

Respiratory Therapy

The field of Respiratory Therapy is diverse. Respiratory Therapists (RT's) are healthcare professionals involved in the assessment, diagnosis, and treatment of many cardiopulmonary disorders. RT's are integral members of the health care team, working in hospital Intensive Care Units, Operating Rooms, Emergency Departments, Delivery Rooms, Pulmonary Function Laboratories, and Medical and Surgical wards. RT's may also work in the community setting as homecare therapists, educators, or medical/pharmaceutical representatives. Respiratory Therapists must be able to communicate effectively, possess excellent interpersonal and critical thinking skills, and have the ability to exercise good judgement in critical medical situations.

OBJECTIVES

1. To provide the academic knowledge outlined in the National Alliance of Respiratory Therapy Regulatory Bodies National Competency Profile (NCP).
2. To apply the learned academic knowledge in clinical practice.
3. To develop a sense of professionalism and responsibility.
4. To demonstrate an adequate understanding of the Registered Respiratory Therapists' role and responsibilities within the health care team.
5. To provide the community with trained personnel who can serve their employers and clients with the highest degree of competence.

CURRICULUM

The three year Respiratory Therapy program combines lectures and laboratories with supervised clinical experience. Program topics include: anatomy, physiology, microbiology, chemistry, physics, pharmacology, pathophysiology, respiratory therapy procedures, respiratory therapy equipment, mechanical ventilation, cardiopulmonary diagnostics, pediatric and neonatal care.

Graduates of the program will be eligible to write the National Certification Examination administered by the Canadian Board for Respiratory Care (CBRC). Successful candidates earn the Canadian Society of Respiratory Therapists (CSRT) Registered Respiratory Therapist (RRT) credential. The CSRT is the national professional organization for respiratory therapists.

ACCREDITATION

The Respiratory Therapy program at the Prince Philip Drive campus is accredited by the Council on Accreditation for Respiratory Therapy Education (CoARTE).

PROGRAM TRANSFERABILITY

Graduates may elect to further their studies and obtain a Bachelor of Technology degree from Memorial University of Newfoundland or a Bachelor of Sciences (Post Diploma, Human Science) from Athabasca University.

Graduates may also pursue further studies in the areas of Anaesthesia Assistant, Cardiovascular Perfusion, or Sleep Medicine.

ENTRANCE REQUIREMENTS

For the 2011-2012 academic year, applicants wishing to pursue a career in Respiratory Therapy must complete the Medical Sciences I (General) program of studies. Selection to Respiratory Therapy is competitive and will occur at the end of the second semester.

PLEASE NOTE a change to the application process for the Respiratory Therapy program effective January 1, 2010. See the "Application Process for Medical Laboratory Sciences, Medical Radiography, and Respiratory Therapy Programs" section of the calendar for details.

Selection:

1. Students will compete for entry into the third semester.
2. Competition will be based on academic standing in semesters 1 and 2 of the Medical Sciences I (General) program. Students must pass all first and second semester (minimum 50%) courses and have a minimum G.P.A. of 2.00 to be considered for admission to the third semester.
3. The student's weighted average at the end of the second semester will be used to calculate academic standing for purposes of competition. In the case of students who have been exempted from courses in the first and second semesters, the mark obtained in the course completed by the student at another post secondary institution, or other college program will be used in calculating the weighted average as if the course had been completed as part of the Medical Sciences I (General) program.

DIPLOMA

- Three years
- September start
- Prince Philip Drive Campus

COURSES

CODE TITLE Hrs/wk
Semester 1 and 2 - Refer to Medical Sciences I (General)

Semester 3 (Intersession I)		Cr	Le	La
BL2100	Biology	2	1	2
PS1420	Health Care Organization and Structure	3	3	0
PS1100 or PS1150	Psychology	2	2	0
CH2200 or CH1150	Chemistry	2	1	2

Course Lecture (Le) and Lab (La) hours per week are based on a 15 week semester. In intersession the Lecture and Lab hours will be adjusted to reflect the shorter semester length.

Semester 4		Cr	Le	La
BL2330	Cardiopulmonary Physiology	4	4	0
BL2340	Cardiopulmonary Pathophysiology	4	4	0
BL2410	Microbiology	3	3	0
RT2200	Gas Supply & Control	5	4	3
RT2300	Pharmacology	3	3	0
RT2450	Respiratory Therapy Procedures	4	4	3
SD1610	Clinical Skills I	P/F	0	3

Semester 5		Cr	Le	La
RT2230	Mechanical Ventilators	4	3	3
RT2220	Mechanical Ventilation	4	3	3
RT2310	Anesthesia	3	3	0
RT2451	Neonatal/Pediatric Respiratory Care I	3	2	2
RT2500	Cardiopulmonary Diagnostics	4	3	4
SD1611	Clinical Skills II	P/F	0	3

Semester 6 (Intersession II)		Cr	Le	La
RT3401	Comprehensive Respiratory Care	2	2	0
SD1680	Ethics in Health Care	3	3	0
SD1630	Working in Health Care	3	3	0
RT2452	Neonatal/Pediatric Respiratory Care II	3	2	2
RT3450	Clinical Skills III	3	0	8

Course Lecture (Le) and Lab (La) hours per week are based on a 15 week semester. In intersession the Lecture and Lab hours will be adjusted to reflect the shorter semester length.

Clinical Year (August-June)

Semester 7		Cr	Le	La
RT1610	Clinical Orientation	1	1	wk
RT3510	Clinical Practicum I	15	15	wks

Semester 8		Cr	Le	La
RT3520	Clinical Practicum II	15	15	wks

Semester 9		Cr	Le	La
RT3530	Clinical Elective	7	7	wks

During the third year of the program students will rotate through various training sites of the Eastern Regional Integrated Health Authority (RIHA). For the clinical elective course, students may have the opportunity to avail of training placements with other RIHA's within the Province of Newfoundland and Labrador.

Students must possess a valid Emergency First Aid Certificate and a Basic Cardiopulmonary Resuscitation Certificate to be eligible for Diploma from the college.

