

## Allied Health Linkage Programs

Northwest-Shoals Community College has established a cooperative linkage program with Wallace State/Hanceville. The first year of general education and prerequisite courses are completed at the College on either campus. **After acceptance to Wallace State and the desired program, students transfer to Wallace State to complete the course work in the specific area along with clinical experiences to obtain an Associate in Applied Science Degree/and or Certificate.** The following programs are offered through this arrangement:

Health Programs	Approximate Length of Study at Wallace State Community College
Clinical Laboratory Technician .....	5 semesters
Dental Assisting .....	4 semesters
Dental Hygiene .....	5 semesters
Diagnostic Imaging .....	5 semesters
Diagnostic Medical Sonography .....	6 semesters
Electroneurodiagnostic Technology .....	6 semesters
Health Information Technology .....	5-6 semesters
Human Services .....	5 semesters
Medical Assistant .....	5 semesters
Occupational Therapist Assistant .....	5 semesters
Physical Therapist Assistant .....	5 semesters
Respiratory Therapy .....	5 semesters

Linkage students should submit an application for admission to Wallace State College as soon as they begin classes at Northwest-Shoals. Separate applications are required by each program. **June 15 is the deadline date for program applications. Call (256) 352-8031 to request specific program application.**

Students interested in pursuing any of the linkage programs should contact an advisor as early as possible. The student is strongly advised to contact the Wallace State College linkage program director the first semester at Northwest-Shoals to ensure that the proper courses are taken. See WSCC catalog for contact information.

Some of the programs specify deadlines for admission. If no deadline is specified, application should be made as soon as possible. Students will be expected to meet the academic standards of Northwest-Shoals. **Since admission requirements and course requirements at Wallace State are subject to change, please consult with the linkage coordinator at Wallace State.** Students who complete these programs are awarded the Associate in Applied Science degree from Wallace State. Certificates are available in Medical Coding, Medical Transcription, Dental Assisting, and Pharmacy Technology.

While attending Wallace State, the student will be responsible for tuition, books, cost of background screening and drug testing fee, an Accident Insurance fee and a Malpractice Insurance fee each semester. Malpractice insurance is available through the College at a low cost. Most programs require students to carry health insurance. All students must have evidence of current immunizations and physical exam.

Linkage scholarships are available. **March 1st** is the deadline for application.

## Clinical Laboratory Technician 510899 CLS Career Degree - Wallace Linkage

Available: Phil Campbell and Shoals Campuses  
 Advisors: J. Frederick (6294/5494) [jfrederick@nwscce.edu](mailto:jfrederick@nwscce.edu)  
 A. Lyndon (5319/6235) [lyndon@nwscce.edu](mailto:lyndon@nwscce.edu)  
 W. Rhodes (5458) [wrhodes@nwscce.edu](mailto:wrhodes@nwscce.edu)  
 K. Ricketts (5331) [kricketts@nwscce.edu](mailto:kricketts@nwscce.edu)  
 B. Smith (5379) [bsmith@nwscce.edu](mailto:bsmith@nwscce.edu)  
 S. Watson (6253) [sberrian@nwscce.edu](mailto:sberrian@nwscce.edu)

Graduates of the Clinical Laboratory Technician Program are employed in hospital laboratories, physicians' offices, and other laboratory facilities as Clinical Laboratory Technicians (CLT) and Medical Laboratory Technicians (MLT). These graduates are allied-health professionals that perform analyses in the areas of microbiology, hematology, immunology, biochemistry, and immunoematology.

The program provides education and training in these sciences and in the performance of laboratory procedures used in the diagnosis and treatment of diseases and disorders. The Clinical Laboratory Program accepts students twice a year in the summer and fall semesters. The graduate receives an Associate in Applied Science Degree and will be eligible to sit for a National Certification Examination. See program webpage for accreditation information.

**General Required Courses to be Completed at Northwest-Shoals Community College.** It is not mandatory that all General Required Courses be completed before entering the professional phase.

**Entering students are required to complete ORI 101. Transfer students are exempt from this requirement.**

### Semester Hours

BIO 103 Principles of Biology I .....	4
CHM 104 Introduction to Inorganic Chemistry .....	4
ENG 101 English Composition I .....	3
ENG 102 English 102 English Composition II <b>or</b>	
SPH 107 Fundamentals of Public Speaking .....	3
MTH 116 Mathematical Applications .....	3
Humanities/Fine Arts Elective .....	3
Elective Social or Behavioral Sciences .....	3
<b>Total Semester Hours .....</b>	<b>23</b>

Students must complete specialized courses at Wallace State to receive this degree. Wallace State enrolls students in this program competitively and only in certain terms. See your advisor.

