

RESPIRATORY THERAPY

Saving lives – that’s essentially what you’ll be doing as a respiratory therapist. As a health professional specializing in respiratory therapy, you’ll be the one people go to if they have a breathing problem, such as asthma or lung disease. You’ll also be the one to provide emergency care to patients suffering from heart attacks, strokes, drowning, or shock. Your career will take you many places in the medical field, including hospitals, clinics, or EMS services. In the Respiratory Therapy degree program, you’ll spend your first three years at WSC, then attend an approved program for the final year to complete clinical requirements. Once completed, you’ll have a Life Sciences degree from WSC, and you’ll be ready to take on the challenge of rescuing patients who are having problems with breathing.

fast facts

Credit hours: 89-90

Students must also take 30 credit hours of General Studies courses. A total of 120 credit hours are needed to graduate from WSC. Additional majors or minors can be added to help meet graduation requirements.

Degree options: B.A. or B.S.

Department: Life Sciences

School: Science, Health, and Criminal Justice

Popular pairings: Chemistry, Physics, Spanish

focus on results

Skills Learned

- Human anatomy and physiology
- Microbiology and immunology
- General and organic chemistry
- Knowledge of modern lab techniques
- Research, data collection, and analysis
- Critical thinking and problem-solving
- Communication
- Organization
- Time management

Possible Careers

- Respiratory therapist
- Respiratory therapy technician
- Pulmonary function technologist
- Neonatal-pediatric specialist
- Medical services manager
- Lab manager
- Respiratory equipment technician
- Sales and marketing specialist

Types of Employers

- Hospitals and medical clinics
- Respiratory care centers
- Rehabilitation centers
- Nursing homes
- Home health care services
- Patient transport centers
- Diagnostic labs
- Wellness centers

outside the classroom



Visit www.wsc.edu/clubs to learn more about clubs and organizations on campus.

Activities / Opportunities

- Peer mentoring and tutoring
- Service-Learning
- Study Abroad

Clubs / Organizations

- Biology Club
- Exercise is Medicine on Campus (EIM-OC)
- Health Science Club

Courses and outcomes

2026-27 Academic Year

The following courses are required for the program of study described on this sheet. Every effort is made to ensure this information is current, but please be aware that some content may have changed. To develop a plan for registering and taking these courses, please consult the current academic catalog and your advisor.

Program courses

For CAT 3, take MAT 121 College Algebra.

Life Sciences Core Courses

BIO 110 Biology Concepts.....	4
CHE 106 General Chemistry I.....	4
PHY 321 Physics Laboratory I.....	1
Select one of the following.....	3-4
PHY 201 General Physics I (3)	
PHY 301 University Physics I (4)	

Respiratory Therapy Concentration Courses

BIO 220 Human Anatomy.....	4
BIO 340 Human Physiology.....	4
BIO 385 Microbiology.....	4
BIO 486 Immunology.....	3
BUS 260 Management Theory and Practice.....	3
CHE 107 General Chemistry II.....	4
CHE 208 Introductory Organic Chemistry.....	4
FCS 207 Nutrition.....	3
HSC 345 CPR-Healthcare Provider.....	1
PSY 230 Life Span Development.....	3
Upper-level electives.....	9

Clinical Year

The final (clinical) year consists of 35 credit hours at an affiliated institution.

Student learning outcomes

1. Students will be able to interpret core concepts in biology
2. Students will be able to apply concepts in biology to internships and/or student research
3. Students will be able to accurately communicate core concepts in biology

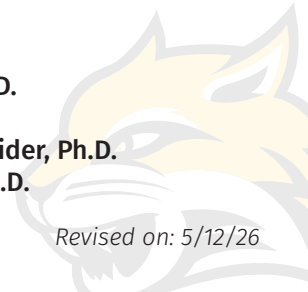
life sciences faculty



Visit www.wsc.edu/life-sciences-department to learn more about the Department of Life Sciences.

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