Course Syllabus

COURSE: RSPT 2239.200- Advanced Cardiac Life Support
SEMESTER: Spring 2026
CLASS TIMES: Thursday
                     11:30 AM – 1:20 PM
INSTRUCTOR: Kristal Jones, MSRC, RRT, RRT-ACCS, RRT-NPS
OFFICE: Reese Center, Building 2, Room 223C
OFFICE HOURS: Monday & Wednesday: 9:00 AM – 11:30 AM
                     Tuesday & Thursday: 9:00 AM – 11:00 AM
                     Friday: By appointment only
                     Other times by appointment
OFFICE PHONE: 806-716-4624
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"South Plains College improves each student's life."

GENERAL COURSE INFORMATION

*It is the responsibility of each student to be familiar with the content and requirements listed in the course syllabus, SPC Student Handbook, and Program Handbook. *

COURSE DESCRIPTION

Advanced Cardiac Life Support (ACLS) with an emphasis on airway management. Designed to develop skills for the resuscitation of the adult. Includes strategies for managing and stabilizing the cardiopulmonary arrested patient. May include certification based on American Heart Association standards.

COURSE OBJECTIVES AND LEARNING OUTCOMES

COURSE OBJECTIVES

Upon successful completion of the course, the student will:
Complete all online modules for the ACLS Provider course. These are to be followed by the successful completion of skills testing.

1. Discuss the primary ABCD Survey
2. Discuss the secondary ABCD Survey
3. Describe the management of for each step of the ACLS approach
4. Describe the principles and adjuncts of supplemental oxygen
5. Describe the techniques of airway control and management
6. Describe the techniques of ventilation
7. Perform ventilation to the endotracheal tube, LMA, Combitube
8. Perform endotracheal intubation
9. Explain primary and secondary tracheal tube confirmation and protection from dislodgment
10. Discuss the human issues associated with CPR and ACLS
11. Discuss the ethical issues associated with CPR and ACLS
12. Discuss the legal issues associated with CPR and ACLS
13. Review basic cardiac life support BCLS/CPR
14. Describe what an Automated External Defibrillator (AED) does
15. List the four (4) universal steps of operating an AED
16. Describe in detail the universal steps above
17. Identify cardiac arrest (lethal) rhythms
18. Identify non-cardiac arrest rhythms
19. Perform intermediate rhythm interpretation (i.e., bradycardia, blocks, atrial tachycardia, tachycardia)
20. Provide appropriate therapeutic intervention for cardiac arrhythmias

21. Explain the safe and effective use of a defibrillator to deliver shocks to VF
22. Explain the safe and effective use of cardioversion for unstable VT
23. Explain the safe and effective use of an external pacer
24. Describe the major advantages and disadvantages of peripheral and central IV
25. Describe the techniques of intravenous therapy
26. Explain the use of appropriate resuscitation medications to:
    Correct hypoxemia
    Restore circulation and blood pressure
    Promote optimal cardiac function
    Prevent or suppress significant arrhythmias
    Relieve pain
    Correct electrolyte abnormalities
    Adjust acidosis
    Counteract the effects of prescribed medications or illegitimate agents
    Treat congestive heart failure
27. Analyze trauma situations
28. Provide appropriate therapeutic intervention for trauma situations

LEARNING-OUTCOMES
Describe the principles, techniques, and complications of intravenous and electrical therapy, airway control, ventilation, and supplemental oxygen; analyze cardiac dysrhythmias; integrate basic life support with advanced cardiovascular life support interventions; and summarize airway management principles.

OUTCOME ASSESSMENT METHODS
Assessment methods for this course are both formative and summative.
Formative assessments include:
- Assignments/Quizzes
- Class Participation/Attendance
- Simulation Lab Evaluation
- Exams

Summative assessments include:
- ACLS Megacode Test Scenario

GRADING FORMULA
Grades in this course will be determined using the following criteria:

Assessment Tool	%
Assignments/Quizzes	25%
Class Participation/Attendance	20%
Simulation Lab Evaluations	25%
Exams	15%
Final Examination ACLS Megacode Test Scenario	15%

Percentage Score	Grade
90-100	**A**
80-89	**B**
75-79	**C**
65-74	D
0-64	F

GRADING POLICIES
To successfully complete this course, students are required to achieve a grade of **75% or higher**. Those who do not meet this passing requirement will not be permitted to proceed within the SPC program.