Health programs at Wallace State have program admission requirements unique to the individual program. Information on program admission requirements can be obtained through the WSCC catalog, WSCC website ([www.wallacestate.edu](http://www.wallacestate.edu)), or Wanda Rhodes, Health Linkage advisor located at NW-SCC. Admission requirements may include, but are not limited to: CPR certification, ACT scores, Compass testing, and observation hours.

After program admission, all WSCC Health Science Division students are required to submit a physical exam, consent to drug testing, and criminal background checks to meet clinical agency requirements.

**Dental Assisting** 510899 DA  
**Career Degree - Wallace Linkage**

Available: Phil Campbell and Shoals Campuses  
 Advisors: J. Frederick (6294/5494) [jfrederick@nwscce.edu](mailto:jfrederick@nwscce.edu)  
 A. Lyndon (5319/6235) [lyndon@nwscce.edu](mailto:lyndon@nwscce.edu)  
 W. Rhodes (5458) [wrhodes@nwscce.edu](mailto:wrhodes@nwscce.edu)  
 K. Ricketts (5331) [kricketts@nwscce.edu](mailto:kricketts@nwscce.edu)  
 B. Smith (5379) [bsmith@nwscce.edu](mailto:bsmith@nwscce.edu)  
 S. Watson (6253) [sberrian@nwscce.edu](mailto:sberrian@nwscce.edu)

Upon successful completion of this program, graduates will be prepared to function as Dental Assistants in dental offices, hospitals and clinics. A dental assistant assists with the direct care of patients under the supervision of a dentist. **STUDENTS ENROLLING IN THE PROGRAM MAY DO SO FOR EITHER A CERTIFICATE PROGRAM OR AN ASSOCIATE IN APPLIED SCIENCE DEGREE PROGRAM.** Either approach enables the student to qualify to take the National Certification Examination administered by the Dental Assisting National Board, Inc. Students are required to complete the program within 2 years of entry into the program. See program webpage for accreditation information.

**General Required Courses to be completed at Northwest-Shoals Community College.**

**Entering students are required to complete ORI 101. Transfer students are exempt from this requirement.**

**Semester Hours**

*CIS 146 Microcomputer Applications .....	3
*ENG 101 English Composition I .....	3
*MTH 116 Mathematical Applications .....	3
*PSY 200 General Psychology .....	3
*SPH 107 Fundamentals of Public Speaking .....	3
Humanities/Fine Arts Elective .....	3
Elective Natural Science .....	4
<b>Total Semester Hours .....</b>	<b>22</b>

**\*Required for certificate program.**

Students must complete specialized courses at Wallace State to receive this degree or certificate. Wallace State enrolls students in this program competitively and only in certain terms. See your advisor.

Health programs at Wallace State have program admission requirements unique to the individual program. Information on program admission requirements can be obtained through the WSCC catalog, WSCC website ([www.wallacestate.edu](http://www.wallacestate.edu)), or Wanda Rhodes, Health Linkage advisor located at NW-SCC. Admission requirements may include, but are not limited to: CPR certification, ACT scores, Compass testing, and observation hours.

After program admission, all WSCC Health Science Division students are required to submit a physical exam, consent to drug testing, and criminal background checks to meet clinical agency requirements.

**Dental Hygiene** 510899 DH  
**Career Degree - Wallace Linkage**

Available: Phil Campbell and Shoals Campuses  
 Advisors: J. Frederick (6294/5494) [jfrederick@nwscce.edu](mailto:jfrederick@nwscce.edu)  
 A. Lyndon (5319/6235) [lyndon@nwscce.edu](mailto:lyndon@nwscce.edu)  
 W. Rhodes (5458) [wrhodes@nwscce.edu](mailto:wrhodes@nwscce.edu)  
 K. Ricketts (5331) [kricketts@nwscce.edu](mailto:kricketts@nwscce.edu)  
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 S. Watson (6253) [sberrian@nwscce.edu](mailto:sberrian@nwscce.edu)

Wallace State Community College offers this course of study leading to an Associate in Applied Science Degree in Dental Hygiene. Individuals who have received a Certificate or A.A.S. in Dental Assisting from an accredited program may receive advanced standing for previously completed courses including DHY 103 (Radiology) and DHY 102 (Dental Materials). The DHY Program requires a minimum of five semesters for completion.

