 154 | RCP Clinical Practice III | 4 |
| RCP 210 | Critical Care Concepts | 4 |
| | Credit Hours | 8 |
| Third Year - Spring | | Credit Hours |
| RCP 211 | Adv Monitoring/Procedures | 4 |
| RCP 215 | Career Preparation | 1 |
| RCP 234 | RCP Clinical Practice IV | 4 |
| | Credit Hours | 9 |
| | Total Credit Hours | 71 |

AGE Pathway

| Courses | | Credit Hours |
|-----------------------|--|---------------------|
| ACA 111 | College Student Success | 1 |
| BIO 163 | Basic Anatomy & Physiology | 5 |
| ENG 111 | Writing and Inquiry | 3 |
| ENG 112 or ENG 114 | Writing and Research in the Disciplines Professional Research & Reporting | 3 |
| HSC 110 | Orientation to Health Careers | 1 |
| MAT 143 | Quantitative Literacy | 3 |
| PSY 150 | General Psychology | 3 |
| AGE elective* | | 42 |
| Humanities elective* | | 3 |
| | Total Credit Hours | 64 |