

# Bachelor of Science in Respiratory Care

## Bachelor's Degree Program (On Campus)

KU offers a bachelor of science degree in respiratory care. Course work covers areas such as neonatal, pediatrics and adult critical care, management, education, sleep disorders, pulmonary rehabilitation, and cardiopulmonary diagnostics. Most students enter the program after completing the sophomore year of undergraduate study or after two years of community college course work. With an advanced curriculum and located at an academic medical center, students receive extensive experience in advanced respiratory therapy techniques. The program includes a semester-long clinical assignment during the senior year in the student's area of specialization.

## Degree Advancement Program (Online)

The University of Kansas also offers a program for the respiratory therapist with the RRT credential to obtain a bachelor's degree. This program is perfect for students unable to be physically present on campus or those with schedule constraints which make traditional college class schedules a challenge. Courses (<https://www.kumc.edu/school-of-health-professions/academics/departments/respiratory-care-and-diagnostic-science/academics/respiratory-care-degree-programs/respiratory-therapy-degree-advancement/curriculum.html>) in this program are Web-based and are available anytime from anywhere in the world with an Internet connection. Note: This program is only available to professional respiratory therapists having the RRT credential.

## On-campus Bachelor's Degree Program

To be eligible for this program, two years of prerequisite course work are needed – either from the KU Lawrence campus or another regionally accredited university or community college. In order to complete prerequisites and recommended electives on-time and in the appropriate sequence, interested students should contact an academic advisor (<https://outlook.office.com/mail/deeplink/compose/?mailto=mailto:%3Aaabarry2%40kumc.edu>) for assistance in selecting courses.

Transfer students should be aware that all transfer courses for which they have requested credit must be equivalent to courses required at KU; otherwise, additional course work will be required. Graduates of an associate's degree respiratory care program are eligible to apply for advanced standing as seniors upon completion of all prerequisites.

International students should review current requirements. (<http://www.kumc.edu/school-of-health-professions/information-for-international-applicants.html>) International students, or those for whom English is a second language, may have additional requirements relative to language proficiency, residency, and citizenship status. (<http://www.kumc.edu/school-of-health-professions/information-for-international-applicants.html>)

A background check and documentation of shadow experience are required. Prospective students should review the program requirements, including prerequisite course work, and complete list of eligibility requirements (<https://www.kumc.edu/school-of-health-professions/academics/departments/respiratory-care-and-diagnostic-science/academics/respiratory-care-degree-programs/respiratory-care-bachelors-degree/eligibility-and-requirements.html>).

## Prerequisites

Code	Title	Hours
<b>English</b>		
ENGL 101	Composition (meets KU Core goal 2.1a)	3
ENGL 102	Critical Reading and Writing (KU Core goal 2.1b)	3
or BUS 305	Business Writing	
<b>Mathematics</b>		
MATH 101	College Algebra: _____	3
MATH 365	Elementary Statistics (meets KU Core goal 1.2)	3
<b>Basic Sciences</b>		
BIOL 240	Fundamentals of Human Anatomy	3
BIOL 241	Human Anatomy Observation Laboratory	2
BIOL 246	Principles of Human Physiology	3
BIOL 247	Principles of Human Physiology Laboratory	2
BIOL 200	Basic Microbiology	3
BIOL 203	Introductory Microbiology Laboratory	2
CHEM 110	Introductory Chemistry	5
PHSX 114	College Physics I (meets KU Core goal 3.2)	3
<b>Oral Communication</b>		
COMS 130	Speaker-Audience Communication (meets KU Core goal 2.2)	3
<b>Humanities</b>		
PHIL 140	Introduction to Philosophy (meets KU Core goal 3.1)	3
or PHIL 160	Introduction to Ethics	
HUM 204	Western Civilization I (or other elective meeting KU Core goal 4.2)	3
<b>Social Sciences</b>		
PSYC 104	General Psychology (meets KU Core goal 3.3)	3
SOC 104	Elements of Sociology (or other elective meeting KU Core goal 4.1)	3
<b>Health Professions</b>		
HEIM 230	Medical Terminology	3
RESP 200	Introduction to Respiratory Therapy	1

## RRT-to-Bachelor's Degree Bridge Program

Applicants must possess professional certification as a registered respiratory therapist (RRT) from the National Board for Respiratory Care, and an associate's degree (or equivalent) from a regionally accredited, CoARC-approved advanced respiratory therapist program. Prior course work must include all the prerequisite courses listed below. An overall grade point average (GPA) of **2.5** (on a 4.0 scale) for college course work is required to enter the degree-completion program for RRTs. In addition, student transcripts must document an individual course grade of no less than "C" on each prerequisite course in math, chemistry, physics and biological sciences.