As a practicing member of the dental health team, the dental hygienist acts as an educator and motivator in maintenance of oral health and the prevention of dental disease. There are many professional roles the dental hygienist may assume: participation in community health programs, dental office managerial roles, and participation in research activities. Since many dentists employ one or two dental hygienists, employment opportunities in this field are wide. Hygienists are in demand in general dental practices as well as in specialty practices such as periodontics or pediatric dentistry. Hygienists may also be employed to provide dental hygiene services for patients in hospitals, nursing homes, and public health clinics.

See program website for accreditation information. Graduates are allowed to take National Dental Hygiene Boards. Students who successfully complete the National Board Exam are qualified to take any State or Regional licensing examination.

**General Required Courses to be completed at Northwest-Shoals Community College.**

**Entering students are required to complete ORI 101. Transfer students are exempt from this requirement.**

**Semester Hours**

*BIO 201-202 Anatomy and Physiology I and II .....	8
*BIO 220 General Microbiology .....	4
CHM 104 Introduction to Inorganic Chemistry .....	4
ENG 101 English Composition I .....	3
MTH 116 Mathematical Application .....	3
PSY 200 General Psychology .....	3
SOC 200 Introduction to Sociology .....	3
SPH 107 Fundamentals of Public Speaking .....	3
Humanities or Fine Arts Elective .....	3
<b>Total Semester Hours .....</b>	<b>34</b>

**\*Biology 103 highly recommended**

Students must complete specialized courses at Wallace State to receive this degree. Wallace State enrolls students in this program competitively and only in certain terms. See your advisor.

## **Diagnostic Imaging** 510899 DI **Career Degree - Wallace Linkage**

Available: Phil Campbell and Shoals Campuses  
 Advisors: J. Frederick (6294/5494) [jfrederick@nwsc.edu](mailto:jfrederick@nwsc.edu)  
 A. Lyndon (5319/6235) [lyndon@nwsc.edu](mailto:lyndon@nwsc.edu)  
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 K. Ricketts (5331) [kricketts@nwsc.edu](mailto:kricketts@nwsc.edu)  
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This program is designed to provide terminologists for diagnostic imaging departments of hospitals and clinics. Students are taught the fundamental principles underlying all phases of Radiologic Technology. Upon graduation, the student is eligible to take the registry examination of the American Registry of Radiologic Technology. According to the American Registry of Radiologic Technologist, application for certification to practice as a R.T. may be denied if a person has been convicted of a felony, is guilty of a crime involving moral turpitude, and/or has displayed other grounds for denial by law. Students must satisfy general qualifications for certification in accordance with The American Registry of Radiologic Technologists (ARRT) guidelines. See program webpage for accreditation information.

Participation in the performance of radiographic procedures in a clinical setting will begin during the first year of the program. Students enrolled in clinical education will be assigned hours consistent to day shift for the majority of their training; however, assignments will also include 3:00 p.m.-11:00 p.m. shifts. Assignment to clinical facilities will be at the discretion of the program officials and students are required to travel to different locations during the clinical phase.

The Radiologic Technology Program admits students annually in the fall semester, although general education courses may be taken prior to admission into the program. Program spaces are limited; therefore, students are encouraged to apply early.

Wallace State College will award the Associate in Applied Science Degree upon completion of program requirements. Graduation requirements must be met within three years following entry into the program. A student who withdraws or is dismissed from the program must reapply for admission for the following year's class. Readmission into the Program will be allowed only one time. **Acceptance to Wallace State College does not guarantee admission to the Diagnostic Imaging Program.**

**General Required Courses to be completed at Northwest-Shoals Community College.**

**Entering students are required to complete ORI 101. Transfer students are exempt from this requirement.**

	<b>Semester Hours</b>
ENG 101-102 English Composition I and II .....	6
*BIO 201-202 Anatomy and Physiology I and II .....	8
MTH 100 Intermediate Algebra .....	3
PSY 200 General Psychology .....	3
Humanities/Fine Arts Elective .....	3
<b>Total Semester Hours .....</b>	<b>23</b>

**\*Biology 103 highly recommended**

Students must complete specialized courses at Wallace State to receive this degree. Wallace State enrolls students in this program competitively and only in certain terms. See your advisor.