ASSIGNMENTS
OneVision Supplemental Video Assignments
OneVision supplemental videos will be assigned throughout the course and will contribute to the assignment grade. Students are required to watch the assigned OneVision videos and mark them "complete" in Blackboard. All assigned videos will be divided into folders by their assigned due date. Folders with the assigned content must be marked "Complete" by the assigned due date to receive full credit. Grading criteria for OneVision assignments are as follows:

OneVision	Grade
Assigned Video Folder Marked COMPLETE	**100%**
Assigned Video Folder Marked "Started"	**50%**
Assigned Video Folder Marked "Not Started"	**0%**

Additional Assignments
Additional assignments, quizzes, and/or worksheets will be listed on the Course Schedule. Instructions will be provided in Blackboard, and all assignments and/or projects will be submitted in Blackboard.
Late assignments will not be accepted.

CLASS PARTICIPATION/ATTENDANCE
Students will receive a daily grade for class participation/attendance. The student will start with a 100% for the semester. Each absence will deduct 2 points from their class participation grade. Students are required to attend both lecture and Sim Lab sessions in person to obtain attendance credit. Live Zoom attendance will not be considered applicable for this course.

SIMULATION LAB EVALUATIONS
Simulation Lab Evaluations are designed to advance or confirm the student's development of ACLS skills, knowledge, and behaviors. Students will be evaluated by the DCE or Adjunct Instructor at the end of each Sim Lab session (unless indicated otherwise) using the Simulation Lab Evaluation form in Trajecsys. All Simulation Lab Evaluation scores will be averaged together and the grade will be determined using the following criteria:

Assessment Tool	%
Average of 4.6-5.0	100%
Average of 4.0-4.5	90%
Average of 3.5-3.9	83%
Average of 3.0-3.4	75%
Average of < 3.0	50%

If a student receives a score of less than a 3 on a Simulation Lab Evaluation, he/she must schedule a conference with the DCE or Adjunct Instructor to discuss areas for improvement.

EXAMS
There will be three exams. Make-up exams will not be given and no exams are dropped. Specific requirements for each exam will be provided in Blackboard and exam dates will be listed on the Course Schedule.

FINAL EXAMINATION
The ACLS Megacode Testing Scenario will be evaluated as the Final Exam for this course, and will be conducted in the Simulation Lab. Please see the content housed in Blackboard Ultra for details. Grading of the ACLS Megacode Test Scenario will be defined as "Pass" or "Needs Remediation." Should a student be deemed "Needs Remediation" on the first attempt, hands-on remediation will occur with the instructor. The student will have the opportunity to complete a second attempt on the same day or at the next scheduled testing date. A grade of "Pass" is required to successfully complete RSPT 2239.

EXAM POLICY & COMPUTERIZED TESTING
We will be utilizing Honorlock within Blackboard Ultra to administer exams. You will need to have a working camera on your computer to take these exams. In the event technical problems arise there is a chat help option

within the exam and an exam proctor to assist with these problems. Basic calculators will be provided during the exam within the exam. Restrictions regarding computerized testing will be set by the instructor within Honorlock to ensure academic integrity and review of testing as necessary.
https://honorlock.kb.help/honorlock-best-practices-for-test-takers/

SPC CAMPUS POLICIES
For information regarding official South Plains College statements about intellectual exchange, disabilities, non-discrimination, Title V Pregnancy Accommodations, CARE Team, COVID, and Campus Concealed Carry, please visit: https://www.southplainscollege.edu/syllabusstatements/

