



A Course of Study for

## RESPIRATORY CARE

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Respiratory Care Practitioners are healthcare professionals that specialize in providing optimal cardiopulmonary care to patients with disorders such as asthma, pneumonia, COPD and infants with immature lungs, etc. Santa Monica College's Respiratory Care Program is a two-year, Associate of Sciences Degree program accredited by the Commission on Accreditation for Respiratory Care (CoARC). Through transforming competency-based medical education curriculum, the program prepares the respiratory care practitioner of the future to possess great medical knowledge, apply it, and be clinically competent to provide high quality care in challenging settings likely to be encountered upon entry into practice.

The SMC Respiratory Care Associate Degree program incorporates the latest respiratory equipment, high-fidelity simulators, skills laboratory and clinical experience at top-rated clinical sites in the Greater Los Angeles area. The program prepares students for National Board for Respiratory Care's (NBRC) board exams and earn the Registered Respiratory Therapist (RRT) credential, required for licensure in California. To earn the RRT credential, graduates must pass the Therapist Multiple Choice Exam (TMC) at the high threshold and the Clinical Simulation Exam (CSE).

### PROGRAMS OFFERED

- Transfer Preparation

### DEGREE

Associate Degree

- Respiratory Care

### ASSOCIATE DEGREE REQUIREMENTS

An Associate degree is granted upon successful completion of a program of study with a minimum grade point average (GPA) of 2.0 (C) in degree applicable coursework and a minimum of **60 degree applicable semester units**, including:

- Completion of the area of emphasis with a grade of C or higher in each course, or with a P if the course was taken on a Pass/No Pass basis, and the P is equal to a C or higher;
- Completion of one of the following general education patterns: SMC GE, CSU GE, or IGETC;
- Completion of the SMC Global Citizenship graduation requirement.

### CATALOG RIGHTS

A student may satisfy the requirements of a degree that were in effect at any time of the student's *continuous* enrollment. Continuous enrollment means attendance in at least one semester (Fall or Spring) in each academic year.

**RESPIRATORY CARE, ASSOCIATE DEGREE**

**Program Learning Outcomes:** The primary goal according to the Commission on Accreditation for Respiratory Care 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). Program Learning Outcomes Upon completion of the program graduates will:

1. Demonstrate applied knowledge about biomedical and clinical sciences associated with the role of a new-graduate respiratory care practitioner.
2. Function as members of interdisciplinary team, exhibit interpersonal and communication skills required to interact with diverse set of healthcare professionals, patients and their families.
3. Demonstrate critical thinking, reflection and problem-solving skills consistent with the roles of a new-graduate respiratory care practitioner.
4. Exhibit ethical behavior consistent with the role of a professional respiratory care practitioner.

**AREA OF EMPHASIS: (82.5 UNITS)****Program Prerequisites: (21 units)**

ANATMY 1	Human Anatomy	4
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CHEM 10	Introductory General Chemistry	5
<b>or</b>		
CHEM 19	Fundamentals of General, Organic, and Biological Chemistry	5
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HEALTH 61	Medical Terminology	3
MCRBIO 1	Fundamentals of Microbiology	5
PHYS 3	Human Physiology	4

Students may apply to program while prerequisites are in progress, must complete with grade "C" or better before start of the program.

**FIRST YEAR:**

**NOTE:** Once students are admitted to the program, an Educational Plan is developed that must be followed.

**1<sup>ST</sup> YEAR, FALL SEMESTER: (15 units)**

RC 1	Fundamentals of Respiratory Care	2
RC 1L	Applied Fundamentals of Respiratory Care	2
RC 2	Integrated Respiratory Physiology and Pathophysiology I	2
RC 2L	Applied Integrated Respiratory Physiology and Pathophysiology I	2
RC 3	Respiratory Care Therapeutics	3
RC 3L	Applied Respiratory Care Therapeutics	3
RC 4	Physician Interaction I	1

Once students are admitted to the program, an Education Plan is developed that must be followed.

**1<sup>ST</sup> YEAR, WINTER SESSION: (4 units)**

RC 5	Integrated Respiratory Physiology and Pathophysiology II	2
RC 5L	Applied Integrated Respiratory Physiology and Pathophysiology II	2

Once students are admitted to the program, an Education Plan is developed that must be followed.

**1<sup>ST</sup> YEAR, SPRING SEMESTER: (12 units)**

RC 6	Airway Management	2
RC 6L	Applied Airway Management	3
RC 7	Introduction to Mechanical Ventilation	2
RC 7L	Applied Introduction to Mechanical Ventilation	4
RC 8	Physician Interaction II	1

Once students are admitted to the program, an Education Plan is developed that must be followed.

SECOND YEAR:		
2 <sup>ND</sup> YEAR, SUMMER SESSION: (5 units)		
RC 9	Intermediate Mechanical Ventilation	2
RC 9L	Applied Intermediate Mechanical Ventilation	3
Once students are admitted to the program, an Education Plan is developed that must be followed.		
2 <sup>ND</sup> YEAR, FALL SEMESTER: (14.5 units)		
RC 10	Advanced Life Support and ICU Monitoring	2
RC 10L	Applied Advanced Life Support and ICU Monitoring	3
RC 11	Advanced Mechanical Ventilation	2
RC 11L	Applied Advanced Mechanical Ventilation	2.5
RC 12	Physician Interaction III	1
RC 13	Neonatal and Pediatric Respiratory Care	2
RC 13L	Applied Neonatal and Pediatric Respiratory Care	2
Once students are admitted to the program, an Education Plan is developed that must be followed.		
2 <sup>ND</sup> YEAR, SPRING SEMESTER: (11 units)		
RC 14	Outpatient Respiratory Care	1
RC 14L	Applied Outpatient Respiratory Care	2
RC 15	Respiratory Disease Management	2
RC 15L	Applied Respiratory Disease Management	2
RC 16	Transition to Independent Practice	2
RC 17	Physician Interaction IV	1
RC 18	Computer Assisted Clinical Simulations	1
Once students are admitted to the program, an Education Plan is developed that must be followed.		
All program courses must be completed with a "C" grade or better to meet the CA Respiratory Care Board Licensure requirements. Students must obtain an Associate degree from Santa Monica College upon completion of the program requirements in order to meet minimum CA licensure requirements.		