

Respiratory Care – Baccalaureate Day Majors

INTRODUCTION

The respiratory care major prepares students for advanced level practice as respiratory therapists. As members of an interdisciplinary health care team, respiratory therapists evaluate, treat, and manage patients of all ages with respiratory illnesses and other cardiopulmonary disorders in a wide variety of health care settings. In addition to performing therapeutic and diagnostic procedures, respiratory therapists promote cardiopulmonary wellness, disease prevention, and disease management; provide patient, family, and community education; participate in life support activities, and are involved in clinical decision-making.

The respiratory care major builds upon a broad foundation of coursework in the liberal arts and basic sciences and prepares students to provide comprehensive and holistic care to patients. With approximately 900 hours of clinical experiences in critical care, newborn and pediatric intensive care, home care, pulmonary diagnostics, and rehabilitation, students are active participants in their learning and work collaboratively with faculty to develop respiratory care skills, critical thinking, and professional communication. Graduates of the program are prepared to provide excellent patient care, influence the quality of health care services in diverse practice settings, promote cardiopulmonary health, and assume leadership positions in the profession.

STUDY PLAN OPTIONS

The College of St. Catherine is one of the few colleges in the Upper Midwest to offer an undergraduate degree in the field of respiratory care. The major is offered in six consecutive semesters and one summer session for day students. There are curricular options available for students who are pursuing a second major or transferring undergraduate credit. Students seeking a major in respiratory care receive individualized advising to facilitate their timely completion of professional, liberal arts, and science courses.

FACULTY

Our faculty is highly qualified and utilizes various teaching methodologies in presenting course content. The emphasis of faculty expertise is in critical care, biomedical ethics, pulmonary diagnostics, and administration. Respiratory care faculty members are active in medical and community settings and in national professional organizations.

CURRICULUM

The curriculum integrates the respiratory care courses with a liberal arts and science background to provide the student with a well-balanced depth of knowledge. This diverse foundation will prepare you to function as a competent professional in your daily interactions with clients in various health care settings. You will learn the essential knowledge and skills required of the respiratory care practitioner in courses such as:

- Principles of Patient Management
- Principles of Ventilation
- Pathophysiology in Critical Care
- Clinical Applications
- Advanced Therapeutics
- Clinical Specialty

ACCREDITATION

The respiratory care program is accredited as an advanced level practice program by the Commission on Accreditation of Allied Health Education Programs in conjunction with the Committee on Accreditation for Respiratory Care.

CLINICAL EXPERIENCES

Clinical experiences are an essential component of this program. You will be given opportunities to apply your knowledge and assessment skills in various clinical settings, including adult, pediatric, neonatal, rehabilitation, and pulmonary function. The program utilizes a preceptor model for teaching many of the clinical experiences featuring a 1-to-1 student-preceptor ratio. Practicums are scheduled at several metropolitan health-care facilities, Abbott Northwestern Hospital, Children's Hospitals and Clinics, Fairview-University Medical Center, Hennepin County Medical Center, Methodist Hospital, and North Memorial Medical Center. Seniors with the help of their advisors, will select a specialty tracks for one or more internships. Options include adult care, pediatric care, neonatal care, management, education, cardiopulmonary diagnostics, hemodynamics, polysomnography, and pulmonary rehabilitation/home care. Through your clinical rotations, you will gain experience working with diverse clientele in sub-acute and critical care settings.

CREDENTIALING

Graduates of the program are eligible to take the National Board for Respiratory Care (NBRC) credentialing exams. Completion of the NBRC entry-level exam results in the graduate being awarded the CRT (Certified Respiratory Therapist) credential. This allows the individual to apply to the Minnesota Board of Medical Practice to work as a respiratory therapist in the state of Minnesota. Upon successful completion of the NBRC registry exam, the graduate is awarded the RRT (Registered Respiratory Therapist) credential, signifying advanced professional achievement.

