



Associate Degree in Sciences of Respiratory Care

Program Description:

The Associate Degree in Sciences of Respiratory Care program is created to train the student with theoretical and practical foundations that are required to perform as a respiratory therapy professional. The student must demonstrate mastery of therapeutic techniques, diagnostic methods, and patient evaluation through supervised practice. Once the program requirements and the required hours of clinical practice have been completed, the student will be prepared to take the Board for Respiratory Care Technicians and obtain the license in accordance with the laws established in Puerto Rico.

Program Objectives:

- Students of the Associate Degree in Sciences of Respiratory Care program will be able to:
- Demonstrate the ability to make decisions based on critical thinking and analysis of clinical information.
 - Master the necessary skills to properly execute the techniques or procedures to help diagnose and treat patients.
 - Correctly manage the equipment related to their profession, including technological equipment to guarantee quality cardiopulmonary care.
 - Perform in the profession in a legal, ethical, and safe manner demonstrating respect for universal values.
 - Contribute to the development of the Respiratory Care profession, participating in the promotion of community health, disease prevention and professional organizations as a specialist and professional in the field of Respiratory Therapy.

Curriculum:

General Courses

Code	Title	Credits
ESPA 3161	Spanish I	3
ESPA 3262	Spanish II	3
INGL 3161	English I	3
INGL 3262	English II	3
HUMA 3161	Humanities	3
CISO 3161	Social Sciences	3
PSIC 3301	Principles of Psychology	3
BIOL 3101	Human Anatomy and Physiology	3
BIOL 3102	Lab. Human Anatomy and Physiology	0
BIOL 3301	Microbiology	3
BIOL 3302	Lab. Microbiology	0

QUIM 3001	General Chemistry	3
QUIM 3002	Lab. General Chemistry	0
FISI 3001	General Physics	3
FISI 3002	Lab. Physics	0
MATE 3161	Basic Math	3
LEMD 2011	Legal and Ethical Aspects in Health	3
Specialty Courses		
Code	Title	Credits
RESP 2121	Introduction to Respiratory Care	3
RESP 2221	Foundations of Respiratory Care	3
RESP 2321	Cardiopulmonar Pharmacology	3
RESP 2322	Airway Management	3
RESP 2421	Pulmonary function tests and acid-base balance	3
RESP 2323	Pulmonary rehabilitation and home care	3
RESP 2324	Cardiopulmonar Physiology and Anatomy	3
RESP 2422	Cardiopulmonar Physiopathology	3
RESP 2324	Respiratory Care and Mechanical Ventilation	3
RESP 2424	Patient assessment and special procedures in respiratory care	3
PCTR 2541	Practicum in Respiratory Care	4
Total of credits: 73 credits		

- The student must present a high school diploma as a requirement and have a minimum average of 2.50.
- The student to pass the courses with a minimum grade of “C” (70%).
- The practical phase of the program is offered at the Auxilio Mutuo Hospital or in hospital and health care facilities that have prior agreement with the UPDCJBR.
- This degree provides the student with the necessary requirements to take the certification provided by the Examining Board of Respiratory Care Technicians of Puerto Rico.