**NOTE: Once admitted into the program, Diagnostic Imaging students may attend WSCC courses teleconferenced at NW-SCC.**

## **Diagnostic Medical Sonography** 510899 DMS **Career Degree - Wallace Linkage**

Available: Phil Campbell and Shoals Campuses  
 Advisors: J. Frederick (6294/5494) [jfrederick@nwsc.edu](mailto:jfrederick@nwsc.edu)  
 A. Lyndon (5319/6235) [lyndon@nwsc.edu](mailto:lyndon@nwsc.edu)  
 W. Rhodes (5458) [wrhodes@nwsc.edu](mailto:wrhodes@nwsc.edu)  
 K. Ricketts (5331) [kricketts@nwsc.edu](mailto:kricketts@nwsc.edu)  
 B. Smith (5379) [bsmith@nwsc.edu](mailto:bsmith@nwsc.edu)  
 S. Watson (6253) [sberrian@nwsc.edu](mailto:sberrian@nwsc.edu)

This program of study is designed to provide didactic and clinical training in the field of general diagnostic medical sonography (ultrasound). The student will receive training in acoustic principles, instrumentation and safety, abdominal, obstetrical, gynecologic, and superficial sonography.

Sonography is a technologist-dependent imaging field that places great emphasis on "hands on" training. Clinical education in the DMS Program begins early in the professional phase of training with hours increasing as the program progresses. Graduates of the Program will be eligible to apply for the National Registry Examination by the American Registry of Diagnostic Medical Sonographers and American Registry of Radiologic Technologists for Sonography when registry guidelines have been met. See program webpage for accreditation information.

The Associate in Applied Science Degree Program has a six semester competency-based curriculum that includes practical experience in regional health institutions. Math/Science courses must have been completed within seven years of the date of expected entry into the DMS program. (See sonography advisor for information).

The professional phase of the Sonography Program is four semesters in length and is designed to begin fall semester of each year.

**Acceptance to Wallace State College does not guarantee admission to the Sonography Program.**

**General Required Courses to be completed at Northwest-Shoals Community College.**

**Entering students are required to complete ORI 101. Transfer students are exempt from this requirement.**

	<b>Semester Hours</b>
*BIO 201 Anatomy and Physiology I .....	4
ENG 101 English Composition I .....	3
Humanities/Fine Art Elective .....	3
MTH 100 Intermediate College Algebra .....	3
SPH 107 Fundamentals of Public Speaking .....	3
**PHY 115 Technical Physics .....	4
PSY 200 General Psychology .....	3
<b>Total Semester Hours .....</b>	<b>23</b>

**\*Biology 103 highly recommended**

**\*\*MTH 112 recommended**

Students must complete specialized courses at Wallace State to receive this degree. Wallace State enrolls students in this program competitively and only in certain terms. See your advisor.

Vascular Technology and Echocardiography courses are available for students interested in acquiring specialized skills.

**Electroneurodiagnostic**                      510899 EMD  
**Technologist**  
**Career Degree** - Wallace Linkage

Available: Phil Campbell and Shoals Campuses  
 Advisors: J. Frederick (6294/5494) [jfrederick@nwsc.edu](mailto:jfrederick@nwsc.edu)  
 A. Lyndon (5319/6235) [lyndon@nwsc.edu](mailto:lyndon@nwsc.edu)  
 W. Rhodes (5458) [wrhodes@nwsc.edu](mailto:wrhodes@nwsc.edu)  
 K. Ricketts (5331) [kricketts@nwsc.edu](mailto:kricketts@nwsc.edu)  
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 S. Watson (6253) [sberrian@nwsc.edu](mailto:sberrian@nwsc.edu)

The Electroneurodiagnostic (END) Technologist is a multiskilled allied health professional who performs diagnostic testing procedures including, but not limited to, electroencephalograms (EEG), evoked potentials (EP), polysomnograms (PSG), nerve conduction studies (NCS), and electronystagmograms (ENG). Growth in the number of sleep labs and neurodiagnostic centers in Alabama and across the country supports an increasing demand for trained professionals and provides outstanding employment opportunities for qualified technologists. Currently, the average technologist graduate can expect to earn a yearly salary between approximately \$29,000 and \$43,000. Registered Olysomnography Technologists or Electroneurodiagnostic Technologists with advanced training and experience can expect to make a median salary around \$47,000.

