NOVA COLLEGE-WIDE COURSE CONTENT SUMMARY
RTH 120 - FUNDAMENTAL THEORY FOR RESPIRATORY CARE (2 CR.)

Course Description
This course presents theory of basic patient assessment and functional medical terminology. Lecture 2 hours.

General Course Purpose
The purpose of this course is to introduce basic patient assessment skills and to provide an overview of the profession of Respiratory Therapy. It is offered as a prerequisite for application to the Respiratory Therapy Program.

Course Prerequisites/Corequisites
None

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

- Recognize normal values for heart rate, respiratory rate, breathe sounds, blood pressure and pulse oximetry.
- Perform patient assessment on a patient simulator
- State the factors affecting optimal performance of the tools used in patient assessment
- Write a SOAP note
- Define accreditation, credential certification, licensure, and registration,
- Describe purposes, functions and activities of professional organizations,
- Identify national, state, and district organizations for the respiratory therapist
- Identify the benefits of continuing education as related to patient care and professional enhancement.
- State the requirements for obtaining and maintaining a license to practice in Virginia

Major Topics To Be Included
- Basic patient assessment
- Patient communication and health interview
- Medical documentation (SOAP note)
- Overview of profession
- Overview of licensing