

Respiratory Therapy

Associate of Science Degree Program

Contact Hours: 1,865

Semester Credits: 76

Instructional Weeks – Full Time: 70

Average Time to Complete – Full Time: 17 Months

Program Overview

Respiratory Therapists assess, treat, and care for patients with breathing disorders. They assume primary responsibility for all respiratory care modalities, including the supervision of respiratory therapy technicians. Respiratory Therapists initiate and conduct therapeutic procedures; maintain patient records; and select, assemble, check, and operate equipment. They also may serve as asthma educators, patient educators, case managers, Hyperbaric Oxygen Specialists, Extra Corporeal Membrane Oxygenation Specialists and Sleep Specialists. Respiratory Therapists work in hospitals, clinics, skilled nursing facilities, home care, and diagnostic labs.

The Respiratory Care Practitioner (RCP) deals with patients of all ages who may be gravely injured or ill. The RCP is among the first on the medical team called to provide treatment in cardiopulmonary emergencies. The RCP also cares for patients in all aspects of their treatment and recovery. The RCP must be sensitive to the needs of those who have serious physical, mental, or psychological impairments. The RCP must also be able to cope with emergencies and work well as a member of the healthcare team.

Program Mission

The purpose of the Respiratory Therapy program is to prepare graduates with demonstrated competence in the cognitive (knowledge), psychomotor (skills), and affective (behavior) learning domains of respiratory care practice as performed by Registered Respiratory Therapists (RRTs). Graduates will earn an Associate of Science degree. Graduates of this program will be eligible to sit for the Therapist Multiple-Choice Examination (TMC) of the National Board for Respiratory Care (NBRC). If the candidate meets the RRT score on the TMC, the graduate is eligible to sit for the Clinical Simulation Examination (CSE) of the NBRC. Achieving the minimum acceptable score on the TMC will result in the candidate receiving the Certified Respiratory Therapist (CRT) credential. To receive the RRT credential, the candidate must pass the TMC, at the RRT level, and the CSE exams. California graduates must pass the RRT exam to be eligible for a license. Registration and certification requirements for taking and passing these examinations are not controlled by Concorde, but by outside agencies, and are subject to change by the agency without notice. Therefore, Concorde cannot guarantee that graduates will be eligible to take these exams, at all or at any specific time, regardless of their eligibility status upon enrollment.

Skills Proficiency

Students must be able to perform certain procedures and skills to work as Respiratory Care Practitioners. These are learned in the school's clinical laboratory and at hospital clinical sites under the direct supervision and evaluation of a preceptor. All students must participate. All students must take and pass preclinical written and oral examinations prior to advancing to the clinical portion of the program.

Program Delivery

The Respiratory Therapy program is delivered in a blended format. Courses will be delivered entirely online, entirely on-ground or with an appropriate blend of both online and on-ground hours in the same course. Of the 1,865 program hours, a maximum of 465 course hours (24.9%) may be offered online (including general education courses). Campuses may have the option to deliver general education courses either online or on-ground depending on local need and availability.

Program Objectives

- To provide a learning environment that correlates well with the actual workplace and a clinical experience that correlates with classroom instruction.
- To instill in the student a sense of professional behavior, attitude, and dress consistent with medical standards.
- To provide the student with entry-level knowledge and skills in the field of respiratory care.
- To prepare students for advanced-level competency as Registered Respiratory Therapists.
- To supply competent Respiratory Therapists to the national work pool.

California State Licensure Requirements

- Must be a graduate from an accredited respiratory care program, with a minimum of an associate degree.
- Must successfully complete a Board-approved Law and Professional Ethics Course prior to licensure.
- Must successfully complete, at a minimum, the RRT examination.

