



## **Theoretical Applications RESP 4432 Spring 2026**

### **Contact Information:**

Instructor: Tammy Kurszewski, DHSc, RRT, RRT-ACCS

Office: Centennial Hall, Office 420G

Phone: 940-397-4546

Email: [tammy.kurszewski@msutexas.edu](mailto:tammy.kurszewski@msutexas.edu)

Office Hours: As posted and by appointment

### **Class Information:**

Class Meeting: Centennial Hall 334, 9:20-10:30

Audience: Senior Respiratory Care Students

### **Course Description:**

The focus of this lecture class is to provide the student with an assessment of their educational strengths and weaknesses with respect to the practice of respiratory care. Topics include an assessment of the following examinations: therapist multiple-choice exam, clinical simulations, and if time permits, neonatal/pediatric exam. Passing an exit mock written registry examination is required.

### **Course Objectives:**

Upon completion of this course, the student will be able to:

- To demonstrate mastery of the essential knowledge, skills and abilities required of an entry-level respiratory therapist.
- Review existing data, collect additional data and evaluate all data to determine and defend the appropriateness of the prescribed respiratory care plan.

### **Required Course Materials and Text:**

Persing, G. (2020). *Respiratory Care Exam Review (5<sup>th</sup> Edition)*. St. Louis, MO: Elsevier Saunders.

Kettering Course Review Seminar (January 20<sup>th</sup> through 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2026), Midwestern State University, Wichita Falls, Texas



## **Recommended Texts and Resources:**

[National Board for Respiratory Care](#)

[Lindsey Jones Exam Review](#)

[Oakes Academy](#)

[RT Board Review](#)

[Tutorial Systems](#)

Scanlan, C., Heuer, A., & Rodriguez, N. (2019). *Comprehensive Respiratory Therapy Exam Preparation Guide (Third Edition)*. Burlington, MA: Jones & Bartlett Learning.

Anthony Vargas Review – Contact Dr. K if you would like more information.

## **Attendance and Punctuality:**

Regular class attendance is required. No distinction is made between excused and unexcused absences unless the absence has been cleared through the office of the Dean of Students, Athletic Department, Academic Affairs, Faculty, or Program Chair. If a student misses a lecture, it is the student's responsibility to work with other class members to determine what material was missed. Please refer to the MSU Student Handbook for more information.

\*1 day missed = no point deduction off of final grade

\*2 – 4 days missed = 5-point deduction off of final grade

\*5 + days missed = 10-point deduction off of final grade

\*Please note that two days tardy= one absence. Excessive tardiness will not be tolerated.

\*Please note upon successful completion of the Mock Therapist Multiple Choice Exam at the High Cut Score, classroom attendance will no longer be required. Course content will be completed online for the remainder of the semester.

## **Teaching Strategies:**

Independent reading assignments, class discussions, online quizzes, classroom assignments, module exams and mock therapist multiple choice examinations.

## **Missed Quizzes or Another Graded Item Policy:**

Anything not completed and handed in on time will be subjected to a "0" for that specific grade. Please talk with your professor, prior to the due date, regarding circumstances that may prevent you from completing an assignment. All assignments must be completed by end of class on the date due (with the exception of online quizzes due by 11:59 pm on the date due).

## **Approximate Grading Scale:**

**A: 90-100**

**B: 80-89**

**C: 75-79**

**D: 60-74**

**F: 59 and below**



**Grade Items and Grade Determination:**

Assignments	Grade Percentage
TMC Self-Assessment Exam	70%
Module Exams	15%
Quizzes/Assignments	5%
Reflective Report/Study Plan	10%

**Course Requirements:****KETTERING REVIEW SEMINAR:**

As a requirement for this course, Midwestern State University will be hosting a Kettering Exam Review Seminar on campus. This is a 3-day seminar students are expected to purchase and attend in order to successfully complete the course. The seminar will be held in **location pending**, on Tuesday, January 20<sup>th</sup> through Thursday, January 22<sup>nd</sup> from 8am to 5pm. This seminar will provide each participant with a comprehensive review of Basic and Advanced Respiratory Care along with a step-by-step method of preparation for successful completion of both the Therapist Multiple Choice Exam as well as the Clinical Simulation Exam.

