Major in Respiratory Care

School of Health Technology and Management

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Respiratory Care

These practitioners diagnose and treat patients with a wide range of cardiopulmonary disorders, such as asthma, emphysema, cystic fibrosis, and pneumonia. The respiratory care practitioner (RCP) employs a variety of sophisticated medical equipment and therapies in the management of patients in hospitals, clinics, and home settings. This multifaceted profession involves evaluation of lung and cardiac function, administration of oxygen and therapeutic medications, remedial breathing exercises, cardiopulmonary respiratory therapy, mechanical ventilation, and other life support procedures. Respiratory care involves a high degree of patient interaction in both critical and long-term situations. The knowledge and skills of the RCP are necessary in many aspects of health care, including medical and surgical intensive care, neonatal intensive care, pediatrics, coronary care and hemodynamic monitoring, pulmonary function and exercise testing, emergency services and trauma care, rehabilitation and home care, land and air patient transport services, discharge planning and patient education, departmental management, clinical research, teaching, and administration.

Pre-Application Requirements for the Major in Respiratory Care

1. 3 credits of English composition
2. 6 credits in the arts and/or humanities, excluding studio, skills, and techniques courses
3. 6 credits in the social and behavioral sciences
4. 11 credits in biological sciences, including 3 credits in microbiology (See Note 1)
5. 8 credits of chemistry with labs
6. 4 credits of physics with lab
7. 3 credits of college-level mathematics
8. Cardiopulmonary resuscitation and first-aid certification
9. 2.50 cumulative g.p.a.

Notes:

1. Students completing the courses at Stony Brook should take BIO 203, BIO 204, and BIO 205 and HBM 320 or BIO 315 Microbiology.
2. Stony Brook freshmen are eligible to declare respiratory care as a major. In addition to the requirements listed above, students in this four-year program must successfully complete HAT 210 Introduction to Respiratory Care with a grade of B or higher.
HAT

Respiratory Care

HAT 210: Introduction to Respiratory Care
An introduction to the science of respiratory care. Current trends in professional practice are discussed and students have the opportunity to observe clinical practice at a variety of affiliated health care facilities. This course is specifically designed for lower-division four year respiratory care majors. Open to west campus students.

1 credit