



A Course of Study for

## RESPIRATORY THERAPY

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The program is a partnership between Santa Monica College (SMC) and East Los Angeles College (ELAC). Graduates earn an Associate degree in Respiratory Therapy. The program allows the graduate to take the Therapist Multiple-Choice Examination (TMC) and, by achieving a high cut score on the TMC, become eligible for the Clinical Simulation Exam (CSE); passing both exams awards the graduate the Registered Respiration Therapy (RRT) credential. **The RRT credential is required for licensure in the state of California.**

All first-year courses are offered on the SMC campus.

It is recommended that students who select Respiratory Therapy as their major make an appointment with the RT Faculty Advisor in the Santa Monica College Health Science Department. Applications for the Respiratory Therapy Program can be obtained online (go to [smc.edu/respiratorytherapy](http://smc.edu/respiratorytherapy)) and from the Health Science Department at SMC's Bundy Campus. Additional program information and/or an appointment may be made with the Respiratory Therapy faculty by calling (310) 434-3463.

Clinical training occurs in some of the most respected medical facilities in the United States (*e.g., UCLA Medical Center and USC University Medical Center*). **Applicants must have a negative criminal background check and pass a drug screening procedure to participate in any clinical courses. A typical sequence of courses is demonstrated below.**

### PROGRAMS OFFERED

- Transfer Preparation

### DEGREE

Associate Degree

- Respiratory Therapy

### ASSOCIATE DEGREE REQUIREMENTS

An Associate degree is granted upon successful completion of a program of study with a minimum overall grade point average (GPA) of 2.0 (C) 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 at least 50% of area of emphasis units at Santa Monica College;
- 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 is defined as enrolment in consecutive Fall and Spring semesters until completion.

**RESPIRATORY THERAPY, ASSOCIATE DEGREE**

**Program Learning Outcomes:** Students who complete the Respiratory Therapy program will accurately initiate, conduct, and modify prescribed therapeutic procedures using clinical data. Graduates will participate in developing and evaluating respiratory care plans, and monitor and record patient response to the care, both in clinical settings and emergency situations.

**AREA OF EMPHASIS: (77 UNITS)**

**Program Prerequisites:** (27 units)

**Physiology and Microbiology must be completed within the last 7 years at time of entry into the Respiratory Therapy program.**

**ANATMY 1**, Human Anatomy (4)

**PHYS 3**, Human Physiology (4)

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**CHEM 10**, Introductory General Chemistry (5)

*or*

**CHEM 19**, Fundamentals of General, Organic, and Biological Chemistry (5)

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**MICRBIO 1**, Fundamentals of Microbiology (5)

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**COM ST 11**, Elements of Public Speaking (3)

*or*

**COM ST 35**, Interpersonal Communication (3)

*or*

**COM ST 37**, Intercultural Communication (3)

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**ENGL 1**, Reading and Composition 1 (3)

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**MATH 18**, Intermediate Algebra for Statistics and Finite Mathematics (3)

*or*

**MATH 20**, Intermediate Algebra (5)

*or*

Higher

**FIRST YEAR:** (24 or 25 units)

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

**FALL SEMESTER:** (13 or 14 units)

**RES TH 1**, Introduction to Respiratory Therapy (2)

**RESP TH 2**, Fundamentals of Respiratory Therapy (4)

**RES TH 60**, Respiratory Physiology (4)

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**PHYSCS 12**, Introductory Physics (3)

*or*

**PHYSCS 14**, Introductory Physics with Laboratory (4)

**SPRING SEMESTER:** (11 units)

**RES TH 29**, Neonatal and Pediatric Respiratory Therapy (4)

**RES TH 30**, Adult Critical Care Monitor and Diagnostics (3)

**RES TH 70**, Pathophysiology (4)

**SECOND YEAR:** (26 units)

**All Respiratory Therapy coursework from this point on is offered on the ELAC campus. These courses are transferred back to SMC upon program completion and applied toward the SMC Associate Degree requirements.**

**SUMMER SESSION:** (4 units)

**RESP TH 15**, Introduction to Clinical Experience (4)

**FALL SEMESTER:** (11 units)

**RESP TH 3**, Application of Respiratory Therapy and Clinical Experience I (5)

**RESP TH 4**, Application of Respiratory Therapy and Clinical Experience II (5)

**RESP TH 27**, Physician Clinical Rounds, Critical Thinking Lab 1 (1)

**SPRING SEMESTER:** (11 units)

**RESP TH 5**, Application of Respiratory Therapy and Clinical Experience III (5)

**RESP TH 11**, Application of Respiratory Therapy and Clinical Experience IV (5)

**RESP TH 28**, Physician Clinical Rounds, Critical Thinking Lab 2 (1)

*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.*