**PARTICIPATION/DISCUSSION:**

In all classroom discussions students are expected to be present as well as:

- 1.) Raise thoughtful questions
- 2.) Incorporate content from readings
- 3.) Build on the ideas of others
- 4.) Synthesize across readings and discussions
- 5.) Expand the class' perspective
- 6.) Appropriately challenge assumptions and perspectives

**QUIZZES:**

The student will read the chapter(s), supplemental materials, and/or power point presentations associated with each module. All reading assignments are mandatory and the student's comprehension of the content will be in the form of a quiz. Each quiz will consist of multiple-choice, and multiple, multiple-choice questions (similar to board exam questions).

**ASSIGNMENTS:**

The student will have required assignments associated with some modules within the course (i.e. Kettering Workbook Assignments, Practice Exams, Practice Quizzes, Short Essays, etc.). Please note that some of these assignments may be completed as independent study projects. All work submitted to the instructor will be considered complete and final, and will be graded as such. These assignments again are mandatory and should reflect the student's comprehension of the content.



## **MODULE EXAMS:**

The student will have two required exams associated with the Module 3 & 4 within the course covering key content areas necessary for success on your self-assessment exam. These exams will allow for evaluation of competency in the required content areas.

## **NBRC SELF-ASSESSMENT EXAMINATIONS:**

As per the student handbook, all students are required to complete the National Board for Respiratory Care (NBRC) Self-Assessment (SAE) Therapist Multiple Choice (TMC) Examination as part of RESP 4432 Theoretical Applications. Please note the SAE is the complete Registered Respiratory Therapist Exam given under true testing conditions and is written by the same group that administers the actual exam required for entry into practice and to obtain the Registered Respiratory Therapist Credential. The Self-Assessment Exam is weighted as 70% of your overall course grade. As an incentive to encourage outstanding performance, any student who completes the exam at 63% or higher on the first attempt will receive 15 bonus points on the average. Please note that students have the option of repeating the exam with the instructor accepting highest score earned when calculating the final grade for the course; however, retaking the exam will be at an additional cost to the student.

The student is responsible for all costs associated with the SAE examinations. \*The NBRC SAE Therapist Multiple Choice Exam is \$50. Required SAE are available for purchase via the MSU Marketplace (Therapist Multiple –Choice SAE Form A): [MSU Marketplace](#)

\*Deadline for payment for the required SAE exam is noted to be February 19, 2026. SAE examinations will be administered on campus on-line in a supervised computer lab setting. The examination will be administered under the same guidelines set forth by the NBRC.

## **NBRC BOARD EXAMINATION PASSING REQUIREMENTS:**

\*Students should recognize that the National Board for Respiratory Care Therapist Multiple Choice Exam requires a score at the level of low cut in order to receive the entry-level credential, Certified Respiratory Therapist. Low cut score on the TMC Exam is noted to be a score of 88 correct answers out of 140 scored-items or 63%. (Please note, TMC high cut score is 94 correct answers or 67%. Upon completion of the NBRC Self-Assessment Exam, students reaching a high cut score of 94 or greater correct answers will be excused from classroom participation for the remainder of the semester.)

\*Additional NBRC Self-Assessment Examinations are required as part of RESP 4102 Clinical Patient Management and will be addressed as part of that course.

