



BELLARMINE UNIVERSITY

DONNA AND ALLAN LANSING SCHOOL OF NURSING AND HEALTH SCIENCES

2001 Newburg Road
Louisville, Kentucky 40205
Admission: 502-452-8131
Nursing: 502-452-8418
1-800-274-4723 x8131

Respiratory Therapy

Accreditation:

Committee on Accreditation for Respiratory Care
1248 Harwood Rd.
Bedford, TX 76021-4244
817/283-2835

Revised 3/07

The Purpose

The Respiratory Therapy Program prepares the student for licensure and practice in the field of **respiratory therapy**. The program for traditional college students and transfer students is a four-year course of study that culminates in the Bachelor of Health Science degree. There is also an accelerated, second-degree program for students already having a bachelor's degree. Respiratory therapists are health care professionals who evaluate and treat persons of all ages having lung and heart disorders. The responsibilities of the therapist include: pulmonary function assessment, diagnostic testing, administering oxygen and aerosolized drugs, breathing retraining and pulmonary rehabilitation, acute care management of patients requiring ventilatory support, and emergency care. Respiratory therapists find careers in multiple settings, including the hospital, home care and rehabilitation.

Respiratory Therapy Program Traditional 4-Year Program Bachelor of Health Science

Freshman Year

Freshman Focus (IDC 100)	1	Gen Ed English 101	3
Gen Ed Freshman Seminar (IDC 101) ...	3	Gen Ed Philosophy 160	3
Gen Ed Psychology 103	3	Gen Ed History 116 or 117	3
Gen Ed Mathematics 105	3	Gen Ed Biology 109	4
Gen Ed Biology 108	4	Chemistry 214	4
Total	14	Total	17

Sophomore Year

Gen Ed English 200	3	Gen Ed Fine Arts Req	3
Gen Ed IDC 200	3	Gen Ed Theology 200	3
Mathematics 205	4	Physics Elective	4
Biology 202	4	Gen Ed Philosophy 301	3
Total	14	Elective	3
		Total	16

Junior Year

Gen Ed IDC 301	3	RTH 313/314	5
Biology 300	4	RTH 321	2
RTH 308/309	4	RTH 323	2
RTH 311	3	RTH 350	6
RTH 340	2	Total	15
Total	16		

Senior Year

RTH 450	3	Gen Ed Theology Elective	3
Nursing 312	3	RTH 410	3
Elective	3	RTH 455	2
RTH 460	3	RTH 490	3
Gen Ed IDC 402 (Senior Sem)	3	RTH 485	3
RTH 420	3	RTH 440	3
Total	18	Total	17

Second Degree Program in Respiratory Therapy

Candidates: All students must hold a minimum of a bachelor's degree

Admission Criteria:

- Acceptance to Bellarmine University
- Cumulative grade point average of at least 2.5
- Completion of required prerequisite courses for the specific program
- If your undergraduate degree is from an international institution or English is your second language, you will be required to take the TOEFLiBT (internet-based test) and receive a total score of 83 or higher and a 26 or higher on the speaking test. Information about the TOEFLiBT can be found at www.ets/TOEFL.

Respiratory Therapy Program

Prerequisite Course

Anatomy and Physiology I and II	8 hours
Microbiology	4 hours
General College Chemistry	4 hours
Physics	4 hours
General Psychology	3 hours
Ethics	3 hours
Statistics	<u>3 hours</u>
Total	30 hours

Accelerated Respiratory Therapy Program

Fall	Spring		
Theology.....	RTH 313-314.....	3	5
RTH 308-9.....	RTH 350.....	4	6
RTH 340.....	RTH 323.....	2	2
RTH 311.....	RTH 321.....	3	2
Biology 300.....	RTH 455.....	4	2
Nurs 312.....		3	
Total	Total	19	17
	Summer		
RTH 420.....		3	
RTH 440.....		3	
RTH 460.....		3	
RTH 485.....		3	
RTH 450.....		3	
RTH 490.....		3	
Total		18	

Students complete 53 semester hours in residence at Bellarmine complying with the university policy to complete a minimum of 36 semester hours, including at least 12 upper level semester hours in the degree major.