Students have the option of taking the END or PSG as two semester certificate programs or taking END and PSG courses with required general courses and earning an Associate Degree in Electroneurodiagnostics.

Students admitted into the Electroneurodiagnostic program are expected to comply with the Health Science Program Regulations and Expectations.

**Acceptance to Wallace State College does not guarantee admission to the Electroneurodiagnostic Program.**

**General Required Courses to be completed at Northwest-Shoals Community College.**

**Entering students are required to complete ORI 101. Transfer students are exempt from this requirement.**

**Semester Hours**

ENG 101 English Composition I .....	3
BIO 103 Principles of Biology .....	4
BIO 201 Anatomy and Physiology I .....	4
BIO 202 Anatomy and Physiology II .....	4
MTH 100 Intermediate College Algebra .....	3
PSY 200 General Psychology .....	3
HUM Humanities and Arts Electives .....	6
<b>Total Semester Hours .....</b>	<b>27</b>

Students must complete specialized courses at Wallace State to receive this degree. Wallace State enrolls students in this program competitively and only in certain terms. See your advisor.

## HEALTH CARE INFORMATION PROGRAMS

This department offers several unique programs: The Associate in Applied Science degree in Health Information Technology, a certificate in Medical Transcription and a certificate in Medical Coding.

### Health Information Technology 510899 HIT Career Degree - Wallace Linkage

Available: Phil Campbell and Shoals Campuses  
 Advisors: J. Frederick (6294/5494) [jfrederick@nwsc.edu](mailto:jfrederick@nwsc.edu)  
 A. Lyndon (5319/6235) [lyndon@nwsc.edu](mailto:lyndon@nwsc.edu)  
 W. Rhodes (5458) [wrhodes@nwsc.edu](mailto:wrhodes@nwsc.edu)  
 K. Ricketts (5331) [kricketts@nwsc.edu](mailto:kricketts@nwsc.edu)  
 B. Smith (5379) [bsmith@nwsc.edu](mailto:bsmith@nwsc.edu)  
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The Health Information Technician (HIT) is a skilled professional who analyzes and evaluates highly sensitive data in health records. Skills of the health information technician are varied but include the following: supervising the release of health information, maintaining and utilizing information storage and retrieval systems, compiling various health statistics, editing transcribed clinical information and supervising electronic health information management systems. Health information technicians may be employed by any facility that manages patient information, such as a hospital, clinic, physician office, insurance company, or medical research center.

Health Information Technicians are trained to also become medical coding specialists. The medical coding specialists perform detailed review of medical records to identify diagnoses and operative procedures. Numeric classification codes are assigned to each diagnosis and procedure, using automated or manual methods. Principle classification systems used include the International Classification of Diseases, Ninth Revision, Clinical Modification (ICD-9-CM), and Current Procedural Terminology (CPT).

See program webpage for program accreditation information. Each graduate of the HIT Program is eligible to take the national examination to become a Registered Health Information Technician (RHIT). Technicians trained in non-accredited programs or trained on the job are not eligible to take the examination.

Students have the opportunity to spend many hours in a clinical setting to practice skills obtained in the classroom. Students enrolled in professional practice experience (clinical) courses will be assigned hours consistent with day shift. Assignment to the professional practice experience facilities will be at the discretion of program officials, and students are required to travel to different locations for the "hands on" training.

The Health Information Technology Program Offers three alternatives for a student's completion of classes: (Note: Actual program completion time may vary).

- One year, non-integrated program:** A student who has completed all general education courses may complete the HIT program courses in three semesters of full-time study.
- Two year, integrated program:** A student may schedule general education courses while taking the health information technology courses. This alternative requires a minimum of 5 to 6 semesters to complete.
- Online Program:** A student may schedule HIT online courses in accordance with either the one year or two year completion option. The professional practice experience activities must be completed on dayshift at an approved health care facility, not online. HIT students who live within 50 miles of campus must attend a minimum number of on-campus class/lab meetings. Instructors may require online students to take make-up exams on campus. Instructors may also require online course exams to be proctored, according to college policy.
- Part-time Program:** The student may choose to complete the program by taking classes on a part-time basis. Program completion time will depend upon the number of classes taken each semester. The program must be completed within three years following entry into the program.

