RESPIRATORY THERAPY (AAS)

Degree: Associate of Applied Science
Major: Respiratory Therapy
Program Code: 1661

About This Major...

This program, which is offered at the main campus, allows students to achieve an Associate of Applied Science in Respiratory Therapy degree, opening greater employment opportunities in health care. The Associate of Applied Science in Respiratory Therapy program exposes the student to oral and written communication skills, social/behavior sciences, and biomedical/natural sciences, as well as respiratory care. The Associate of Applied Science in Respiratory Therapy exposes the students to a variety of settings, such as inpatient, outpatient, and home care, as well as different patient populations.

This program has selective admission requirements. It is the student's responsibility to obtain the current admission requirements.

Important information for this program:

The following prerequisites must be successfully completed, along with admission into the program before a student will be granted admission into the respiratory therapy program. Must earn a grade of "C" or better in each course:

- BIOL 209/BIOL 209L
- BIOL 250/BIOL 250L
- CHEM 131/CHEM 131L
- ENGL 111
- ENGL 112 or SPCH 101 or SPCH 102
- MATH 113
- KINA Activity Class
- KINE 100
- PSYC 150 or PSYC 233

Additional admission requirements also apply. Please visit the Department of Health Sciences' website for a complete list of admission requirements and program information.

For more information on what you can do with this major, visit Career Services' What to Do with a Major? resource.

All CMU/CMU Tech associate graduates are expected to demonstrate proficiency in specialized knowledge/applied learning, quantitative fluency, communication fluency, critical thinking, personal and social responsibility, and information literacy. In addition to these campus#wide student learning outcomes, graduates of this major will be able to:

a. Exemplify proficiency as a respiratory care practitioner, as outlined by the National Board of Respiratory Care (NBRC) and the Commission on Accreditation for Respiratory Care (CoARC) (Specialized Knowledge/Applied Learning).
b. Aid in the diagnosis, management, and treatment of cardiopulmonary patients (Critical Thinking).
c. Apply and evaluate information pertinent to the respiratory care practitioner role (Quantitative Fluency).
d. Exhibit technical competency in skills researched and utilized as a respiratory care practitioner (Information Literacy).
e. Display professionalism, as well as, culture, ethnic, and individual diversity as expected of a respiratory care practitioner (Personal Social Responsibility).
f. Describe and discuss alternative care sites (Communication Fluency).

Requirements

Each section below contains details about the requirements for this program. Select a header to expand the information/requirements for that particular section of the program's requirements.

To print or save an overview of this program's information, including the program description, learning outcomes, requirements, suggested course sequencing (if applicable), and advising and graduation information, scroll to the bottom of the left-hand navigation menu and select "Print Options." This will give you the options to either "Send Page to Printer" or "Download PDF of This Page." The "Download PDF of This Page" option prepares a much more concise presentation of all program information. The PDF is also printable and may be preferable due to its brevity.

Institutional Degree Requirements

The following institutional degree requirements apply to all CMU and CMU Tech Associate of Applied Science (AAS) degrees. Specific programs may have different requirements that must be met in addition to institutional requirements.

- 60 semester hours minimum.
- Students must complete a minimum of 15 of the final 30 semester hours of credit at CMU/CMU Tech.
- 2.00 cumulative GPA or higher in all CMU/CMU Tech coursework.
- A course may only be used to fulfill one requirement for each degree/certificate.
- No more than six semester hours of independent study courses can be used toward the degree.
- Non-traditional credit, such as advanced placement, credit by examination, credit for prior learning, cooperative education and internships, cannot exceed 20 semester credit hours for an AAS degree.
- Pre-collegiate courses (usually numbered below 100) cannot be used for graduation.
- Capstone exit assessment/projects (e.g., Major Field Achievement Test) requirements are identified under Program-Specific Degree Requirements.
- The Catalog Year determines which program sheet and degree requirements a student must fulfill in order to graduate. Visit with your advisor or academic department to determine which catalog year and program requirements you should follow.
- See "Requirements for Undergraduate Degrees and Certificates" in the catalog for a complete list of graduation requirements.

Specific to this degree:

- 73 semester hours required for the AAS in Respiratory Therapy.
- Must have a "C" or better in all courses.

Essential Learning Requirements

(All courses must be passed with a "C" or better for each course in this degree.)

See the current catalog for a list of courses that fulfill the requirements below. If a course is an Essential Learning option and a requirement for your major, you must use it to fulfill the major requirement and make a different selection for the Essential Learning requirement.

Code	Title	Semester Credit Hours
Communication		
ENGL 111	English Composition I-GTCO1	3
Choose one of the following:		3
ENGL 112	English Composition II-GTCO2	
SPCH 101	Interpersonal Communication	
SPCH 102	Speechmaking	
Mathematics		
MATH 113	College Algebra-GTMA1	4
Other Essential Learning Core Courses		
PSYC 233	Human Growth and Development-GTSS3	3
or PSYC 150	General Psychology-GTSS3	
BIOL 250 & 250L	Introduction to Microbiology-GTSC1 and Introduction to Microbiology Laboratory-GTSC1	4
Total Semester Credit Hours		**17**

Other Lower Division Requirements

(2 semester hours, must earn a grade of "C" or better in each course.)

