



**2023-2024**  
**NWKTC Catalog and Student Handbook**

Respiratory Care

**Description:** The Respiratory Therapy program is designed to provide students with the necessary skills and related technical information to work as a respiratory therapist in the medical field. Respiratory Care is a health profession that engages in the evaluation, treatment, management, and care of patients with heart and lung problems. Respiratory therapists are involved in many specialty areas such as: Adult Intensive Care; Neonatal and Pediatric ICU Pulmonary Function Laboratory Sleep Laboratory; Home Care; and Rehabilitation.

**Degree/Certificates awarded:**  
 AAS

**Accreditation/Certification:**  
 The Northwest Kansas Technical College holds a Letter of Review from the Committee on Accreditation for Respiratory Care ([www.coarc.com](http://www.coarc.com)).  
 Committee on Accreditation for Respiratory Care  
 1248 Harwood Road Bedford, Texas 76021-4244  
 (817) 283-2835.

- Program Learning Outcomes:**  
 Upon successful program completion, students will be able to:
1. Apply standard medical terminology to define and translate common medical terms.
  2. Demonstrate knowledge of laws, theories, concepts and/or principles to clinical situations.
  3. Demonstrate basic patient assessment skills to include vital signs, breath sounds, palpation, percussion, and patient interview.
  4. Identify and explain the functions of anatomical structures.
  5. Demonstrate laboratory and clinical proficiency in selection, assembly, application, monitoring, and troubleshooting various pieces of respiratory therapy equipment.
    - Demonstrate mathematical and reasoning skills.
    - Demonstrate effective reading, writing, speaking, listening, and time management skills.
    - Demonstrate professionalism.

**Program Schedule:**  
 Students' daily schedule will vary. Clinicals will be arranged off campus with participating hospital.

## PROGRAM GUIDE

### PRE-REQUISITES

Course #	Course Name	Credits
AL 190	Medical Terminology	3
BIO 290	Anatomy & Physiology	5

### YEAR I: FIRST SEMESTER

Course #	Course Name	Credits
MATH 115 or 117	College Algebra (Required)	3
PSY 176	Psychology (Required)	3
RT 110	Cardiopulmonary A&P	3
RT 120	Patient Assessment & Planning	4
RT 140	Respiratory Care Sciences	3
RT 150A	Respiratory Therapy I	4
SO 100	Student Success Seminar (Required)	1

### YEAR I: SECOND SEMESTER

Course #	Course Name	Credits
ENGL 110 or 112	English Composition I (Required)	3
RT 130	Respiratory Care Pharmacology	4
RT 160	Cardiopulmonary Pathology & Treatment	3
RT 180A	Clinical Practice I	6

### YEAR II: FIRST SEMESTER

Course #	Course Name	Credits
BA 215	Personal Finance (Required)	3
RT 200	Respiratory Therapy II	4
RT 205	Respiratory Therapy II Lab	1
RT 220	Clinical Practice II	6

### YEAR II: SECOND SEMESTER

Course #	Course Name	Credits
RT 250	Respiratory Therapy III	4
RT 255	Respiratory Therapy III Lab	1
RT 260	Respiratory Therapy IV	4
RT 270	Clinical Practice III	6
RT 280	Respiratory Care Seminar	3

## COURSE DESCRIPTIONS

### RT 110 CARDIOPULMONARY A&P

3 CR

This course is a study of cardiopulmonary physiology in relation to the practice of respiratory care.

### RT 120 PATIENT ASSESSMENT & PLANNING

4 CR

This course is a fundamental approach to subjective and objective evaluation, assessment, and care plan formation for the individual needs of the patient. It is an introduction to cardiopulmonary diseases including etiology, pathophysiology, complications, occurrences, clinical manifestations, treatment, and prevention.

### RT 130 RESPIRATORY CARE PHARMACOLOGY

4 CR

This course is designed to introduce the student to the pharmacology related to cardiopulmonary disorders.

### RT 140 RESPIRATORY CARE SCIENCES

3 CR

This course is designed to introduce the student respiratory care math and sciences used in Respiratory Therapy.

### RT 150A RESPIRATORY THERAPY I

4 CR

This course is a study of respiratory treatments and equipment design and operation related to non-critical care procedures.

### RT 160 CARDIOPULMONARY PATHOLOGY & TREATMENT

3 CR

This course is a study of cardiopulmonary pathophysiology. It includes etiology, clinical manifestations, diagnostics and treatment of various cardiopulmonary diseases incorporating clinical practice guidelines and therapist driven protocols. Case studies and/or clinical simulations will be utilized to enforce learning and evaluate progress.

### RT 180A CLINICAL PRACTICE I

6 CR

Patient assessment, performance of respiratory care procedures, and care plan formation are practiced in the hospital environment. A procedural guide is utilized to evaluate student competencies and performance of respiratory care procedures.

### RT 200 RESPIRATORY THERAPY II

4 CR

This course is a continuation of Respiratory Care Practitioner. It is a study of the management the critically ill patient. Respiratory failure and the management of patients on mechanical ventilation will be explored. Advanced concepts to include hemodynamic monitoring of patients will be covered.

### RT 205 RESPIRATORY THERAPY II LAB

1 CR

This course is in conjunction with RT II enhancing critical thinking skills. This course will provide equipment and patient care scenarios to connect theory from RT II.

### RT 220 CLINICAL PRACTICE II

6 CR

In this course, students rotate through various respiratory care sub- specialty areas for evaluation of competency and performance of respiratory care procedures

### RT 250 RESPIRATORY THERAPY III

4 CR

This course is a study of fetal development and the transition to extra uterine environment. It includes the most common cardiopulmonary disorders, neonatal and pediatric disease processes, and the modes of treatment.

### RT 255 RESPIRATORY THERAPY III LAB

1 CR

This course is in conjunction with RT III enhancing critical thinking skills. This course will provide equipment and patient care scenarios to connect theory from RT III.

### RT 260 RESPIRATORY THERAPY IV

4 CR

This course covers advanced concepts in emergency care of patients in all age groups. Students will obtain Advance Cardiac Life Support Certification and Neonatal Resuscitation Certification.

### RT 270 CLINICAL PRACTICE III

6 CR

This course is a continuation of Clinical Practice II. In this course, students rotate through adult and neonatal critical care arenas. A

### RT 280 RESPIRATORY CARE SEMINAR

3CR

This course is designed to integrate the essential elements of respiratory care practice through the use of care plans, case studies, and clinical simulations in a laboratory environment. Students develop an analytical approach to problem solving. Critical thinking is emphasized.