Students should indicate on the program application, the option that they would like to choose to complete their degree.

#### **General Courses to be Completed at Northwest-Shoals Community College.**

**Entering students are required to complete ORI 101. Transfer students are exempt from this requirement.**

#### **Semester Hours**

*BIO 201-202 Human Anatomy and Physiology I and II .....	8
CIS 146 Microcomputer Applications .....	3
ENG 101-102 English Composition I and II .....	6
MTH 116 Mathematical Applications .....	3
PSY 200 General Psychology .....	3
Humanities/Fine Art Elective .....	3
<b>Total Semester Hours .....</b>	<b>26</b>

#### **\*Biology 103 highly recommended**

Students must complete specialized courses at Wallace State to receive this degree. Wallace State enrolls students in this program competitively and only in certain terms. See your advisor.

Health programs at Wallace State have program admission requirements unique to the individual program. Information on program admission requirements can be obtained through the WSCC catalog, WSCC website ([www.wallacestate.edu](http://www.wallacestate.edu)), or Wanda Rhodes, Health Linkage advisor located at NW-SCC. Admission requirements may include, but are not limited to: CPR certification, ACT scores, Compass testing, and observation hours.

After program admission, all WSCC Health Science Division students are required to submit a physical exam, consent to drug testing, and criminal background checks to meet clinical agency requirements.

**Human Services** **510899 HS**  
**Career Degree - Wallace Linkage**

Available: Phil Campbell and Shoals Campuses  
 Advisors: J. Frederick (6294/5494) [jfrederick@nwscce.edu](mailto:jfrederick@nwscce.edu)  
 A. Lyndon (5319/6235) [lyndon@nwscce.edu](mailto:lyndon@nwscce.edu)  
 W. Rhodes (5458) [wrhodes@nwscce.edu](mailto:wrhodes@nwscce.edu)  
 K. Ricketts (5331) [kricketts@nwscce.edu](mailto:kricketts@nwscce.edu)  
 B. Smith (5379) [bsmith@nwscce.edu](mailto:bsmith@nwscce.edu)  
 S. Watson (6253) [sberrian@nwscce.edu](mailto:sberrian@nwscce.edu)

The Human Services curriculum is designed for students who wish to pursue a two-year degree and prepare for a paraprofessional career in a mental health/human services related field.

Clinical experience allows the student to gain valuable knowledge in observation and assistance in human services facilities. Students enrolled in clinical education will be assigned hours consistent with day working hours of human services agencies. However, assignments may include second shift hours of 3-11 p.m. Assignment to clinical facilities will be at the discretion of the program director and/or clinical director. Students may be required to travel distances away from their home for their clinical assignment.

The Human Services Program offers three A.A.S. degree options for the student: Mental Health Technician Associate, Alcohol and Drug Associate Counseling Associate, and Social Work Associate. A student may complete one or more of the three options, depending upon which field he/she desires to pursue.

The Mental Health Technician Associate Option is offered every year. The Alcohol and Drug Counseling Associate Option is offered in odd-numbered years and the Social Work Associate Option is offered in even-numbered years.

The Mental Health Associate (sometimes called a Psychiatric Technician, Behavioral Health Technician, Mental Health Technologist, or Counselor Assistant) is trained to work as a paraprofessional in state institutions, mental health centers, psychiatric (behavioral medicine) units of hospitals, domestic violence centers, developmental centers, group homes, halfway houses, and a variety of human services facilities. He/she may work with children, adolescents, and adults who are experiencing mental illness, mental retardation, substance abuse, domestic violence, adjustment disorders (personal loss, stress, and health), various categories of behavior-related pathology, and family issues. Upon completion of the program, a student may voluntarily take the Nationally Certified Psychiatric Technician exam to become a Nationally Certified Psychiatric Technician.

The Alcohol and Drug Counseling Associate option offers special training for students desiring to work with substance abusers and their families. He/she is trained to work in state institutions, mental health centers, profit treatment centers, non-profit treatment centers, 12-step recovery programs, halfway houses, and group homes. With the course work in this program and a minimum of two years of documented work experience in the addictions field, the student may qualify to take the state certification exam to become a "Certified Alcohol and Drug Counselor."