STUDENT CONDUCT
Rules and regulations relating to the students at South Plains College are made with the view of protecting the best interests of the individual, the general welfare of the entire student body, and the educational objectives of the college. As in any segment of society, a college community must be guided by standards that are stringent enough to prevent disorder, yet moderate enough to provide an atmosphere conducive to intellectual and personal development. A high standard of conduct is expected of all students. When a student enrolls at South Plains College, it is assumed that the student accepts the obligations of performance and behavior imposed by the college relevant to its lawful missions, processes, and functions. Obedience to the law, respect for properly constituted authority, personal honor, integrity, and common sense guide the actions of each member of the college community both in and out of the classroom. Students are subject to federal, state, and local laws, as well as South Plains College rules and regulations. A student is not entitled to greater immunities or privileges before the law than those enjoyed by other citizens. Students are subject to such reasonable disciplinary action as the administration of the college may consider appropriate, including suspension and expulsion in appropriate cases for breach of federal, state, or local laws, or college rules and regulations. This principle extends to conduct off-campus which is likely to have adverse effects on the college or on the educational process which identifies the offender as an unfit associate for fellow students. Any student who fails to perform according to expected standards may be asked to withdraw.
Rules and regulations regarding student conduct appear in the current Student Guide.
http://catalog.southplainscollege.edu/content.php?catoid=49&navoid=1321
In addition, students are expected to follow the ethics and rules of professional conduct as outlined in the Respiratory Care Program Student Handbook. Unprofessional conduct on a student's part, as outlined in the student handbook, may result in dismissal from their respective program or class.

ACADEMIC INTEGRITY
http://catalog.southplainscollege.edu/content.php?catoid=59&navoid=2027
It is the aim of the faculty of South Plains College to foster a spirit of complete honesty and a high standard of integrity. The attempt of a student to present as their own any work which they have not honestly performed is regarded by the faculty and administration as a most serious offense and renders the offender liable to serious consequences, possibly academic or disciplinary suspension. Initial offenses of cheating and plagiarism are considered academic discipline and are managed on a case-by-case basis by the faculty and academic administration through SPC Policy FAC - Academic Appeals Procedure.

CHEATING
Dishonesty of any kind on examinations or on written assignments, illegal possession of examinations, the use of unauthorized notes during an examination, obtaining information during an examination from the textbook or from the examination paper of another student, assisting others to cheat, alteration of grade records, illegal entry or unauthorized presence in an office are examples of cheating. Complete honesty is required of the student in the presentation of any and all phases of coursework. This applies to quizzes of whatever length, as well as to final examinations, daily reports, and term papers.
A **0 or F** will be given on any assignment or test, that cheating was utilized. Offenders may be liable for being dropped from the course at the discretion of the instructor.

PLAGIARISM
Offering the work of another as one's own, without proper acknowledgment, is plagiarism; therefore, any student who fails to give credit for quotations or essentially identifiable expression of material taken from books, Internet resources, encyclopedias, magazines and other reference works, or from the themes, reports or other writings of a

fellow student, is guilty of plagiarism. This class will be using Turnitin as a means to score assignment plagiarism scores. A plagiarism score of 15% - 20% is considered acceptable. **If found cheating or plagiarizing, the student's future in this program will be based on the decisions from the Allied Health Departmental Director's Committee.**

AI-GENERATED CONTENT
While all assignments are expected to be the original work of the student, with
EXPRESS content of the DCE, the use of Artificial Intelligence (AI – ChatGPT, Bard, Bing, etc.) in the course is allowed. Acceptable AI use in this class includes one or more of these:
   • Brainstorming & Researching: Use AI to generate research articles or summaries on disease processes or lab values.
   • Fact-checking: Verify information by checking sources with the use of different AI tools.
   • Language assistance: Use AI to help with grammar and clarity in writing.
In the event you utilize AI for any of the above, you MUST properly cite the generated AI content you used in your assignment. This class will be using Turnitin, and as a means to score assignments, AI-generated content scores. An AI-generated content score of 15% - 20% is considered acceptable. Failure to follow this guidance and the use of AI beyond the boundaries stated is a violation of the SPC Academic Integrity policies.

ATTENDANCE
CLASSROOM ATTENDANCE
It is imperative that students in all programs adhere to this attendance policy. Consistency in attendance expectations ensures that all students have a fair and equitable opportunity to succeed in their academic endeavors.
   • Regular attendance is mandatory for all classes. Students are expected to attend all scheduled class sessions, including lectures, labs, and other instructional activities.
   • Students who accumulate excessive absences may face consequences that impact their grades and overall success in the program.