## **REFLECTIVE REPORTS/STUDY PLAN:**

Students are required to compose a reflective report from the feedback they received after completion of their SAE TMC. This reflective report should highlight strengths as well as identify areas of weakness. Areas of weakness identified by the student should also include a plan for remediation in that area (please note, simply stating study more will not suffice). Study plans should be specific in detail to include resources to be used as well as a tentative timeline for completion. Reflective reports will vary in length, but should meet the objectives as outlined above. Please note that this assignment should be written at the baccalaureate level and will be graded for accuracy, completeness, quality, spelling, grammar and integrity. Reflective reports will be submitted via D2L Dropbox. Also, a copy of the student's exam scores should also be included with the submission.

## **AI Generated-Submissions:**

Since writing, analytical, and critical thinking skills are part of the learning outcomes of this course, all writing assignments should be prepared by the student. Developing strong competencies in this area will prepare you



for a competitive workplace. Therefore, AI-generated submissions are not permitted and will be treated as plagiarism.

### Appeal of Course Grade:

The two bases in which a student can appeal a course grade are as follows:

- The student has not been evaluated according to the same criteria as his/her classmates, OR
- An error has been made in grading and/or posting of the grade.

Students wishing to appeal final course grade given in this course will find additional information regarding the appeal process at the following link: [Appeal of Course Grade](#)

### SPRING 2026 TENTATIVE COURSE SCHEDULE:

Module	Date	Content
Module One	Monday, January 19 <sup>th</sup>	Martin Luther King Day Holiday
Module One	Tuesday, January 20 <sup>th</sup>	*Kettering Exam Review Seminar - TMC
Module One	Wednesday, January 21 <sup>st</sup>	*Kettering Exam Review Seminar - TMC
Module One	Thursday, January 22 <sup>nd</sup>	*Kettering Exam Review Seminar – Clinical Sims
Module Two	Monday, February 23 <sup>rd</sup>	Mrs. Owen – Clinical Simulations
Module Two	Tuesday, February 24 <sup>th</sup>	Mrs. Owen – Clinical Simulations
Module Two	Thursday, February 26 <sup>th</sup>	Mrs. Owen – Clinical Simulations
Module Two	Monday, March 2 <sup>nd</sup>	Mrs. Owen – Clinical Simulations
Module Two	Tuesday, March 3 <sup>rd</sup>	Mrs. Owen – Clinical Simulations
Module Two	Thursday, March 5 <sup>th</sup>	Mrs. Owen – Clinical Simulations
Module Two	Monday, March 16 <sup>th</sup>	Mrs. Owen – Clinical Simulations
Module Two	Tuesday, March 17 <sup>th</sup>	Mrs. Owen – Clinical Simulations



Module	Date	Content
Module Two	*Thursday, March 19 <sup>th</sup>	*Mrs. Owen – NBRC Mock Clinical Simulation Exam
Module Three	Monday, March 23 <sup>rd</sup>	Assessment – Section A
Module Three	Tuesday, March 24 <sup>th</sup>	Airway Care – Section B
Module Four	Thursday, March 26 <sup>th</sup>	Exam #1 (Section A&B) Basic Therapeutics – Section C
Module Four	Monday, March 30 <sup>th</sup>	Independent Mock Exam Assignment
Module Four	Tuesday, March 31 <sup>st</sup>	Independent Mock Exam Assignment
Module Four	Thursday, April 2 <sup>nd</sup>	Easter Holiday
Module Four	Monday, April 13 <sup>th</sup>	Pulmonary Diagnostics/Hemodynamics – Section D
Module Five	Tuesday, April 14 <sup>th</sup>	Exam #2 (Section C&D) Mechanical Ventilation – Section E
Module Five	Wednesday, April 15 <sup>th</sup>	Mechanical Ventilation – Section E
Module Five	Thursday, April 16 <sup>th</sup>	Celebration of Scholarship
Module Five	Monday, April 20 <sup>th</sup>	Mechanical Ventilation – Section E
*Module Six	*Tuesday, April 21 <sup>st</sup>	*NBRC Mock TMC Exam
Module Seven	Thursday, April 23 <sup>rd</sup>	TMC Exam Result Review/Study Planning
Module Seven	Monday, April 27 <sup>th</sup>	Targeted Review - TMC Exam
Module Seven	Tuesday, April 28 <sup>th</sup>	Targeted Review - TMC Exam
Module Seven	Thursday, April 30 <sup>th</sup>	Targeted Review - TMC Exam
Module Seven	Monday, May 4 <sup>th</sup>	TMC/Clin Sim Practice – Breakout Sessions/NPS Review
Module Seven	Tuesday, May 5 <sup>th</sup>	TMC/Clin Sim Practice – Breakout Sessions/NPS Review



