

**El Paso Community College**  
**Syllabus**  
**Part II**  
**Official Course Description**

<b>SUBJECT AREA</b>	<u><b>Respiratory Care Technology</b></u>
<b>COURSE RUBRIC AND NUMBER</b>	<u><b>RSPT 2461</b></u>
<b>COURSE TITLE COURSE</b>	<u><b>Clinical - Respiratory Care Therapy/Therapist</b></u>
<b>COURSE CREDIT HOURS</b>	<u><b>4      0      :    24</b></u> Credits Lec      Lab

**I. Catalogue Description**

Provides a health-related work-based learning experience that enables the student to apply specialized occupational theory, skills, and concepts. Direct supervision is provided by the clinical professional. A grade of “C” or better is required in this course to take the next course. **Prerequisite: RSPT 1360. (0:24). Professional Practice Insurance required.**

**II. Course Objectives**

The following units are designed as an adjunct mechanism to help prepare you for proficiency in your clinical work. Students should review these objectives and correlate them with their didactic material for understanding. It is important that you do independent reading and practice clinical procedures in order to attain knowledge and to become clinically proficient in the listed areas.

A. Unit I. Management Skills

During the course of this clinical the student will be able to:

1. Perform no less than four (4) but no more than five (5) complete cardio-pulmonary patient assessments on general floor care patients, using established respiratory care program patient assessment criteria. At least two patient assessments must be that of a geriatric patient.
2. Complete 12-16 respiratory care procedures within the spring semester.
3. Identify problems or changes in standards and develop practical solutions or modifications.
4. Complete and explain important concepts as stated in the clinical objectives.
5. Interact with patients and visitors in a professional manner.
6. Complete twelve (12) clinical hours per week. Five percent of the total clinical hours per semester may be met by attending scheduled outside activities that increase or enhance the degree of desired progress.

B. Unit II. Principles of Infection Control

During the course of this clinical the student will be able to:

1. Describe the importance of disinfection and sterilization procedures.
2. List the advantages and disadvantages of the various types of disinfection and sterilization procedures.

3. Describe the methods of disinfecting and sterilizing respiratory therapy equipment by means of:
  - a. Chemical disinfection
  - b. Pasteurization
  - c. Steam autoclave sterilization
  - d. Ethylene oxide sterilization

C. Unit III. Patient Assessment

During the course of this clinical the student will be able to:

1. Describe normal vital signs and explain causes of common alterations in vital signs.
2. Explain the causes and significance of alterations in body temperature.
3. Explain methods for assessment of pain.
4. Explain causes of abnormal body weight and the importance of alterations in body weight.
5. Summarize assessment of the patient's general appearance.

D. Unit IV. Physical Examination

During the course of this clinical the student will be able to:

1. Describe assessment of the patient's mental status and level of consciousness.
2. Overview the main components of the neurologic examination.
3. Summarize the examination of the head, eyes, ears, nose, and throat (HEENT).
4. Describe the examination of the thorax (inspection, auscultation, palpation, and percussion) to include the significance of specific alterations.

E. Unit V. Assessment of Oxygenation

During the course of this clinical the student will be able to:

1. Describe the clinical manifestations (signs and symptoms) of hypoxia.
2. Contrast the findings associated with mild and moderate to severe hypoxia.
3. Define respiratory failure and contrast lung failure and pump failure.
4. Given the needed information, calculate inspired and alveolar oxygen tension.
5. Define altitude hypoxia and explain when it might occur.
6. Describe the stages of altitude hypoxia.

F. Unit VI. Basic Therapeutics

During the course of this clinical the student will be able to:

1. List the indications for and hazards of suctioning.
2. Perform tracheal suctioning (N-T, tracheal, open or closed system) procedure without assistance.
3. Perform the procedures required for routine care of an artificial airway used in tracheostomy patients.
4. Administer four (4) aerosol medications according to the procedure prescribed for a patient (hand-held, USN, mask treatments, or blow-by).
5. Administer one (1) MDI according to the procedure prescribed for a patient.
6. List and explain conditions that indicate the use of IPPB therapy.
7. Administer IPPB therapy to a patient according to the procedure prescribed.
8. Describe the physiologic basis for having patients perform repeated, sustained maximal inspiration maneuvers.
9. Describe the indications for incentive spirometry.

- . Perform one (1) incentive spirometry (IS).
10. Describe the importance of bronchial hygiene.
11. Perform chest percussion and postural drainage procedure as prescribed for a patient. PEP therapy may be substituted for PD & P.
12. Discuss the selection and indications for other bronchial hygiene therapy, including:
  - a. Directed coughing and related expulsion techniques.
  - b. Positive expiratory pressure (PEP) therapy (flutter valve, acapella).
  - c. Vest therapy.
  - d. Mobilization and exercise.

