Outline of Instruction

Division: Health Sciences
Area: Respiratory Therapy
Course Number: RTH 104
Course Name: Cardiopulmonary Assessment I
Prerequisite: Admission to the respiratory therapy program.
Corequisite: Biology 157, Human Anatomy & Physiology

Hours Required:
Class: 30
Lab: 0
Credits: 2

Course Description/Purpose
This course is an introduction to basic physical and laboratory assessment of cardiopulmonary patients. Topics include basic pulmonary function and medical lab values, blood gas analysis, and bedside patient assessment equipment and techniques.

Major Units
1. PFTs and common laboratory values.
5. Basic cardiopulmonary patient assessment.

Educational/Course Outcomes
Student learning will be assessed by a variety of methods, including, but not limited to, quizzes and tests, homework assignments, and instructor observations.

Cognitive
Each student will be expected to:

• discuss common pulmonary function and laboratory diagnostic procedures and equipment as they relate to a patient’s clinical assessment.
• discuss basic blood gas physiology
• state theory of operation, purpose, usage techniques, and disadvantages of commonly used clinical diagnostic equipment.
• list and discuss the four major components of respiratory physical assessment
• state normal vital sign values and discuss common causes of abnormality.
• describe the requirements for successful completion of the MCCC Respiratory Therapy program’s Adult Basic Care Patient Assessment form.

Performance
Each student will be expected to:

• cite normal values for and interpret an arterial blood gas in terms of oxygenation, ventilation, and acid-base status.