NOVA COLLEGE-WIDE COURSE CONTENT SUMMARY
RTH 111 – ANATOMY AND PHYSIOLOGY OF THE CARDIOPULMONARY SYSTEM (3 CR.)

Course Description
Concentrates on the anatomy and physiology of the cardiopulmonary system. Lecture 3 hours per week.

General Course Purpose
This course is offered in the first semester of the program and is designed for beginning respiratory care students. The purpose of this course is to introduce fundamental principles of cardiopulmonary anatomy and physiology and medical terminology.

Course Prerequisites/Corequisites
Prerequisites: RTH 120, BIO141, 142 or NAS161, 162 and HLT141 or equivalent or permission of the assistant dean. Basic skills in instrumentation and patient assessment are required.

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

- Understand basic medical terminology
- Understand anatomy and physiology of the airway
- Understand anatomy and physiology of the lungs
- Understand anatomy and physiology of the cardiovascular system
- Perform basic arterial blood gas interpretation

Major Topics To Be Included

- Medical terminology
- Cardiopulmonary anatomy and physiology
- Cardiopulmonary assessment skills
  - Gas exchange
  - Gas transport
  - Arterial blood gas interpretation
- Acid base balance
- Pulmonary Function tests and values