Respiratory Therapy Course Descriptions

RTH 308/309 Respiratory Therapy Science I and Laboratory (3-1)

This lecture course introduces the student to topics in basic respiratory care. Considered are the use of oxygen in the treatment of oxygenation disorders; humidity and aerosol therapy; deep breathing and incentive spirometry, and postural drainage therapy and suctioning in the treatment of disorders.

RTH 311 Clinical Assessment (3)

This course focuses on health assessment of individuals across the life span and normal and abnormal pulmonary physiology. Students will develop skills for obtaining health histories and performing physical examinations. (2 hrs. class and 3 hrs. laboratory.)

RTH 313/314 Respiratory Therapy Science II and Laboratory (4-1)

The course introduces bronchial hygiene therapies and mechanical ventilation. Arterial blood gas analysis principles and interpretation are considered in relationship to the topics of acute respiratory failure and mechanical ventilation. Laboratory sessions focus on pre-clinical practice motor skills.

RTH 321 Cardiopulmonary Pathology (2)

Selected cardiac and pulmonary disease states are considered during this course. Etiology, pathology, disease progression, and treatment and prognosis are emphasized.

RTH 323 Introduction to Pharmacology (2)

The course introduces facts and principles related to pharmacologic preparations, their administration routes, effects, and biotransformation/elimination mechanisms. The peripheral nervous system and neuropharmacology are considered with an emphasis on topically administered pulmonary medications. Cardiovascular drugs are also considered.

RTH 340 Respiratory Therapy Clinical Education I (2)

Respiratory therapy clinical practice is introduced by emphasizing patient care principles, e.g. vital signs, charting, body mechanics, and aseptic techniques. Supervised patient practice of the procedures introduced in Respiratory Therapy Science I follow.

RTH 350 Respiratory Therapy Clinical Education II (6)

The clinical application of the procedures introduced in Respiratory Therapy Science II is emphasized, as well as continued practice of skills gained in Respiratory Therapy Clinical. Education I.

RTH 410 Advanced Physiologic Testing (3)

Energy expenditure measurements at rest and during exercise and determining body composition are considered in this course along with their application in the laboratory and clinical setting.

RTH 420 Respiratory Therapy Science III (3)

Acute respiratory failure intervention is considered in this course as well as selected topics in pulmonary rehabilitation and pulmonary function testing.

RTH 440 Cardiopulmonary Monitoring (3)

Detailed treatment of pressure, volume and flow scalars in mechanically ventilated patients; work of breathing and lung mechanics measurements; and end-tidal carbon dioxide monitoring. Also discussed are electrocardiography, Holter monitoring, and hemodynamic measurements.

RTH 450 Neonatal/Pediatric Respiratory Care (3)

Fetal cardiopulmonary development and labor and delivery are discussed as well as factors placing infants at high-risk and the intervention required for moderately and severely depressed infants. Oxygen therapy and mechanical ventilation of the neonate and child are also considered.

RTH 455 Advanced Cardiac Life Support (2)

This lecture/laboratory course introduces the student to Advanced Cardiac Life Support. Considered are the management of cardiopulmonary arrest, treatment of cardiac arrhythmias, clinical issues in ACLS, and pharmacologic treatment modalities. Upon course completion, student will be eligible to become an ACLS provider.

RTH 460 Respiratory Therapy Clinical Education III (3)

Continued practice of clinical skills gained in Clinical Education I and II.

RTH 485 Respiratory Therapy Clinical Education IV (3)

The clinical application of the procedures introduced in Respiratory Therapy Science III is emphasized as well as continued practice of those skills gained in Clinical education I, II, and III.

RTH 490 Seminar (3)

Selected clinical topics in review of the literature and case presentation format.