Students are expected to attend all classes in order to be successful in a course. The student may be administratively withdrawn from the course when absences become excessive, as defined in the course syllabus. When an unavoidable reason for class absence arises, such as illness, an official trip authorized by the college or an official activity, the instructor may permit the student to make up work missed. It is the student's responsibility to complete work missed within a reasonable period of time as determined by the instructor. Students are officially enrolled in all courses for which they pay tuition and fees at the time of registration. Should a student, for any reason, delay in reporting to a class after official enrollment, absences will be attributed to the student from the first class meeting. Students who enroll in a course but have "Never Attended" by the official census date, as reported by the faculty member, will be administratively dropped by the Office of Admissions and Records. A student who does not meet the attendance requirements of a class as stated in the course syllabus and does not officially withdraw from that course by the official census date of the semester may be administratively withdrawn from that course and receive a grade of "X" or "F" as determined by the instructor. Instructors are responsible for clearly stating their administrative drop policy in the course syllabus, and it is the student's responsibility to be aware of that policy. It is the student's responsibility to verify administrative drops for excessive absences through MySPC using his or her student online account. If it is determined that a student is awarded financial aid for a class or classes in which the student never attended or participated, the financial aid award will be adjusted in accordance with the classes in which the student did attend/participate and the student will owe any balance resulting from the adjustment.
(http://catalog.southplainscollege.edu/content.php?catoid=47&navoid=1229#Class_Attendance)
Regular attendance is necessary to successfully meet the course objectives. The student is responsible for all class work covered during absences from class. Students are expected to be in class, on time. A student is tardy if he/she arrives more than 5 minutes after class begins. If a student is tardy to class three times, it will be counted as one absence. It is the student's responsibility to inform the instructor of the reason for an absence and to do so in a timely fashion. A student may be administratively withdrawn from the course if he/she has more than **three** absences from class and the instructor determines the student is unable to successfully meet the course objectives. **Work schedule** is **not** an excuse for missing class. Live Zoom attendance will not be considered applicable for this course.

Students who are tardy are asked to respect their peers and enter the classroom quietly in order not to disrupt the class. Students who are late to a class starting with an examination will not be given additional time to complete the exam. Students more than 15 minutes late to class will be marked absent.

SIMULATION LAB ATTENDANCE & ATTIRE
Students are required to attend scheduled Simulation Lab learning sessions as noted on the Course Schedule. Appropriate clinical attire is required in the SPC Simulation Lab. Black scrub pants, blue or green scrub top with closed-toe shoes are considered appropriate clinical attire. No outside healthcare facility logos are to be displayed, only SPC clinical attire with the SPC Respiratory Patch and logo visible. Should the student attend SPC Simulation Lab and not be in appropriate clinical attire as defined above, the student will be sent home, and an absence will be recorded in the gradebook. Students will also be penalized on their Daily Simulation Lab Evaluation.

COMMUNICATION
Electronic communication between the instructor and students in this course will utilize the South Plains College "My SPC", email systems and via GroupMe app. Text messaging may also be used for communication. The instructor will not initiate communication using private email accounts. Students are encouraged to check their SPC email on a regular basis, ideally daily, and respond to emails and text messages promptly, within 24 hours. Students will have access to assignments, web links, handouts, and other vital course material delivered via Blackboard, and other electronic means.
If necessary, students may contact me on my personal cell phone between the hours 8:00 am-8:00 pm M-F. On the weekends/holidays, please do not contact me before 10:00 am and after 6:00 pm. When contacting my personal cell phone, text message is preferred. If you need to reach me after the hours listed or will be absent from class, please send a text message or an email to my SPC email, or utilize the GroupMe app.