A minimum 120 hours of college credit are required to earn a bachelor's degree from KU. Students will earn at least 30 credit hours during the respiratory care program.

**Note:** To be transferable, all prerequisite and respiratory care course work must be from an educational institution that is regionally accredited. This is not the same as national accreditation.

## Prerequisite Courses

- Human Anatomy\* (lab recommended)
- Human Physiology\* (lab recommended)
- Microbiology (lab recommended)
- Chemistry
- Algebra
- English Composition I and II
- Oral Communication
- Humanities (2 courses)
- Psychology
- Sociology

\*Students having completed a single combined anatomy and physiology course must complete either a second, higher-level A&P course, or a course in physiology only.

## Requirements for On-campus Bachelor's Degree Program

Two years of undergraduate course work – including at least 53 credit hours of specific prerequisites (<https://www.kumc.edu/school-of-health-professions/academics/departments/respiratory-care-and-diagnostic-science/academics/respiratory-care-degree-programs/respiratory-care-bachelors-degree/prerequisites.html>) – is required prior to entry into this program. Most KU Core requirements must be met by the prerequisites. While in the 2-year respiratory care program, students complete 60 hours of course credits in a prescribed sequence covering five academic semesters. Students are responsible for completing additional electives to fulfill the university's requirement of 120 total credit hours for a bachelor's degree from KU.

### Year 1

Fall	Hours Spring	Hours Summer	Hours
RESP 300	4	RESP 325 3	RESP 330 2
RESP 301	1	RESP 326 2	RESP 341 2
RESP 302	1	RESP 335 4	RESP 345 3
RESP 305	2	RESP 340 1	
RESP 306	2	RESP 620 3	
RESP 310	2		
RESP 315	3		
	<b>15</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>7</b>

### Year 2

Fall	Hours Spring	Hours
RESP 405	4	RESP 400 3
RESP 410	3	RESP 420 2
RESP 411	2	RESP 615 3
RESP 415	4	RESP 625 4
	<b>13</b>	<b>12</b>

**Total Hours 60**

### Professional Credentialing

Upon graduation, students will be prepared to sit for the national credentialing examinations. To be employed as a respiratory therapist, graduates must pass this exam and will be recognized with the Registered Respiratory Therapist (RRT) credential.

More information: please visit the program's website (<https://www.kumc.edu/school-of-health-professions/academics/departments/respiratory-care-and-diagnostic-science.html>).

## Requirements for Bachelor's Degree-Completion Program

This program requires a minimum 30 credit hours of respiratory care course work. Upon acceptance, students work with an advisor to organize a graduation plan and select a clinical specialty area. Specialty areas include neonatal critical care, adult critical care, and respiratory care management. Other areas may be considered with advisor approval. To qualify for graduation, a minimum grade of C or better is required on all respiratory care courses. The university requires at least 120 hours of total college credit to receive a bachelor's degree from KU. Previous course work in respiratory care may be eligible for transfer credit. The class schedule follows a typical semester and is designed to be delivered at an organized and manageable pace for the student.

Code	Title	Hours
RESP 450	Chronic Respiratory Disease Management	3
RESP 480	Simulation and Interprofessional Education (IPE)	3
RESP 495	Management, Ethics, and Law in Respiratory Care	3
RESP 620	Community and Global Health	3
RESP 650	Medical Writing & Research	3
RESP 665	Capstone Project (Students will complete this final course of the program in his or her chosen clinical specialty area.)	6
Optional Elective		
RESP 460	ACCS Specialty Credential Prep	3
RESP 465	NPS Specialty Credential Prep	3
RESP 470	AE-C Specialty Credential Prep (Cardiopulmonary Diagnostics)	3
RESP 490	Special Studies or Projects <sup>1</sup>	1-9
RESP 630	Lean Management	3
RESP 640	Professional Communication	3
RESP 655	Leadership Management	3

<sup>1</sup> This course involves individual study, research or projects in the field of respiratory care under instructor guidance. Written reports and periodic conferences are required. Content and unit credit will be determined by student-instructor and/or departmental conferences. This course may be repeated for a maximum of 12 credits. Prior consent by the instructor is required to enroll in this course.