Module	Date	Content
Module Seven	Thursday, May 7 <sup>th</sup>	TMC/Clin Sim Practice – Breakout Sessions/NPS Review

**Below, you will find each day's assignments broken up into modules. I suggest printing a copy of the course schedule as well as each module below to help you stay organized.**

### **Course Modules**

Students are encouraged to review the module contents prior to class. See the Course Schedule for specific information about activities and module dates.

#### **Module 1 – Course Introduction and Kettering Review Seminar:**

**Monday, January 19<sup>th</sup> through Thursday, January 22<sup>nd</sup>**

##### Objectives:

- Review and understand the requirements as set forth in the of RESP 4432 Theoretical Applications.
- Recognize the standards for successful completion of the exit examination, the NBRC Self-Assessment Therapist Multiple Choice Exam, for the course.
- Complete thorough review of skills and knowledge necessary for entry into the practice of Respiratory Therapy as part of the Kettering Exam Review Seminar.

Student should begin by reviewing the course syllabus prior to first day of class. Students will receive the Kettering National Seminars Comprehensive Review for the Respiratory Therapist Multiple Choice Examination Study Guide, TMC Workbook and Clinical Simulation Workbook on day one of the course. Content covered the remainder of the week as part of the review seminar will be from these three sources. No other assignments are associated with this module.

#### **Module 2 – Clinical Simulation Exam Review**

**Monday, February 23<sup>rd</sup> through Thursday, March 19<sup>th</sup>**

Students will focus on the curriculum as outlined in RESP 4102 Clinical Patient Management. This module is team taught by Mrs. Mary Sue Owen and myself. \*\*Please note as part of Module 2, you will complete the NBRC SAE Clinical Simulation as part of RESP 4102 Clinical Patient Management.

#### **Module 3 – Patient Assessment and Airway Care**

**Monday, March 23<sup>rd</sup> and Tuesday, March 24<sup>th</sup>:**

##### Objectives:

- Review and mastery of the following content areas:
  - Assessment of the Patient



- Reviewing of the Patient's Records
- Bedside Interview and Medical History
- Physical Examination of the Patient
- Radiographic Imaging
- Other Imaging Procedures
- Lab Testing
- Electrocardiograms
- Assessment of the Infant
- Monitoring Data
- Pharyngeal Airways
- Establishing a Patent Airway
- Managing Acute Airway Obstruction
- Resuscitation Devices
- Oral and Nasal Intubation
- Tracheostomy and Tracheostomy Tubes
- Laryngectomy and Laryngectomy Tubes

Students should begin by reading Section A- Patient Assessment and B-Airway Care in Kettering as well as Respiratory Care Examination by Persing, Chapter 3-Assessment of the Cardiopulmonary Patient and Chapter 4-Management of the Airway. The student will develop and outline a study plan for completion of review prior to the SAE TMC as well as review study strategies for the Self-Assessment Exam. There will be required homework assignments (Kettering Workbook Activities, EKG Interpretations) and an exam (Kettering Section A&B) associated with this module.