The Social Work Associate Option trains the student to work as an assistant social worker or assistant case manager. Graduates of this option work at mental health centers, domestic violence shelters, nursing homes, assisted living facilities, developmental centers, state institutions, hospitals, service providers of the Alabama Department of Human Resources, addiction recovery programs, various state and federal government programs, Community Action programs, non-profit assistance programs, child advocacy centers, adolescent programs, adolescent and adult detention centers, and literacy programs. Students are trained to work with individuals at all stages of the human lifespan.

**General Required Courses to be Completed at Northwest-Shoals Community College.**

**Entering students are required to complete ORI 101. Transfer students are exempt from this requirement.**

	<b>Semester Hours</b>
BIO 103 Principles of Biology I .....	4
CIS 146 Microcomputer Applications .....	3
ENG 101-102 English Composition I and II .....	6
MTH 116 Mathematical Applications .....	3
PSY 200 General Psychology .....	3
PSY 210 Human Growth and Development .....	3
Humanities/Fine Art Elective .....	3
<b>Total Semester Hours .....</b>	<b>25</b>

Students must complete specialized courses at Wallace State to receive this degree. Wallace State enrolls students in this program every term. See your advisor.

## **Medical Assistant** **510899 MA**

### **Career Degree - Wallace Linkage**

Available: Phil Campbell and Shoals Campuses  
 Advisors: J. Frederick (6294/5494) [jfrederick@nwscce.edu](mailto:jfrederick@nwscce.edu)  
 A. Lyndon (5319/6235) [lyndon@nwscce.edu](mailto:lyndon@nwscce.edu)  
 W. Rhodes (5458) [wrhodes@nwscce.edu](mailto:wrhodes@nwscce.edu)  
 K. Ricketts (5331) [kricketts@nwscce.edu](mailto:kricketts@nwscce.edu)  
 B. Smith (5379) [bsmith@nwscce.edu](mailto:bsmith@nwscce.edu)  
 S. Watson (6253) [sberrian@nwscce.edu](mailto:sberrian@nwscce.edu)

Projected as the fastest growing healthcare profession through the year 2014 by the U.S. Department of Labor and Statistics, the Medical Assistant Program offers a variety of options of study. The Medical Assistant curriculum prepares students to function as allied-health professionals who perform medical assisting procedures, laboratory procedures, and basic radiographic techniques, usually in a physician's office or outpatient clinic. Administrative duties include scheduling and receiving patients, preparing and maintaining medical records, performing secretarial skills and medical transcription, handling telephone calls and writing correspondence, serving as a liaison between the physician and other individuals, and managing practice finances. Clinical duties include preparing the patient for examination, taking patient histories and vital signs, performing first-aid and CPR, assisting the physician with examinations and treatments, performing routine laboratory procedures and diagnostic tests, preparing and administering medications as directed by the physician, and performing electrocardiograms and basic radiography.

The Medical Assistant Program offers four alternatives for a student's completion of classes: (Note: Actual program completion time may vary).

1. Four Semester, Non-integrated program: A student who has completed all general education courses may complete the MAT program courses in 4 semesters by taking 3 semesters of full-time study. The last semester the student will perform the clinical rotation.
2. Two-year integrated program: A student may schedule general education classes while taking the medical assistant courses. This alternative requires a minimum of 5 or 6 semesters to complete.
3. Online-Hybrid program: A student may schedule MAT online program in accordance with either the one-year or two-year completion option. MAT lab hours must be completed on campus. The clinical practicum/preceptorship must be completed on dayshift at an approved health care outpatient physician's office or clinic, not online.
4. Part-time program: The student may choose to complete the program by attending part time. Progression will depend upon the number of classes taken each semester.

Students should indicate on the program application, the option that they would like to choose to complete their degree.

Graduates will be able to sit for the national certification examination for the Medical Assistant administered by the American Association of Medical Assistants Certification Board. See program webpage for accreditation information.

**General Required Courses to be Completed at Northwest-Shoals Community College.**

**Entering students are required to complete ORI 101. Transfer students are exempt from this requirement.**

#### **Semester Hours**

BIO 103 Principles of Biology I .....	4
ENG 101 English Composition .....	3
MTH 116 Mathematical Applications .....	3
PSY 200 General Psychology .....	3
SPH 107 Fundamentals of Public Speaking .....	3
Computer Science Elective .....	3
Humanities or Fine Arts Elective .....	3
<b>Total Semester Hours .....</b>	<b>22</b>

Students must complete specialized courses at Wallace State to receive this degree. Wallace State enrolls students in this program competitively and only in certain terms. See your advisor.