This applies to all students starting on or after January 22, 2022

Term 1

Course #	Course Title	Pre-Requisites	Co-Requisites	Theory Hours (Ground/Online)	Lab Hours (Ground/Online)	Clinical Hours (Ground/Online)	Semester Credit Hours
BIOL1310 *	Anatomy & Physiology I			45 (0 / 45)	0	0	3
COMM1310 *	Elements of Human Communication			45 (0 / 45)	0	0	3
ENGL1310 *	English Composition I			45 (0 / 45)	0	0	3
MATH1320 *	College Algebra			45 (0 / 45)	0	0	3
Subtotal				180 (0/180)	0	0	12

Term 2

Course #	Course Title	Pre-Requisites	Co-Requisites	Theory Hours (Ground/Online)	Lab Hours (Ground/Online)	Clinical Hours (Ground/Online)	Semester Credit Hours
BIOL1320 *	Anatomy & Physiology II			45 (0 / 45)	0	0	3
BIOL1330 *	Microbiology			45 (0 / 45)	0	0	3
BIOL1350 *	Cardiopulmonary Anatomy & Physiology			45 (0 / 45)			3
PSYC1310 *	General Psychology			45 (0 / 45)	0	0	3
Subtotal				180 (0/180)	0	0	12

Term 3

Course #	Course Title	Pre-Requisites	Co-Requisites	Theory Hours (Ground/Online)	Lab Hours (Ground/Online)	Clinical Hours (Ground/Online)	Semester Credit Hours
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RESP1110	Respiratory Therapy Foundations	All Terms 1 & 2 Courses	RESP1210	180 (140 / 40)			10.5
RESP1210	Respiratory Therapy Foundations Applications	All Terms 1 & 2 Courses	RESP1110		60 (60 / 0)		2
Subtotal				180 (140/40)	60 (60/0)		12.5

Term 4

Course #	Course Title	Pre-Requisites	Co-Requisites	Theory Hours (Ground/Online)	Lab Hours (Ground/Online)	Clinical Hours (Ground/Online)	Semester Credit Hours
RESP1310	Respiratory Therapeutics, Diagnostics and Disease Management	All Term 3 Courses		30 (25 / 5)	45 (40 / 5)		3.5
RESP1610	Respiratory Therapeutics, Diagnostics and Disease Management Applications	All Term 3 Courses				285 (285 / 0)	6
Subtotal				30 (25/5)	45 (40/5)	285 (285/0)	9.5

Term 5

Course #	Course Title	Pre-Requisites	Co-Requisites	Theory Hours (Ground/Online)	Lab Hours (Ground/Online)	Clinical Hours (Ground/Online)	Semester Credit Hours
RESP2310	Cardiopulmonary Critical Care	All Term 4 Courses		30 (30 / 0)	45 (40 / 5)		3.5
RESP2610	Cardiopulmonary Critical Care Applications	All Term 4 Courses				285 (285 / 0)	6
Subtotal				30 (30/0)	45 (40/5)	285 (285/0)	9.5

Term 6

Course #	Course Title	Pre-Requisites	Co-Requisites	Theory Hours (Ground/Online)	Lab Hours (Ground/Online)	Clinical Hours (Ground/Online)	Semester Credit Hours
RESP2620	Respiratory Care of Specialty Populations	All Term 5 Courses		75 (55 / 20)	30 (25 / 5)		6
RESP2410	Respiratory Care of Specialty Populations Applications	All Term 5 Courses				180 (180 / 0)	4
Subtotal				75 (55/20)	30 (25/5)	180 (180/0)	10

Term 7

Course #	Course Title	Pre-Requisites	Co-Requisites	Theory Hours (Ground/Online)	Lab Hours (Ground/Online)	Clinical Hours (Ground/Online)	Semester Credit Hours
RESP2810	Respiratory Therapy Capstone and Board Exam Prep	All Term 6 Courses		100 (80 / 20)	40 (35 / 5)		8
RESP2210	Respiratory Therapy Capstone and Board Exam Prep Applications	All Term 6 Courses				120 (120 / 0)	2.5
Subtotal				100 (80/20)	40 (35/5)	120 (120/0)	10.5
Total				775 (330/445)	220 (200/20)	870 (870/0)	76

* These courses may be offered entirely online or entirely on-ground at the campus.