EMAIL
Students are required to use their official South Plains College (SPC) email addresses for all college-related communications. Official SPC email addresses are provided to each student upon enrollment and are the primary means of communication between students, faculty, and the college.
Email Etiquette - Students are expected to maintain a professional and respectful tone in all email communications with faculty, staff, and fellow students. Offensive, disrespectful, or inappropriate language in emails is strictly prohibited. The professional expectation is acknowledgment of communication within 24 hours.
Email Security - Students should take steps to protect their email accounts. This includes using strong, unique passwords and not sharing email login credentials. If students suspect their email accounts have been compromised, they should report it immediately to the college's IT department. 806-716-2600 contact information
Helpdesk@southplainscollege.edu
Check Email Regularly - Students are encouraged to check their official SPC email accounts regularly. Important announcements, updates, and notices from instructors, administrative departments, and the college as a whole are communicated through your SPC email accounts.
SPC Alerts - Students are automatically enrolled in SPC Alerts, which is an emergency notification system. Students are encouraged to ensure their contact information is up to date in SPC Alerts to receive important safety and emergency notifications.
Email Support - If students encounter technical issues with their SPC email accounts or need assistance with email-related concerns, they should contact the college's IT support services for assistance. [806-716-2470 or helpdesk@southplainscollege.edu]

CELL PHONE/SMART WATCH POLICY
Cellphones must be put away and turned **OFF** or put on **silent** during scheduled class/lab periods unless prior approval has been given by the instructor. Cell phones are to be used **outside** of the classroom while class is in session. This includes text messaging and internet browsing. Cell phones may be used during class time as directed by the instructor. Cellphones and smart watches will be secured during all testing.
Students will be dismissed from class/lab and sent home if a phone continuously rings/vibrates or if the student is discovered texting or browsing the internet. If dismissed from class, the student will receive an **absence** for the day.

EMERGENCY MESSAGES*: In the event of an emergency during the normal class schedule, the student should notify their family to call the Kristal Jones, DCE Office at (806) 716-4624 or (682) 552-8922. Class will not be interrupted unless it is an emergency, so the family members must identify themselves and state that it is an emergency to get immediate action. For emergencies during clinical rotations, the student should notify their family to call and leave a message or text Kristal Jones, DCE to the number or numbers provided in the clinical course syllabus and/or on the clinical course schedule.

SOCIAL MEDIA

This policy is intended to guide health sciences students on the appropriate use of social media while maintaining the highest standards of professionalism and patient confidentiality.

Professionalism:

- Health sciences students should conduct themselves on social media platforms with the same level of professionalism and respect as expected in the classroom and clinical settings. Students should refrain from engaging in any behavior or posting content that reflects negatively on SPC, their program, or the healthcare profession. Avoid engaging in public online disputes or conflicts, especially those involving colleagues, faculty, or patients.

Patient Confidentiality:

Students must uphold the highest standards of patient confidentiality. Do not discuss specific patients, cases, or share any patient-related information on social media platforms, even if patient names or identifiers are not disclosed. Be cautious about sharing any content that might indirectly reveal patient information, such as photos or stories taken in clinical settings

RESOURCES

BLACKBOARD

Blackboard is an e-Education platform designed to enable educational innovations everywhere by connecting people and technology. This educational tool will be used in this course throughout the semester.

TEXT AND COURSE MATERIALS

Required Textbook and Materials

This course is designed as an Open Educational Resource. No textbook required. All course content will be housed in Blackboard Ultra.

COMPUTER USAGE

As computer technology in the field of health occupations continues to become more popular, computers will be used in this course for several assignments. All students have access to computers and printers on the South Plains College campus. Students will be expected to utilize computers to access assignments and classroom resources. All registered students are supplied with a working email account from South Plains College. In order to take exams, students must have their username and password.

ALL STUDENTS ARE EXPECTED TO KNOW THEIR SPC STUDENT USERNAME AND PASSWORD.

COMPUTER LAB USAGE

The computer lab(s) on any campus may be used by students during scheduled hours or as assigned by an instructor. Printer paper will not be provided for students to print materials but students may seek assistance from faculty or staff to request lab paper from the college if needed. Lack of computer lab paper is not an excuse for not having homework assignments, skills lab sheets, or any other required documents. Students should come prepared for class.

COURSE DISCLAIMER

In order to better prepare students for a career in the Respiratory Care profession, there will be times during this course when students will be exposed to training scenarios and situations that will be unpleasant to the average college student. If the student does not feel they can tolerate this type of learning environment, they should discuss this with me immediately before continuing the course.