ACCEPTANCE TO THE MAJOR

Students are required to apply to enter the respiratory care major. To enter the respiratory care major, students must have completed 30 credit hours at a minimum overall GPA of 2.5, including prerequisite courses. Applications to the major are accepted between October 1st and June 30th prior to the fall semester when the student plans to begin course work in the respiratory care major. Admission to the respiratory care major is contingent upon completion of prerequisite requirements at the designated levels of success and the availability of space. Students who have been CSC students since the beginning of their college experience are given first access to available seats in the program. Students who indicate interest in the respiratory care major after the June 30th deadline are encouraged to contact the program chair. Late applications to enter the major will be considered on an individual basis.

Applications to the major are available online:

<http://www.stkate.edu/RC/RESPapp/APP.php>

FOR MORE INFORMATION

For more information about St. Kate's Respiratory Care Program, please contact an admission counselor in the Office of Admission at 651-690-8850 or toll free at 800-656-KATE (656-5238).

College Web site: www.stkate.edu

E-mail: admissions@stkate.edu

The College of St. Catherine
Office of Admission, Mail #F-2
2004 Randolph Avenue
St. Paul, MN 55105

The Department of Respiratory Care is located on the Minneapolis campus of the College. Phone: 651-690-7819.

Program Web site: www.stkate.edu/RC

E-mail: rc@stkate.edu

The College of St. Catherine
Department of Respiratory Care
601 25th Avenue South
Minneapolis, MN 55454

4 Year Curriculum Calendar - Baccalaureate Major in Respiratory Care

YEAR 1				
Fall Semester		Winter Semester		Summer Session
SOCI 1000: Sociology	(4 cr.)	Chemistry Requirement ²	(4 cr.)	
Mathematics Requirement ¹	(4 cr.)	PSYC 1001: Psychology	(4 cr.)	
CORE 1000: The Reflective Woman	(4 cr.)	Supporting Courses/Electives	(8 cr.)	
Supporting Courses/Electives	(4 cr.)			
YEAR 2				
Fall Semester		Winter Semester		Summer Session
RESP 2100: Intro, to Respiratory Care	(4 cr.)	RESP 2200: Principles of Patient Management	(4 cr.)	
BIOL2400 or 2510: Anatomy and Physiology I	(4 cr.)	BIOL2410 or 2520: Anatomy and Physiology II	(4 cr.)	
Supporting Courses/Electives	(8 cr.)	BIOL 2450 or 2200: Intro. to Microbiology	(4 cr.)	
		INDI 1150/1160: Basic Pt Care / RESP Pt Care	(4 cr.)	
YEAR 3				
Fall Semester		Winter Semester		Summer Session
RESP 3100: Principles of Ventilation	(4 cr.)	RESP 3200: Advanced Therapeutics	(4 cr.)	
RESP 3110: Clinical Applications I	(2 cr.)	RESP 3210: Clinical Applications II	(4 cr.)	
RESP 3120: Pathophysiology in Critical Care I	(2 cr.)	RESP 3220: Pathophysiology in Critical Care II	(2 cr.)	RESP 3310: Clinical Appl. III (6 cr.)
INDI 3150: Pharmacology	(4 cr.)	Supporting Courses/Electives	(4 cr.)	
Supporting Courses/Electives	(4 cr.)			
YEAR 4				
Fall Semester		Winter Semester		
RESP 4100: Advanced Critical Care	(4 cr.)	RESP 4200: Senior Seminar	(2 cr.)	
RESP 4110: Clinical Specialty I	(2 cr.)	RESP 4210: Clinical Specialty II ³	(2 cr.)	
PHIL 3400: Biomedical Ethics	(4 cr.)	CORE 3990: Global Search for Justice	(4 cr.)	
Supporting Courses/Electives	(4 cr.)	Supporting Courses/Electives	(8 cr.)	

NOTES: 1. MATH1050, MATH1080, PSYC2050 or ECON2250. 2. CHEM 1010 or CHEM 1110 & 1120. 3. RESP 4210 recommended
Respiratory Care majors satisfy the CSC Writing Requirement for Majors by completing RESP 3200 and 4200.
You complete the Liberal Arts and Sciences Core Writing Requirements with two other writing-intensive courses (CORE 1000 and CORE 3990)