

**Pre-Degree Requirements (if any):**

- High School Biology with a lab or NCC's BIOS 115 with a grade of "B" or better\*
- High School Chemistry with a lab or NCC's CHEM 135 with a grade of "B" or better\*
- High School Algebra I and Algebra II or NCC's MATH 022 and 026 with grades of "C" or better or exemption through math placement testing.\*
- GPA of at least 2.75

Program Specific: \_\_\_\_\_

Reading and Writing Placement: \_\_\_\_\_

Mathematics Placement: \_\_\_\_\_

**SEMESTER-BY-SEMESTER PROGRAM PLAN FOR FULL-TIME STUDENTS**
*Plans can be modified to fit the needs of part-time students by adding more semesters*
**Semester 1 – Summer 2024**

Course # Listed in preferred order of completion	Course Title Course title as listed in College Catalog	Credits Credits earned for completion of course	Degree(s) Degrees where course fulfills a requirement	Course Type Core/required for program or elective and type	Gen Ed If applicable	Term/Location Offered F, W, SP, SU Beth, Monroe, Fowler, Online	Prerequisites/Corequisites
BIOS 204	Human Anatomy & Physiology I	4		GE	SCI		
COLS 101	College Success	1		FYE			
MATH 140/150	Introductory Statistics -or- Algebra	3		GE	QL		
<b>Total Semester Credits</b>		<b>8</b>					

**Semester 2 – Fall 2024**

Course #	Course Title	Credits	Degree(s)	Course Type	Gen Ed	Term/Location Offered	Pre-requisites/Co-requisites
BIOS 254	Human Anatomy & Physiology II	4		GE	SCI		
ENGL 101	English I	3		GE			
PSYC 103*	Introduction to Psychology	3		GE	SSHB, WI		
RESP 101	Introduction to Respiratory Care	5		PR			PRE-BIOS 204 CO-RESP 102
RESP 102	Respiratory Care Pharmacology	2		PR			PRE-BIOS 204 CO-RESP 101
<b>Total Semester Credits</b>		<b>17</b>					

Semester 3 – Winter 2024							
Course #	Course Title	Credits	Degree(s)	Course Type	Gen Ed	Term/Location Offered	Pre-requisites/Co-requisites
CMTH 102	Introduction to Communication	3		GE			
<b>Total Semester Credits</b>		<b>3</b>					
Semester 4 – Spring 2025							
Course #	Course Title	Credits	Degree(s)	Course Type	Gen Ed	Term/Location Offered	Pre-requisites/Co-requisites
BIOS 202	Microbiology	4		GE	SCI		
ENGL 151L	English II	3		GE	D		
PHIL 202*	Ethics & Morals Problems	3		GE	AH, WI		
RESP 103	Respiratory Care Therapeutic Modalities	6		PR			PRE-RESP 101, RESP 102
<b>Total Semester Credits</b>		<b>16</b>					
Semester 5 – Summer 2025							
Course #	Course Title	Credits	Degree(s)	Course Type	Gen Ed	Term/Location Offered	Pre-requisites/Co-requisites
RESP 201	Cardiopulmonary Disease Processes	2		PR			PRE-RESP 103 CO-RESP 202
RESP 202	Mechanical Ventilation	6		PR			PRE-RESP 103 CO-RESP 201
<b>Total Semester Credits</b>		<b>8</b>					
Semester 6 – Fall 2025							
Course #	Course Title	Credits	Degree(s)	Course Type	Gen Ed	Term/Location Offered	Pre-requisites/Co-requisites
RESP 203	Neonatal and Pediatric Respiratory Care	2		PR			PRE-RESP 202 CO-RESP 204
RESP 204	Respiratory Care Critical Care	5		PR			PRE-RESP 202 CO-RESP 203
SOCA 102*	Cultural Anthropology	3		GE	CT, D, SIT WI		
<b>Total Semester Credits</b>		<b>10</b>					
Semester 7 – Spring 2026							
Course #	Course Title	Credits	Degree(s)	Course Type	Gen Ed	Term/Location Offered	Pre-requisites/Co-requisites
RESP 205	Respiratory Care Practicum	4		PR			PRE-RESP 204
<b>Total Semester Credits:</b>		<b>4</b>					
<b>TOTAL DEGREE CREDITS:</b>		<b>66</b>					

\*One of the three Humanities (AH, SIT, SSHB) General Education Electives must be taken as a Writing Intensive (WI) section PHIL 202G, PSYC 103G, SOCA 102G.

**Notes:**

Respiratory Care is a competitive program. Meeting the minimum requirements does not guarantee admission to the clinical program. Students not admitted to the clinical program will be admitted to the Health Sciences program of study to take general education courses toward the Respiratory Care degree.

- Respiratory Care is a physically demanding occupation.
- Attend a Respiratory Care Information Session if you have not attended one in the past. Information sessions are listed at [www.northampton.edu/info-sessions.htm](http://www.northampton.edu/info-sessions.htm).

**Program Narrative:**

- A program that prepares individuals, under the supervision of physicians, to assist in developing respiratory care plans, administer respiratory care procedures, supervise personnel and equipment operation, maintain records, and consult with other health care team members. Includes instruction in the applied basic biomedical sciences; anatomy, physiology, and pathology of the respiratory system; clinical medicine; therapeutic procedures; clinical expressions; data collection and record-keeping; patient communication; equipment operation and maintenance; personnel supervision; and procedures for special population groups.

**Program Learning Outcomes:**

Upon successful completion of the Respiratory Care Program at Northampton Community College, students will be able to:

- Demonstrate competency in the cognitive (knowledge), psychomotor (skills), and affective (behavior) learning domains of respiratory care practice as performed by registered respiratory therapists (RRTs).
- Successfully pass the professional registry exam to be credentialled as a Registered Respiratory Therapist (RRT).
- Plan, deliver, and evaluate respiratory care modalities to patients across the lifespan in a variety of healthcare settings.
- Employ clinical decision making based on critical thinking skills and evidence-based practice to deliver safe effective respiratory care.
- Demonstrate professional behaviors consistent with the respiratory care scope of practice and code of ethics and employer expectations, as a collaborative member of the healthcare team.
- Engage individuals, families, and communities in the teaching-learning processes to promote, maintain, and restore respiratory health and wellness.

**Program Requirements:**

- State Police criminal records check, child abuse history clearances and FBI fingerprints check
- Physical form and Essential functions of a Respiratory Care Program Student form
- Immunization records, with evidence of specific immunizations or antibody titers
- Evidence of negative drug screen
- Evidence of current BLS certification for Healthcare Provider by the American Heart Association
- Evidence of current health insurance

### **Transfer Information:**

- Students are encouraged to consider continuing their education. Northampton Community College has over 100 agreements with over 40 colleges and universities. A complete list of agreements can be found on the NCC Transfer Options webpage at <https://www.northampton.edu/academics/transfer-options.htm>.
- Additionally, information regarding transfer and articulation can be found at the Pennsylvania Transfer and Articulation Center (PA TRAC) at <https://www.patrac.org/>.

### **Career Information:**

Respiratory therapists held about 135,800 jobs in 2021 according to the Bureau of Labor Statistics. The largest employers of respiratory therapists were hospitals: state, local and private with 82%. Respiratory therapists can work in various areas of a hospital including emergency rooms, critical care units and neonatal intensive care units. Additionally, respiratory therapists can be employed in nursing care facilities and offices of physicians. The median annual wage for respiratory therapist was \$ 61,830 in May 2021. About 9,400 job openings for respiratory therapists are projected each year, on average, over the next decade.

<https://www.bls.gov/ooh/healthcare/respiratory-therapists.htm>