CHANGES and AMENDMENTS TO SYLLABUS
The program director or clinical coordinator reserves the right to make reasonable changes to the syllabus at any time during the semester. If this occurs, the students will be notified and furnished a copy of all applicable changes or amendments.

VERIFICATION OF WORKPLACE COMPETENCIES
This course allows students the opportunity to utilize skills learned in lecture & laboratory instruction at appropriate clinic sites.

CONFERENCES
If at any time a student is not satisfied with their overall performance, he/she is encouraged to schedule an appointment with the DCE/Instructor. Please refer to the Respiratory Care Program Student Handbook for more details regarding remediation/tutoring.

REMEDIATION
Please refer to the Respiratory Care Program Student Handbook for the remediation policy for exams and competencies.

DROP AND SCHEDULE CHANGE
Please refer to the South Plains College Catalog for additional information on attendance policies and administrative drops. Students should take these policies seriously to ensure they meet the attendance requirements and avoid any academic or financial consequences.
http://catalog.southplainscollege.edu/content.php?catoid=60&navoid=2086#dropping_a_course
These procedures provide students with the flexibility to manage their course enrollment, whether they need to drop a class, withdraw from all classes, or make schedule changes during the specified period. It is advisable for students to communicate with instructors and advisors as needed when making these decisions.

WITHDRAWING FROM ALL CLASSES
If a student wishes to withdraw from all courses, they should initiate that process with the Advising Office. They can schedule an appointment with an advisor by visiting http://www.southplainscollege.edu/admission-aid/advising/spcadvisors.php or by calling 806-716-2366.

SYLLABUS STATEMENTS
Statements for the following items can be found at Syllabus Statements on the South Plains College website.
https://www.southplainscollege.edu/syllabusstatements/

- **Intellectual Exchange Statement**
- **Disabilities Statement**
- **Non-Discrimination Statement**
- **Title IX Pregnancy Accommodations Statement**
- **CARE (Campus Assessment, Response, and Evaluation) Team**
- **Campus Concealed Carry Statement**
- **COVID-19**
- **Artificial Intelligence Statement**

RSPT 2239.200 – Advanced Cardiac Life Support
COURSE OUTLINE

- Overview of ACLS
  - CPR/Defibrillation/ACLS Success
  - Chain of Survival
  - Stress Reaction/Reduce Stress
  - Termination Efforts
  - When to Not Start CPR
  - Withdrawal of Life Support
  - Family Support
- AED, BLS, Medication Review
  - Simulations: High-Quality BLS, 2 Rescuer BLS
- Airway Management, Capnography, Respiratory Arrest
  - Simulations: Airway Management Practice, Advanced Airway Insertion (LMA/ETT)
- ECG Rhythm Recognition
  - Simulations: Establish 6 Person Team

Exam 1 – Rhythm Recognition & Medications
Exam provided in Blackboard. Please refer to the Course Schedule for due date.

- Nonarrest Rhythms – Bradycardia
  - Simulations: Bradycardia
- Nonarrest Rhythms – Tachycardia, SVT
  - Simulations: Tachycardia
- Acute Coronary Syndrome
- Acute Stroke
- Cardiac Arrest & Post-Cardiac Arrest Care (PCAC), Asystole, PEA
  - Simulations: Cardiac Arrest, PCAC, Asystole/PEA Side of Algorithm
- Ventricular Fibrillation – Pulseless Ventricular Tachycardia
  - Simulations: Cardiac Arrest, PCAC, Ventricular Fibrillation, Pulseless Ventricular Tachycardia

Exam 2 - AHA ACLS Pre-course Self-Assessment
Completed on American Heart Association website. Results uploaded into Blackboard. Please refer to the Course Schedule for the due date.

Exam 3 – ACLS Test
Exam provided in Blackboard Ultra. Please refer to the Course Schedule for the designated test date.

- ACLS Megacode
  - Simulations: Instructor Demonstration with Team, Megacode Scenarios

Final Exam – ACLS Megacode Test Scenario
Scenarios will be conducted in the Simulation Lab. Please refer to the Course Schedule for the assigned testing date.