J. Sargeant Reynolds Community College  
Course Content Summary  

Course Prefix and Number: RTH 190  
Credits: 2

Course Title: NCC Internship for Respiratory Therapy

Course Description:
Provides first-year students an opportunity to practice all non-critical care skills in an acute care setting. The student is paired with an experienced “CRT” and completes 102 hours of non-critical care internship. Prerequisites: successful completion of all curriculum courses offered during the first two semesters of the AAS degree in Respiratory Therapy. Laboratory 10 hours per week.

General Course Purpose:
This course allows students to perform non-critical care skills in acute care settings with minimal supervision. The “mentor” is available at all times but the student is encouraged to perform all tasks required of non-critical care therapists. The purpose is to foster independent critical thinking skills in a monitored environment that will mimic the actual work environment that the student will be working in.

Course Objectives:
Upon completing the course, the student will be able to:
A. Become proficient at performing all of the non-critical care procedures listed above.
B. Develop decision-making skills necessary to be able to function as an independent respiratory care practitioner.
C. Understand the importance of receiving a good report and giving a good report to the oncoming shift.
D. Develop prioritizing skills necessary to work in the often hectic and stressful respiratory care environment.
E. Develop good work habits which will enable you to gain employment and develop professionally.
F. Develop the self-confidence and skill level necessary to work as an independent respiratory care practitioner

Major Topics to Be Included:
Vital signs  
Arterial blood pressures  
Patient positioning  
Patient assessment  
Medical records  
Hand washing  
Chemical disinfection and sterilization  
Gas sterilization  
Pasteurization  
Bacteriological surveillance  
Isolation techniques  
Cylinder safety and transport  
Oxygen therapy  
Oxyhoods  

Measurement of oxygen concentrations  
Aerosol/Humidity therapy  
Bedside ventilatory assessment  
Aerosol enclosures  
Aerosol drug administration  
Incentive spirometry  
IPPB therapy  
Breathing exercises  
Coughing  
Postural drainage and percussion  
Tracheobronchial aspiration  
Cuff management  
ABG sampling and analysis

Effective Date of Course Content Summary: September 25, 2008