

**J. Sargeant Reynolds Community College**  
**Course Content Summary**

**Course Prefix and Number:** RTH 190

**Credits:** 2

**Course Title:** Coordinated Practice in Respiratory Therapy: NCC II

**Course Description:**

Provides supervised on-the-job training to enable students to work directly with patients to practice and refine skills learned in the previous semester's classroom and laboratory classes.

Prerequisites: Successful completion of all curriculum courses offered during the first semester of the AAS degree in Respiratory Therapy. Laboratory 10 hours per week.

**General Course Purpose:**

To give students the practical experience working in non-critical care settings to practice and refine the skills that they have learned in the classroom and have been evaluated on in the laboratory. The respiratory care practitioner is involved in the care of a wide variety of acute and chronic diseases/conditions. The training necessary to produce a competent practitioner must include a sound foundation in many basic areas in order to advance to more specialized clinical areas.

**Course Prerequisites/Co-requisites:**

Completion of all curriculum courses offered during the first semester of the AAS program for Respiratory Therapy.

**Course Objectives:**

Upon completing the course, the student will be able to:

1. Become oriented to the Respiratory Therapy Department and the role it plays in the hospital environment.
2. Practice, refine, and be evaluated on the various physiological monitoring procedures performed in a Respiratory Therapy Department.
3. Practice, refine, and be evaluated on the various physiological monitoring procedures to be performed on patients.
4. Become proficient at reading medical records and finding pertinent information in the medical record.
5. Understand the importance of good hand washing techniques and isolation techniques to reduce the incidence of nosocomial infections.
6. Practice, refine, and be evaluated on tracheo-bronchial suctioning, cuff management procedures, and bedside ventilatory assessment procedures.
7. Become proficient in the use of gas cylinders and the safety systems and techniques involved with transporting cylinders.
8. Practice, refine, and be evaluated on oxygen therapy, oxyhoods, oxygen analyzers, aerosol/humidity therapy devices, and aerosol enclosures.
9. Obtain a didactic and clinical understanding of the differences between humidity and aerosol therapy.
10. Practice, refine, and be evaluated on the administration of aerosol drugs.
11. Practice, refine, and be evaluated on Incentive Spirometry therapy.
12. Practice, refine, and be evaluated on IPPB therapy.
13. Practice, refine, and be evaluated on CPT and PD.
14. Practice, refine, and be evaluated on directed cough techniques and inspiratory muscle training.
15. Practice, refine, and be evaluated on arterial punctures and blood gas analysis.

16. Practice, refine, and be evaluated on physiologic monitoring. This is to include blood pressures, pulses, respiratory rates and temperature monitoring.
17. Practice, refine, and be evaluated on Pulse Oximetry.
18. Practice, refine, and be evaluated on Positive Expiratory Pressure Therapy.
19. Practice, refine, and be evaluated on clinical assessment skills to include: history, inspection, percussion, palpation and auscultation.
20. Practice, refine, and be evaluated on basic x-ray interpretation.
21. Be able to perform the above procedures in a competent and timely manner.
22. Develop the necessary skills to be able to select, review, obtain, and interpret the data applicable to competently perform the above procedures.
23. Develop the necessary skills to select, assemble, and check applicable equipment for proper function, operation, and cleanliness.
24. Develop the necessary skills to initiate, conduct, and modify applicable prescribed therapeutic procedures. Develop the necessary critical thinking skills to perform the clinical skills competently and efficiently.

**Major Topics to be Included:**

1. Standard Precautions/Transmission-based Isolation Techniques
2. Sterilization/Disinfection
3. Medical Records
4. Patient Interview and History
5. Vital Signs: Pulse and Respiration
6. Blood Pressure Measurement
7. Physical Assessment of the Chest
8. Auscultation
9. Directed Cough Techniques
10. Bedside Pulmonary Mechanics
11. Gas Pressure and Flow Regulation
12. Oxygen Analysis
13. Oxygen Therapy
14. Oxygen Hood
15. Humidity Therapy
16. Aerosol Generators
17. Aerosol Medication Delivery
18. Pulse Oximetry

**Evaluated Competencies (second half of semester):**

1. Intermittent Positive-Pressure Breathing Therapy
2. Incentive Spirometry
3. Chest Physiotherapy
4. Positive Expiratory Pressure Mask Therapy
5. Inspiratory Resistive Muscle Training
6. Endotracheal Suctioning
7. Nasotracheal Suctioning
8. Chest X-ray Interpretation
9. Arterial Puncture
10. Arterial Blood Gas Calibration, Maintenance, and Quality Assurance

**Effective Date of Course Content Summary:** September 25, 2008