MASTER OF SCIENCE IN RESPIRATORY CARE (M.S.R.C.) MAJOR IN RESPIRATORY CARE (LEADERSHIP CONCENTRATION AND MINOR IN POLYSOMNOGRAPHY)

Program Overview
This advanced online post-professional master’s degree program offers practicing registered respiratory therapists (RRT) the opportunity to pursue current and emerging knowledge in the evolving respiratory care discipline within specific concentration areas. The program will prepare respiratory therapists seeking career advancement opportunities through graduate education for advanced respiratory care leadership roles, for healthcare-based clinical educators’ positions, and for academic educators’ positions in the discipline of respiratory care.

The educational objectives of the program are:
1. To provide a degree program that will prepare students for the emerging roles and functions within the respiratory care domains of leadership and clinical specializations.
2. To provide graduate level education that will prepare students to advance problem-solving skills with the ability to analyze and evaluate systems, technology, regulations, data needs to assist in creating new programs and systems, and policy development.
3. To provide a broad-based program of course work that supports the varied aspects of RC practice focusing on management, supervision, education, evidence-based medicine, and healthcare research.
4. To provide course work to prepare graduates to better serve as leaders and physician-extenders in clinical, managerial, and extended care settings.

Application Requirements
The items listed below are required for admission consideration for applicable semesters of entry during the current academic year. Submission instructions, additional details, and changes to admission requirements for semesters other than the current academic year can be found on The Graduate College’s website (http://www.gradcollege.txstate.edu). International students should review the International Admission Documents webpage (http://mycatalog.txstate.edu/graduate/admission-documents/international/) for additional requirements.

- completed online application
- $55 nonrefundable application fee
  or
- $90 nonrefundable application fee for applications with international credentials
- baccalaureate degree from a regionally accredited university (U.S. Citizens)
- International applicants not eligible for the NBRC RRT credential must have a baccalaureate degree in Respiratory Care/Therapy
- official transcripts from each institution where course credit was granted
- minimum 2.75 GPA in the last 60 hours of undergraduate course work (plus any completed graduate courses)
- GRE not required
- proof of the RRT national credential administered through the NBRC (U.S. Citizens)
  - International students not eligible for the NBRC credential must complete their country’s credentialing exam, if one exists
- resume/CV
- statement of purpose indicating ability and interest in completing the degree program
- three letters of recommendation from professionals or academics competent to assess the student’s interest in pursuing a career or advancing in the field of study

TOEFL, PTE, or IELTS Scores
Non-native English speakers who do not qualify for an English proficiency waiver:

- official TOEFL iBT scores required with a 78 overall
- official PTE scores required with a 52
- official IELTS (academic) scores required with a 6.5 overall with minimum individual module scores of 6.0

This program does not offer admission if the scores above are not met.

Degree Requirements
The Master of Science in Respiratory Care (M.S.R.C.) degree with a major in Respiratory Care concentration in Leadership and a minor in Polysomnography requires 48 semester credit hours.

Course Requirements

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Code</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Hours</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>RC 5301</td>
<td>Advanced Cardiopulmonary Physiology</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>RC 5302</td>
<td>Clinical Practice Guidelines and Respiratory Care Protocols</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>RC 5303</td>
<td>Respiratory Care Research Methods and Design</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>RC 5304</td>
<td>Cardiopulmonary Disease Patient Education</td>
<td>3</td>
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<tr>
<td>RC 5305</td>
<td>Respiratory Care Applied Research</td>
<td>3</td>
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<tr>
<td>RC 5306</td>
<td>Academic Leadership in Respiratory Care</td>
<td>3</td>
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<tr>
<td>RC 5307</td>
<td>Advanced Respiratory Care Seminar</td>
<td>3</td>
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<tr>
<td>RC 5308</td>
<td>Advanced Cardiopulmonary Diagnostics and Therapeutics</td>
<td>3</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