G. Unit VII. Applied Physiology

During the course of this clinical the student will be able to:

1. Describe the indications for the collection of an arterial blood gas sample.
2. Perform two (2) punctures of arterial samples with minimal assistance.
3. Discuss the importance of blood gas analyzer maintenance.
4. Perform at least one (1) cardiac compression and two (2) manual baggings on patients having a life-threatening event.

H. Unit VIII. Assessment of Respiratory Disorders

During the course of this clinical the student will be able to:

1. Perform one (1) pulmonary function study within a PFT lab or at bedside with minimal assistance.
2. Describe how to perform cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR) on adults, children, and infants.
3. Describe how to evaluate the effectiveness of CPR.
4. Perform one (1) initial adult ventilator setup using the following guidelines:
  - a. Verify the physician's orders.
  - b. Select appropriate equipment.
  - c. Maintain medical asepsis.
  - d. Assemble and test equipment.
  - e. Adjust ventilator controls to specific orders.
  - f. Monitor vital signs/assess patient:
    1. Temperature, B/P, Respiratory Rate.
    2. Heart Rate, EKG Rhythm.
    3. Chest Auscultation.
    4. SpO<sub>2</sub> (SvO<sub>2</sub>, ETCO<sub>2</sub> if available).
    5. Hemodynamic pressures, e.g., CVP, PAP, PAWP, CO
    6. Level of consciousness

I. Unit IX. Critical Care Monitoring

During the course of this clinical the student will be able to:

1. Discuss commonly monitored ventilator parameters in critically ill patients.
2. Differentiate between normal and abnormal ventilator parameters.
3. Discuss the effect of spontaneous breathing efforts on the inspiratory-to-expiratory (I:E) ratio using assist-control or synchronized intermittent mandatory ventilation (SIMV) modes.
4. Explain how peak inspiratory pressure and plateau pressure will be affected by changes in compliance or airway resistance.
5. Distinguish between normal and abnormal bedside spirometry findings.
6. Identify indicators of poor respiratory muscle strength.

**III. THECB Learning Outcomes (WECM)**

1. RSPT 2261 meets with the clinical affiliates 12 hours/week. The student may perform therapies and procedures under the supervision of the clinical instructor.

**IV. Evaluation**

Students will be evaluated on their performance of procedures on a daily basis. They will also be evaluated by clinical rotation by the assigned clinical instructor member at each hospital. Students will be evaluated in the areas of attendance, appearance, timeliness, communication skills, comprehension, written assignments, clinical proficiency, and professionalism. During the 3<sup>rd</sup> clinical rotation the student will be given a performance evaluation that will contain 12 to 16 respiratory care procedures.

**Grade Distribution**

	Weight	
Completion of clinical objectives	35%	Your grade is based on the AVERAGE of the points you received on all course assignments and activities. Always notify your instructor if you are concerned with your grades or your status in the class.
Clinical rotation evaluations by clinical instructors at the end of each hospital rotation	25%	
Patient assessments	20%	
Performance evaluation	20%	
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>100%</b>	

**Grading Scale**

Points	Grade
100-93	A
92-86	B
85-78	C
77-70	D
<70	F or I

Grades averaging 77.5 will be rounded off to the next whole number.

**NOTE:** If a situation arises which the clinical instructor finds detrimental to the development of a student or patient’s safety (refer to section V of the Instructor’s Course Requirements), a written counseling form will be completed. The first incident may result in a deduction of 2 to 10 points off the final clinical grade.

**V. Disability Statement (Americans with Disabilities Act [ADA])**

EPCC offers a variety of services to persons with documented sensory, mental, physical, or temporary disabling conditions to promote success in classes. If you have a disability and believe you may need services, you are encouraged to contact the Center for Students with Disabilities to discuss your needs with a counselor. All discussions and documentation are kept confidential. NWC Rm M-54 (831-8815) and MDP Rm A-125 (831-7024).

**VI. 6 Drop Rule**

Students who began attending Texas public institutions of higher education for the first time during the Fall 2007 semester or later are subject to a 6-Drop limit for all undergraduate classes. Developmental, ESL, Dual Credit and Early College High School classes are exempt from this rule. All students should consult with their instructor before dropping a class. Academic assistance is available. Students are encouraged to see Counseling Services if dropping because exemptions may apply. Refer to the EPCC catalog and website for additional information.