Code	Title	Semester Credit Hours
Wellness Requirement		
KINE 100	Health and Wellness	1
Select one Activity course		1
Total Semester Credit Hours		**2**

Program Specific Degree Requirements

(54 semester hours, must earn a grade of "C" or better in each course.)

Code	Title	Semester Credit Hours
Prerequisite courses (must be completed with a grade of "C" or better before admission to the program):		
BIOL 209 & 209L	Human Anatomy and Physiology I and Human Anatomy and Physiology I Laboratory	4
CHEM 131 & 131L	General Chemistry I-GTSC1 and General Chemistry Laboratory I-GTSC1	5
RESP Program-Specific Courses:		
RESP 201	Introduction to Respiratory Care	2
RESP 202	Cardiopulmonary Anatomy and Physiology	3
RESP 203 & 203L	Respiratory Procedures I and Respiratory Procedures I Laboratory	4
RESP 204	Respiratory Pharmacology	3
RESP 205	Cardiopulmonary Pathophysiology	3
RESP 206	Cardiopulmonary Diagnostics	2
RESP 207	Noninvasive Care Management	2
RESP 208 & 208L	Respiratory Procedures II and Respiratory Procedures II Laboratory	3
RESP 209	Respiratory Clinical I	2
RESP 211 & 211L	Mechanical Ventilation and Mechanical Ventilation Laboratory	4
RESP 213	Fundamentals of Pediatric and Neonatal Care	2
RESP 214	Professional Development for Respiratory Care Practitioners	2
RESP 219	Respiratory Clinical II	5
RESP 229	Respiratory Clinical III	8
Total Semester Credit Hours		**54**

Suggested Course Plan

First Year

Fall Semester

		Semester Credit Hours
BIOL 209 & 209L	Human Anatomy and Physiology I and Human Anatomy and Physiology I Laboratory	4
ENGL 111	English Composition I-GTCO1	3
MATH 113	College Algebra-GTMA1	4
PSYC 150 or PSYC 233	General Psychology-GTSS3 or Human Growth and Development-GTSS3	3
	Semester Credit Hours	**14**

Spring Semester

BIOL 250 & 250L	Introduction to Microbiology-GTSC1 and Introduction to Microbiology Laboratory-GTSC1	4
CHEM 131 & 131L	General Chemistry I-GTSC1 and General Chemistry Laboratory I-GTSC1	5
KINE 100	Health and Wellness	1
KINA Activity Course		1
Select one of the following:		3
ENGL 112	English Composition II-GTCO2	
SPCH 101	Interpersonal Communication	
SPCH 102	Speechmaking	
	Semester Credit Hours	**14**

Second Year

Fall Semester

RESP 201	Introduction to Respiratory Care	2
RESP 202	Cardiopulmonary Anatomy and Physiology	3
RESP 203 & 203L	Respiratory Procedures I and Respiratory Procedures I Laboratory	4
RESP 204	Respiratory Pharmacology	3
	Semester Credit Hours	**12**

Spring Semester

RESP 205	Cardiopulmonary Pathophysiology	3
RESP 206	Cardiopulmonary Diagnostics	2
RESP 207	Noninvasive Care Management	2
RESP 208 & 208L	Respiratory Procedures II and Respiratory Procedures II Laboratory	3
RESP 209	Respiratory Clinical I	2
	Semester Credit Hours	**12**

Summer Semester

RESP 211 & 211L	Mechanical Ventilation and Mechanical Ventilation Laboratory	4
RESP 219	Respiratory Clinical II	5
	Semester Credit Hours	**9**

Third Year

Fall Semester

RESP 213	Fundamentals of Pediatric and Neonatal Care	2

RESP 214	Professional Development for Respiratory Care Practitioners	2
RESP 229	Respiratory Clinical III	8
	Semester Credit Hours	**12**
	Total Semester Credit Hours	**73**

Advising and Graduation
Advising Process and DegreeWorks

Documentation on the pages related to this program is intended for informational purposes to help determine what courses and associated requirements are needed to earn a degree. The suggested course sequencing outlines how students could finish degree requirements. Some courses are critical to complete in specific semesters, while others may be moved around. Meeting with an academic advisor is essential in planning courses and altering the suggested course sequencing. It is ultimately the student's responsibility to understand and fulfill the requirements for their intended degree(s).

DegreeWorks is an online degree audit tool available in MAVzone. It is the official record used by the Registrar's Office to evaluate progress towards a degree and determine eligibility for graduation. Students are responsible for reviewing their DegreeWorks audit on a regular basis and should discuss questions or concerns with their advisor or academic department head. Discrepancies in requirements should be reported to the Registrar's Office.

Graduation Process

Students must complete the following in the first two months of the semester prior to completing their degree requirements:

- Review their DegreeWorks audit and create a plan that outlines how unmet requirements will be met in the final semester.
- Meet with their advisor and modify their plan as needed. The advisor must approve the final plan.
- Submit the "Intent to Graduate" form to the Registrar's Office to officially declare the intended graduation date and commencement ceremony plans.
- Register for all needed courses and complete all requirements for each degree sought.

Submission deadlines and commencement details can be found on the Graduation web page.

If a student's petition for graduation is denied, it will be their responsibility to apply for graduation in a subsequent semester. A student's "Intent to Graduate" does not automatically move to a later graduation date.