Concentration

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<tr>
<th>Code</th>
<th>Title</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>HA 5304</td>
<td>Healthcare Economics and Financial Theory</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HA 5321</td>
<td>Healthcare Law</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HA 5362</td>
<td>Healthcare Organizational Behavior/Theory</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HS 5315</td>
<td>Principles of Healthcare Finance for Clinical Leaders</td>
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Minor
RC 5211. Polysomnography Instrumentation. 2 Credit Hours. 0 Lecture Contact Hours. 2 Lab Contact Hours. Grade Mode: Standard Letter

RC 5214. Sleep Staging and Diagnostics. 2 Credit Hours. 0 Lecture Contact Hours. 2 Lab Contact Hours. Grade Mode: Standard Letter

RC 5215. Clinical Polysomnography-Sleep Staging. 2 Credit Hours. 0 Lecture Contact Hours. 10 Lab Contact Hours. Grade Mode: Standard Letter

RC 5301. Advanced Cardiopulmonary Physiology. 3 Credit Hours. 3 Lecture Contact Hours. 0 Lab Contact Hours. Grade Mode: Standard Letter

RC 5302. Clinical Practice Guidelines and Respiratory Care Protocols. 3 Credit Hours. 3 Lecture Contact Hours. 0 Lab Contact Hours. Grade Mode: Standard Letter

RC 5303. Respiratory Care Research Methods and Design. 3 Credit Hours. 3 Lecture Contact Hours. 0 Lab Contact Hours. Grade Mode: Standard Letter

RC 5304. Cardiopulmonary Disease Patient Education. 3 Credit Hours. 3 Lecture Contact Hours. 0 Lab Contact Hours. Grade Mode: Standard Letter

RC 5305. Respiratory Care Applied Research. 3 Credit Hours. 3 Lecture Contact Hours. 0 Lab Contact Hours. Grade Mode: Standard Letter

RC 5306. Academic Leadership in Respiratory Care. 3 Credit Hours. 3 Lecture Contact Hours. 0 Lab Contact Hours. Grade Mode: Standard Letter

RC 5307. Advanced Respiratory Care Seminar. 3 Credit Hours. 3 Lecture Contact Hours. 0 Lab Contact Hours. Grade Mode: Standard Letter

Comprehensive Examination Requirement
Students will complete a final research project and presentation that will serve as the comprehensive exam. The comprehensive exam will require design, development and implementation of an approved research project. Students must pass the comprehensive exam requirement to complete the M.S.R.C. degree.

Students who do not successfully complete the requirements for the degree within the timelines specified will be dismissed from the program.

Master's level courses in Respiratory Care: RC
RC 5308. Advanced Cardiopulmonary Diagnostics and Therapeutics.  
An overview of advanced cardiopulmonary diagnostic and therapeutic procedures addressing selected disorders including asthma, chronic obstructive lung diseases, restrictive lung diseases, pulmonary edema, congestive heart failure, and cardiac disorders. International disease standards and classifications established by the World Health Organization with appropriate treatment protocols will be discussed.  
3 Credit Hours. 3 Lecture Contact Hours. 0 Lab Contact Hours.  
Grade Mode: Standard Letter

Introduction to the physiology of sleep, including sleep neurology, sleep architecture, and classification of sleep disorders. Review of basic cardiac physiology and ECG arrhythmia recognition. Sleep pathologies will be discussed according to etiology, pathophysiology, symptoms, diagnosis, treatment, and prognosis. Prerequisite: Instructor approval.  
3 Credit Hours. 3 Lecture Contact Hours. 0 Lab Contact Hours.  
Course Attribute(s): Exclude from 3-peat Processing  
Grade Mode: Standard Letter

RC 5313. Polysomnographic Therapeutic Intervention.  
In-depth study of the treatments available for sleep apnea including, CPAP, BiPAP, oxygen therapy, patient adjunctive fitting, surgical intervention, and the role of the sleep tech in titration. Special attention will be given to titration algorithms, nocturnal seizure disorder studies, REM behavior disorder studies, MSLT’s, and MTW’s. Prerequisite: Instructor approval.  
3 Credit Hours. 3 Lecture Contact Hours. 0 Lab Contact Hours.  
Course Attribute(s): Exclude from 3-peat Processing  
Grade Mode: Standard Letter