

Course Code: RTT 117**Course Title:** Introduction to Respiratory Care**Department:** Allied Health**Effective Date:** Summer 2026**PCS Code:** 1.2 - Occupational/Technical Instruction**CIP Code:** 51.0908**Repeatability:** 0

Credit Hours

Catalog Notation: 1-0-1**Credit Hour Distribution:**

Lecture: 1

Lab: 0

Clinical: 0

Total: 1

General Course Information

Catalog Description

Introduction to the history and the roles, responsibilities, and opportunities in the respiratory care profession. Overview of Parkland program, licensing requirements, infection control, respiratory therapeutics, communication, professional ethics.

General Course Objectives

Upon completion of the course, the student will be able to discuss the history of the profession of respiratory care, the roles and responsibilities of the respiratory therapist in interdisciplinary care; to identify the primary therapies provided by the respiratory therapist, including patient assessment, medical gas therapy, inhaled medications, and mechanical ventilation; to discuss techniques of therapeutic communication; to identify requirements of the Parkland Respiratory Care program and the components of student evaluation; and to discuss the post-graduation exam and licensing requirements for entry into practice.

Minimum Placement Levels

English	Reading	Math
Placement out of ENG 099	Placement out of CCS 099	None

Prerequisites

None

Methods of Evaluation

8-10 quizzes, 5-6 discussion posts, 6-10 topic-specific reflection papers, and a final comprehensive reflection paper.

Instructional Materials and Additional Supplies

None.

Course Content

General Learning Outcomes (GLOs)

- Global Awareness and Cultural Reasoning: Students will demonstrate their understanding of global issues, gender and sexual orientation, and multicultural perspectives.

Course Segments and Student Learning Outcomes

Course Segment	Learning Outcomes	Lecture Hours	Lab Hours	Clinical Hours
The History and Development of the Respiratory Care Profession	1. Identify and discuss the key scientific discoveries that led to the evolution of respiratory care profession. 2. Identify the national and state professional organizations; discuss the benefits of professional membership. 3. Identify requirements to earn the minimum credentials and license needed to practice. 4. Identify and apply the ethical standards applied to health care professionals in case scenarios.	2	0	0
Introduction to Respiratory Therapeutics	1. Discuss the impact of infection control practices in healthcare provider and patient safety. 2. Identify and describe transmission-based precautions and identify the proper precautions and personal protective equipment needed in simulated patient cases with specific known pathogens. 3. Identify the medical gases commonly administered by the respiratory therapist. Apply knowledge to select the indicated medical gas for specific patient conditions. 4. Identify the classes of medications administered by the respiratory therapist and the general indications for each. Apply knowledge to suggest the appropriate medication for specific patient clinical presentation. 5. Identify and explain the indications for airway clearance therapies. Identify acute and chronic conditions that commonly require airway clearance therapies. 6. Discuss the devices utilized to provide airway clearance in acute illness and the devices common for patients with chronic airway clearance needs. 7. Identify the indications for mechanical ventilation. Differentiate the indications for non-invasive and invasive ventilatory support.	4	0	0
Professionalism in Respiratory Care	1. Identify and discuss the components of the AARC professional ethics statement. Apply the AARC code of ethics to case examples. 2. Identify the roles of the individual disciplines of the inter-professional healthcare team. 3. Discuss the impact of inter-professional practice on patient safety and patient care outcomes. 4. Identify and discuss common healthcare challenges, including access, costs, allocation, and patient and family expectations. 5. Identify the organizations that regulate and accredit healthcare organizations and facilities. 6. Recommend at least two things that a new respiratory therapist can do to ensure that patients receive safe care.	5	0	0

Course Segment	Learning Outcomes	Lecture Hours	Lab Hours	Clinical Hours
Respiratory Care at Parkland	1. Identify the three components of student development and technical/clinical performance that are assessed throughout the program. 2. Identify the program expectations for attendance and participation in scheduled classes, labs, and clinicals. 3. Discuss the role of simulation in health care education and the level of professionalism expected in simulation activities. 4. Identify the components of the Health Information Privacy and Portability Act (HIPAA.) Discuss the application of HIPAA in healthcare. Identify the consequences of violation of HIPAA for the student and the licensed practitioner. 5. Discuss the potential impact of use and misuse of social media for health professions students and apply to specific case studies.	4	0	0

Total Contact Hours

Lecture Hours	Lab Hours	Clinical Hours
15	0	0