

RESPIRATORY CARE - 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 five consecutive semesters (including a 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 Program curriculum integrates the respiratory care courses with liberal arts and science backgrounds to provide students with a well-balanced depth of knowledge. This diverse foundation will prepare students to function as a competent professionals in their daily interactions with patients in various healthcare settings. Students will learn the essential knowledge and skills required of a Respiratory Therapist in courses such as the following:

- Respiratory Care Fundamentals
- Pathophysiology in Respiratory Care I & II
- Cardiopulmonary Critical Care I & II
- Respiratory Care Clinical Applications (series of courses)
- Respiratory Care Clinical Specialty

With over 800 possible hours of clinical experiences in critical care, newborn and pediatric intensive care, pulmonary diagnostics and rehabilitation, and long-term acute care, students actively collaborate with faculty and clinicians to develop well-honed respiratory care skills, critical thinking strategies, leadership skills, and professional communication skills. Clinical practicums are scheduled at nationally renowned metropolitan healthcare facilities such as 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 skilled patient care, influence the quality of healthcare services, promote cardiopulmonary health, and assume advanced positions in the profession. Upon graduation, most respiratory therapists are employed in acute care hospitals.

Graduates of the respiratory care program are eligible to take the National Board for Respiratory Care (NBRC) credentialing examinations. Upon receiving a low threshold passing 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 a high threshold passing score, graduates are able to take the second of two board exams, and after passing the second exam, the Clinical Simulation Exam (CSE), they are awarded the Registered Respiratory Therapist (RRT) credential.

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

The Respiratory Care Department requires that students apply to enter the Respiratory Care Major. Applications are accepted year-round (or until the program is full) in the year proceeding the year a student wishes to begin the program of study.

Respiratory Care Major Admissions Process:

- Students are required to apply to the respiratory care major and must have completed 30 credit hours with a minimum overall GPA of 2.5, including prerequisite courses.
- All prerequisite and supporting courses must be completed with a C (2.0) or better grade (and cannot be taken for S/U grading)
- Prerequisite transfer coursework will not be accepted if it is greater than 10 years old

Readmission Timeline Policy:

We understand and support students who may have had to stop out of the program due to health, grades, life circumstances, etc. If this occurs we do allow a student to readmit once into the program where they left off if space allows.

However, due to the changing nature of Respiratory Care a student must complete our program in three years' time. If a student must stop out of the program for more than an academic year this student must re-enroll as a new student from the beginning of the curriculum. This statement is also subjective to if there are any curricular changes, they could also be subject to retaking coursework already passed.

The Program Director will be able to help you with these answers if a readmission were to be requested.

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
Required Courses		
RESP 2110	Cardiopulmonary Physiology	2
RESP 2120	Fundamentals of Respiratory Care	6
RESP 2130	Pharmacology	2
RESP 3110	Clinical Applications I	2
RESP 3120	Pathophysiology in Critical Care I	2
RESP 3220	Pathophysiology in Critical Care II	2
RESP 3230	Clinical Applications II	6
RESP 3300	Cardiopulmonary Critical Care I with Lab	4
RESP 3330	Clinical Applications III	4
RESP 3400	Cardiopulmonary Diagnostics	2
RESP 4115	Clinical Specialty I	4
RESP 4300	Cardiopulmonary Critical Care II	4
RESP 4310	Neonatal/Pediatric Respiratory Care	2
RESP 4800W	Senior Seminar	4
Total Credits		46

Code	Title	Credits
Prerequisite Courses		
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
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)	
IPE 1030	Healthcare Teams Foundations and Medical Terminology	2

Total Credits 18-22

Code	Title	Credits
Required Supporting Courses		
IPE 4200W	Healthcare Teams - Evidence-Based Practice	4
PHIL 3400	Biomedical Ethics	4
Select one from:		4
ECON 1090	Statistical Analysis for Decision Making	
HLTH 1090	Biostatistics	
PSYC 1090	Statistical Methods in Psychology	
STAT 1090	Statistical Analysis	

Total Credits 12

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 and the fourth writing requirement by completing RESP 4800W Senior Seminar and IPE 4200W Healthcare Teams - Evidence-Based Practice . They complete the Liberal Arts and Sciences Core Writing Requirement with two other writing-intensive courses (CORE 1000W The Reflective Woman and CORE 3990W Global Search for Justice).

Code	Title	Credits
Fall Term		
CHEM 1010	General Chemistry for Health Sciences with Lab ¹	4
or CHEM 1110	General Chemistry I with Lab	
Spring Term		
CHEM 1120	General Chemistry II with Lab (if taking this sequence)	4
IPE 1030	Healthcare Teams Foundations and Medical Terminology	2
Select one from:		4
ECON 1090	Statistical Analysis for Decision Making	
HLTH 1090	Biostatistics	
PSYC 1090	Statistical Methods in Psychology	
STAT 1090	Statistical Analysis	
Fall Term		
BIOL 2610	Human Anatomy and Physiology I with Lab	4
Spring Term		
BIOL 2200	Introduction to Microbiology with Lab	4
BIOL 2620	Human Anatomy and Physiology II with Lab	4
Fall Term		
PHIL 3400	Biomedical Ethics	4
RESP 2110	Cardiopulmonary Physiology	2
RESP 2120	Fundamentals of Respiratory Care	6
RESP 2130	Pharmacology	2

Spring Term

RESP 3110	Clinical Applications I	2
RESP 3120	Pathophysiology in Critical Care I	2
RESP 3300	Cardiopulmonary Critical Care I with Lab	4
RESP 3400	Cardiopulmonary Diagnostics	2

Summer Term

RESP 3230	Clinical Applications II	6
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Fall Term

IPE 4200W	Healthcare Teams - Evidence-Based Practice	4
RESP 3220	Pathophysiology in Critical Care II	2
RESP 3330	Clinical Applications III	4
RESP 4300	Cardiopulmonary Critical Care II	4
RESP 4310	Neonatal/Pediatric Respiratory Care	2

Spring Term

RESP 4115	Clinical Specialty I	4
RESP 4800W	Senior Seminar	4

Total Credits 80

¹ Or CHEM 1110 (fall) and CHEM 1120 (spring)