#### **Module 4 - Pulmonary Diagnostics and Therapeutic Procedures**

**Thursday, March 26<sup>th</sup> and Monday, April 13<sup>th</sup> (Easter Holiday and Clinic Break):**

##### Objectives:

- Review and mastery of the following content areas:
  - Arterial Blood Gases (ABG)
  - Hemodynamic Monitoring
  - Pulmonary Function Testing
  - Bronchoscopy
  - Breathing Techniques
  - Hyperinflation/Lung Expansion Therapy
  - Continuous Positive Airway Pressure
  - Bronchial Hygiene Therapy
  - Humidity and Aerosol Devices
  - Oxygen Administration Devices
  - Sputum Induction

Students should begin by reading Kettering Section D-Pulmonary Diagnostic Testing and Section C- Therapeutic Procedures (in that order) as well as Persing, Chapters 1-Oxygen and Medical Gas Therapy, 2- Humidity and Aerosol, 7- Hyperinflation Therapy, 8- Bronchopulmonary Hygiene Techniques, 14- Respiratory Medications, 13-Neonatal and Pediatric Respiratory Care & 5- Special Respiratory Care Procedures (in that order). There will be required homework assignments (Kettering Workbook Activities, Pharmacology



Flashcards, ABG Interpretation Exercises, Hemodynamic Calculations, PFT Interpretations), and an exam (Kettering Section D&C) associated with this module plus a full-length practice TMC Exam assignment.



## **Module 5 - Mechanical Ventilation and Special Procedures**

**Tuesday, April 14<sup>th</sup> through Monday, April 20<sup>th</sup>:**

### Objectives:

- Review and mastery of the following content areas:
  - Mechanical Ventilation Terminology
  - Equipment
  - Clinical Application of Mechanical Ventilation
  - Initiating Mechanical Ventilation
  - Caring for the Patient Receiving Mechanical Ventilation
  - Weaning or Liberation from the Ventilator
  - Non-Invasive Positive Pressure Ventilation
  - Specialty Medical Gases
  - Thoracentesis
  - Sleep Apnea Studies
  - Chest Tubes and Chest Drainage Systems
  - Cardiopulmonary Stress Testing
  - Broncho alveolar Lavage
  - Infant Apnea Monitoring
  - Cardiac Emergencies
  - Patient Transport
  - Metabolic Studies
  - Indirect Calorimetry
  - End-of-Life Care

Students should begin by reading Kettering Section E-Mechanical Ventilation and Section F-Special Procedures as well as Persing Chapter 11-Ventilator Management, 6-Manual Resuscitation Techniques/Emergency Respiratory Care, 17-Equipment Decontamination and Infection Control, and 15-Respiratory Home Care (in that order). There will be required homework assignments (Kettering Workbook Activities) and a quiz. There will be no content exam for this module.

## **Module 6 – TMC Self-Assessment Exam**

**Tuesday, April 21<sup>st</sup>:**

### Objectives:

- Successfully complete NBRC Self-Assessment Therapist Multiple Choice Examination.

Please note the NBRC SAE Therapist Multiple Choice Exam required for exit will be completed as part of this module.

**\*Tuesday, April 21<sup>st</sup>, Room Pending 9A– Noon, NBRC SELF ASSESSMENT THERAPIST MULTIPLE CHOICE EXAM**

## **Module 7 – Targeted Review and Content Mastery**

**Thursday, April 23<sup>rd</sup> through Thursday, May 7<sup>th</sup>:**



### Objectives:

- Demonstrate competency in the following areas associated with the practice of Respiratory Therapy:
  - Assemble and Troubleshooting Equipment
  - Ensure Infection Control
  - Perform Quality Control Procedures
  - Maintain a Patent Airway Including the Care of Artificial Airways
  - Perform Airway Clearance and Lung Expansion Techniques
  - Support Oxygenation and Ventilation
  - Administer Medications and Specialty Gases
  - Utilize Evidence-Based Medicine Principles
  - Provide Respiratory Care Techniques in High-Risk Situations
  - Assist a Physician/Provider in Performing Procedures
- Identify subject areas demonstrating low content mastery through evaluation of Self-Assessment TMC Exam.
- Develop individualized study strategies for strengthening of identified areas of improvement.

