

# RESPIRATORY CARE - BA, BS

St. Catherine University is one of the few institutions in the upper Midwest to offer a bachelor's degree in the field of respiratory care. The Respiratory Care Major is offered in six consecutive semesters and one summer session for students in the College for Women. The Respiratory Care Major is also available to students matriculating in other Associated Colleges of the Twin Cities (ACTC). Respiratory Care Majors receive individualized advising to facilitate timely completion of their professional and liberal arts and science courses.

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

- Respiratory care theory and laboratory courses (series of courses)
- Pathophysiology in Respiratory Care I & II
- Respiratory Care Clinical Applications (series of courses)
- Respiratory Care Clinical Specialties

With approximately 900 hours of clinical experiences in critical care, newborn and pediatric intensive care, home care, pulmonary diagnostics and rehabilitation, students will actively collaborate with faculty and clinicians to develop respiratory care skills, critical thinking and professional communication. The program utilizes a preceptor model for teaching and many of the clinical experiences feature one-to-one student-to-preceptor ratios. Clinical practicums are scheduled at several nationally renowned metropolitan healthcare facilities affiliated with HealthEast, Fairview/M Health, Park Nicollet, HealthPartners, Allina, North Memorial Medical Center, Hennepin Health, and Children's Hospitals of Minnesota.

St. Kate's respiratory care graduates are prepared to provide excellent patient care, influence the quality of healthcare services, promote cardiopulmonary health, and assume leadership positions in the profession. Upon graduation, most respiratory therapists are employed in acute care hospitals. Graduates are eligible to take the National Board for Respiratory Care (NBRC) credentialing exams.

Upon receiving low threshold score on the NBRC Therapist Multiple Choice Exam, graduates are awarded the Certified Respiratory Therapist (CRT) credential. This allows graduates to apply to the Minnesota Board of Medical Practice to work as a licensed respiratory therapist in the state of Minnesota. Upon receiving high threshold score, graduates are awarded the Registered Respiratory Therapist (RRT) credential, signifying advanced professional achievement.

The St. Catherine University Respiratory Care Baccalaureate Degree Major (St Paul, Minnesota) is accredited by the Commission on Accreditation for Respiratory Care ([www.coarc.com](http://www.coarc.com) (<http://www.coarc.com>)).

The Respiratory Care Department requires that students apply to enter the Respiratory Care Major. Applications are accepted between September 15th and July 1st (or until the program is full) in the year preceding the year a student wishes to begin the program of study.

Admission to the Respiratory Care Major is contingent upon admission to St. Catherine University in the College for Women, completion of at least 30 college credits, completing the prerequisite courses at the designated levels of success (C or above/and no prerequisite courses may be taken S/U). Students who have been St. Kate's students since the beginning of their college experience are given first access to available seats in the program.

This major is offered in the College for Women only.

## Curriculum

A minimum grade of C is required for all courses: respiratory care courses, prerequisites, and required supporting courses.

Code	Title	Credits
<b>Required Courses</b>		
RESP 1160	Respiratory Patient Care and Assessment	2
RESP 2100	Introduction to Respiratory Care with Lab	4
RESP 2200	Principles of Patient Management with Lab	4
RESP 3100	Principles of Ventilation with Lab	4
RESP 3110	Clinical Applications I	2
RESP 3120	Pathophysiology in Critical Care I	2
RESP 3200W	Advanced Therapeutics with Lab	4
RESP 3210	Clinical Applications II	4
RESP 3220	Pathophysiology in Critical Care II	2
RESP 3310	Clinical Applications III	6
RESP 4100	Advanced Critical Care with Lab	4
RESP 4115	Clinical Specialty I <sup>1</sup>	4
or RESP 4225	Clinical Specialty II	
RESP 4800W	Senior Seminar	4
Total Credits		46

Code	Title	Credits
<b>Prerequisite Courses</b>		
PSYC 1001	General Psychology with Lab	4
Select one of the following:		4-8
CHEM 1010	General Chemistry for Health Sciences with Lab	
CHEM 1110 & CHEM 1120	General Chemistry I with Lab and General Chemistry II with Lab (recommended)	
Select one of the following:		4
ECON 1090	Statistical Analysis for Decision Making	
HLTH 1090	Biostatistics	
PSYC 1090	Statistical Methods in Psychology	
STAT 1089	Statistical Analysis with Corequisite	
STAT 1090	Statistical Analysis	
Select one of the following:		4
SOCI 1000	Principles and Concepts of Sociology	
SOCI 2300	Sociology of Health and Medicine	
SOCI 3250	Cultural Anthropology	
ECON 1120	Economics of Social Issues	
Total Credits		16-20

<b>Code</b>	<b>Title</b>	<b>Credits</b>
<b>Required Supporting Courses</b>		
BIOL 2200	Introduction to Microbiology with Lab	4
BIOL 2610	Human Anatomy and Physiology I with Lab	4
BIOL 2620	Human Anatomy and Physiology II with Lab	4
COMM 1030	Speaking to Lead and Influence	4
INDI 1150	Basic Patient Care	2
INDI 3150	Pharmacology for the Healthcare Professional	4
IPE 2800	Healthcare Teams: Opportunities and Challenges in Aging	4
PHIL 3400	Biomedical Ethics	4
Total Credits		30

<sup>1</sup> It is recommended that students take both.

The required supporting courses may be completed prior to beginning the respiratory care major or during the completion of course work in the major. The timely completion of these supporting courses is required for progression in the respiratory care major.

Respiratory care majors satisfy the Writing Requirement for Majors by completing RESP 3200W Advanced Therapeutics with Lab and RESP 4800W Senior Seminar. They complete the Liberal Arts and Sciences Core Writing Requirement with two other writing-intensive courses ( CORE 1000W The Reflective Woman or CORE 2000W The Reflective Woman, and CORE 3990W Global Search for Justice).