

# Respiratory Therapy (BS)

## At Wheeling Jesuit University

### RT at a Glance:

Respiratory therapy is the allied health profession that cares for patients with deficiencies and abnormalities of the cardiopulmonary system (heart and lungs). The respiratory therapist sees a diverse group of patients ranging from newborns to the elderly. Disease states or conditions often requiring respiratory care include asthma, emphysema, chronic obstructive lung disease, pneumonia, cystic fibrosis, neonatal respiratory distress syndrome, and multiple conditions brought on by shock, trauma, and post operative complications.

### What Are Some Career Options That You Would Have With a Degree in Respiratory Therapy?

Respiratory therapist in a hospital  
Sleep diagnostic center  
Helicopter transport and response  
U.S. armed forces  
Pharmaceutical sales  
Education

Pulmonary physician offices  
Pulmonary function and diagnostic centers  
Equipment sales and education  
Respiratory therapist in the home care setting  
Skilled nursing facilities and long term care facilities  
Research

### Will WJU be able to prepare me for the competitive job market?

Yes! Wheeling Jesuit University is one of 60 schools in the country to offer a **Bachelor of Science Degree** in Respiratory Therapy. Our Respiratory Therapy program is fully accredited. Students at Wheeling Jesuit must complete all core courses, and fully master the specific requirements in the respiratory therapy lab setting before they practice their knowledge in the clinical setting. Because our students are trained in a setting that closely simulates a hospital, their transition from the university to the medical center is an easy one. Many Wheeling Jesuit graduates have gone on to become supervisors, educators, and managers in medical facilities throughout the country.

### What courses will I need to take if I am a RT major?

Respiratory Therapy's curriculum during the first two years focuses on basic science, such as anatomy, physiology, biology, chemistry, and physics. All Wheeling Jesuit students are required to complete the core curriculum that consists of history, English, social science, foreign language, and math.

The last two years focus more on respiratory studies by enrolling students in specific respiratory classes such as adult respiratory care, neonatal respiratory care, critical care, and others. Students are required to participate in clinical (at the hospital) two days a week during the junior year, and four days a week for six months during their senior year. These clinical rotations occur at various hospitals/medical centers in Ohio, Pennsylvania, and West Virginia.

The average RT student's schedule over four years might look like this...

	FIRST SEMESTER				SECOND SEMESTER			
FRESHMAN	COURSE #	COURSE TITLE		HRS	COURSE #	COURSE TITLE		HRS
	BIO 128	Anatomy & Physiology I	___	3	HIS 120	Historical Methods	___	3
	BIO 127	Anatomy Lab	___	1	ENG 105	Process of Composition	___	3
	HIS 110	The Twentieth Century	___	3	RST 106/107	Religious Quest <b>OR</b> Catholicism	___	3
	MAT 105**	Intro to Statistics I	___	3	CHE 105**	Intro to General, Organic & Bio-Chemistry	___	3
	PSY 110	General Psychology	___	3	BIO 129	Anatomy & Physiology II	___	<u>3</u>
	FYS 101	Freshman Year Seminar (A)	___	1				15
	CLS 121	Introduction to Hospital Science (B)	___	<u>2</u>				
				16				
SOPHOMORE	PHY 130**	Physics for Allied Health	___	3	RET 212	Intro to RT Equipment	___	3
	BIO 109	Cells and Chromosomes	___	3	RET 262**	Intro to Clinical Principles	___	2
	BIO 121	Methods of Biology (Lab)	___	1	CLS 215	Concepts of Microbiology & Epidemiology	___	2
	SSC/INS ___	Global Perspectives Elective	___	3	PHI 205	Philosophy of the Human Person	___	3
	PHI 105	Logic & Knowledge	___	3	SPA 106	Medical Spanish	___	3
	RST ___	Religion #2 (200 level)	___	<u>3</u>	LIT 120	Literary Foundations	___	<u>3</u>
				16				16
JUNIOR	RET 325	Adult RT	___	3	RET 330	Pulmonary Function, Physiology and		3
	CLS 234	Pathophysiology	___	3	RET 340	Rehabilitation	___	3
	CLS 311	Pharmacology (A)	___	1		Advanced Ventilation and		3
	RET 320	RT Pharmacology (B)	___	1	RET 345	Adjunctive Therapy	___	3
	CLS 312	Emergency Life Support	___	3	RET 363**	Neo. & Pediatric Care	___	3
	RET 362**	Clinical Orientation	___	2	CLS 330A	Prin. of General Care I	___	1
	CLS 320A	Management Techniques for Health Science	___	1	CLS 221	Principles of Instruction	___	2
	CLS 320B	Management Practicum	___	<u>1</u>	RET 342	Intro to Research in Healthcare	___	2
				15		Arterial Blood Gases, Hemodynamic and Cardiac Physiology	___	<u>2</u>
								17
SUMMER	RET 365**	Intro. To Anesthesia	___	1				
	RET 366**	Critical Care I	___	<u>5</u>				
				6				
SENIOR	RET 465**	General Care II	___	4	RET 482	Respiratory Therapy		1
	RET 466**	Critical Care II	___	4	LIT 250	Research Capstone	___	3
	RET 467**	Rehab. & Home Care	___	2	RST305 or PHI 305	Literature Explore: Capstone	___	3
	RET 468**	Clinics	___	1	RET 420	Registry Review	___	1
	RET 469**	Emergency Medicine	___	1	RET 480**	Adv. Clinical (elective)	___	½
	CLS 330B	Instruction Practicum	___	1	NUR/RET 424	ACLS (elective)	___	1
	RET 464**	Pulmonary Functions	___	2	NUR/RET 412	Critical Thinking	___	2
	NUR/RET 430	EKG Interpretation	___	<u>1</u>	FAS 105	Fine Arts Explorations	___	<u>3</u>
				16				14(+)

\* Or a higher-level course

\*\* Indicates Respiratory Therapy Clinical Rotations

+ This course sequence may or may not fulfill pre-requisites to various graduate level programs/degrees. Students will need to individually assess this course sequence for fulfillment of any required graduate level program pre-requisites.

## Can I combine respiratory therapy with a pre-professional major?

YES! Here at Wheeling Jesuit University, you can choose Respiratory Therapy as your undergraduate degree, and then transition to the Doctor of Physical Therapy graduate program. For admission into the Graduate Physical Therapy Program here at WJU, you must first complete your undergraduate degree. This degree is chosen when you are accepted to the University, and fulfills the pre-requisites needed for admission to the physical therapy graduate program.

By choosing the RT program as your undergraduate degree, you will only have to take 8 **additional credits (two classes)** to complete all of the pre-requisites for the physical therapy program.

*Our Respiratory Therapy Program can also be used as a starting point for medical school, perfusion technology, physician assistants, education, and many other pre-professional programs.*

## Is financial aid available?

Wheeling Jesuit offers several grants, scholarships, loans, and work-study opportunities. Additionally, several Respiratory Therapy scholarships are available from various foundations.

## Where Can I Get More Information?

- Contact WJU's admissions office at 1-800-624-6992
- Check out the Respiratory Therapy website at:  
[www.wju.edu/academics/ret](http://www.wju.edu/academics/ret)
- Contact the RT faculty:

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