Students will be given individual reading assignments, review strategies, and study goals based on performance on the Self-Assessment Therapist Multiple Choice Exam. Content areas covered in class will be tailored to address any high-impact deficiencies. Homework assignments will be made based on exam content outcomes and may be independent in nature. Students are required to complete their Reflective Reports/Study Plan as part of this module. Practice TMC Exams will be available for independent completion throughout this module as well.

### **American with Disabilities Act (ADA):**

The Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) is a federal anti-discrimination statute that provides comprehensive civil rights protection for persons with disabilities. Among other things, this legislation requires that all students with disabilities be guaranteed a learning environment that provides for reasonable accommodation of their disabilities. If you believe you have a disability requiring an accommodation, please contact the Disability Support Services in Room 168 of the Clark Student Center, 397-4140.

Please see the instructor outside of class to make any arrangements involving special accommodations. It is the student's responsibility to declare any disabilities. After declaration, preferably at the beginning of each semester, the student needs to contact individual instructors to determine any reasonable accommodations that may be required. [MSU Texas Disability Support Services](#)

### **Honor System:**

All components of HSHS 1013 are designed to represent the efforts of each student INDIVIDUALLY and are NOT to be shared, copied or plagiarized from other sources. When students submit their efforts for grading, they are attesting that abided by this rule.

Cheating includes, but is not limited to, (1) use of any unauthorized assistance in taking quizzes, tests or examinations; (2) dependence upon the aid of sources beyond those authorized by the instructor in writing papers, preparing reports, solving problems or completing other assignments; or (3) the acquisition of tests or other academic materials belonging to the university faculty or staff without permission.

Plagiarism includes, but is not limited to, the use of, by paraphrase or direct quotation without correct citation in the text and on the reference list, the published and unpublished works of another person. Students may NOT submit papers and assignments that they have previously submitted for this or other courses. The use of materials generated by agencies engaged in "selling" term papers is also plagiarism.



Academic dishonesty (cheating, plagiarism, etc.) will not be tolerated in this class. Whenever a student is unsure of whether a situation will be interpreted as academic dishonesty, he/she should ask the instructor for clarification. If students are guilty of academic dishonesty, a grade of "0" will be given for the quiz, assignment, etc. Cases may also be referred to the Dean of Students for possible dismissal from the university. [Honor Creed Webpage](#)

**PLEASE NOTE**

***By enrolling in this course, the student expressly grants MSU a "limited right" in all intellectual property created by the student for the purpose of this course. The "limited right" shall include but shall not be limited to the right to reproduce the student's work product in order to verify originality and authenticity, and for educational purposes. Specifically, faculty may submit student papers and assignments to an external agency to verify originality and authenticity, and to detect for plagiarism.***

**Student Honor Creed**

**"As an MSU Student, I pledge not to lie, cheat, steal, or help anyone else do so."**

As students at MSU, we recognize that any great society must be composed of empowered, responsible citizens. We also recognize universities play an important role in helping mold these responsible citizens. We believe students themselves play an important part in developing responsible citizenship by maintaining a community where integrity and honorable character are the norm, not the exception. Thus, we, the Students of Midwestern State University, resolve to uphold the honor of the University by affirming our commitment to complete academic honesty. We resolve not only to be honest but also to hold our peers accountable for complete honesty in all university matters. We consider it dishonest to ask for, give, or receive help in examinations or quizzes, to use any unauthorized material in examinations, or to present, as one's own, work or ideas which are not entirely one's own. We recognize that any instructor has the right to expect that all student work is honest, original work. We accept and acknowledge that responsibility for lying, cheating, stealing, plagiarism, and other forms of academic dishonesty fundamentally rests within each individual student. We expect of ourselves academic integrity, personal professionalism, and ethical character. We appreciate steps taken by University officials to protect the honor of the University against any who would disgrace the MSU student body by violating the spirit of this creed.