**Occupational Therapy Assistant 510899 OTA  
Career Degree - Wallace Linkage**

Available: Phil Campbell and Shoals Campuses  
 Advisors: J. Frederick (6294/5494) [jfrederick@nwscce.edu](mailto:jfrederick@nwscce.edu)  
 A. Lyndon (5319/6235) [lyndon@nwscce.edu](mailto:lyndon@nwscce.edu)  
 W. Rhodes (5458) [wrhodes@nwscce.edu](mailto:wrhodes@nwscce.edu)  
 K. Ricketts (5331) [kricketts@nwscce.edu](mailto:kricketts@nwscce.edu)  
 B. Smith (5379) [bsmith@nwscce.edu](mailto:bsmith@nwscce.edu)  
 S. Watson (6253) [sberrian@nwscce.edu](mailto:sberrian@nwscce.edu)

Under the direction of an Occupational Therapist, the Occupational Therapy Assistant (OTA) assists in evaluating patients and in developing a plan of selected tasks to restore, influence or enhance performance of individuals whose abilities to cope with daily living tasks are impaired or threatened by developmental deficits, the aging process, physical injury or illness, learning disabilities, or psychological and social disabilities. Occupational Therapy Assistants are employed in general hospitals, rehabilitation centers, nursing homes, home health care agencies, private practices, and other specialized health care settings.

The Occupational Therapy Assistant Program is a two-year course of full-time study.

The certifying agency is the National Board for Certification in Occupational Therapy, Inc. (NBCOT). After successful completion of the NBCOT exam, the individual will be a Certified Occupational Therapy Assistant (COTA). Conviction of a felony may affect a graduate's ability to sit for the NBCOT certification examination or to attain state licensure. Most states require licensure in order to practice; however, state licenses are usually based on the results of the NBCOT Certification Examination. See program webpage for accreditation information.

**General Required Courses to be Completed at Northwest-Shoals Community College.**

**Entering students are required to complete ORI 101. Transfer students are exempt from this requirement.**

	<b>Semester Hours</b>
*BIO 201 Human Anatomy and Physiology I .....	4
ENG 101 English Composition I .....	3
Humanities/Fine Art Elective .....	3
MTH 116 Mathematical Applications .....	3
OAD 211 Medical Terminology .....	3
OAD 101 Beginning Keyboarding .....	3
PSY 200 General Psychology .....	3
SPH 107 Fundamentals of Public Speaking .....	3
<b>Total Semester Hours .....</b>	<b>25</b>

**\*Biology 103 highly recommended**

Students must complete specialized courses at Wallace State to receive this degree. Wallace State enrolls students in this program competitively and only in certain terms. See your advisor.

**Physical Therapist Assistant 510899 PTA  
Career Degree - Wallace Linkage**

Available: Phil Campbell and Shoals Campuses  
 Advisors: J. Frederick (6294/5494) [jfrederick@nwscce.edu](mailto:jfrederick@nwscce.edu)  
 A. Lyndon (5319/6235) [lyndon@nwscce.edu](mailto:lyndon@nwscce.edu)  
 W. Rhodes (5458) [wrhodes@nwscce.edu](mailto:wrhodes@nwscce.edu)  
 K. Ricketts (5331) [kricketts@nwscce.edu](mailto:kricketts@nwscce.edu)  
 B. Smith (5379) [bsmith@nwscce.edu](mailto:bsmith@nwscce.edu)  
 S. Watson (6253) [sberrian@nwscce.edu](mailto:sberrian@nwscce.edu)

The Physical Therapist Assistant (PTA) is a skilled technical health worker who, under the supervision of a Registered Physical Therapist, assists in patients' treatment programs. The assistant, following established procedures, carries out a planned patient-care program. Duties of the Physical Therapist Assistant are varied but include rehabilitation of orthopedic, neurological, pediatric, and sports-related problems. Physical Therapist Assistants are employed in general hospitals, rehabilitation centers, nursing homes, home health-care agencies, private practices, and other specialized health-care settings.

The Physical Therapist Assistant Program is a two-year course of study. The student should complete the first year of general education course prerequisites before being eligible to apply to the Physical Therapist Assistant Program. Three semesters are necessary to complete the final year of the program, which begins in the fall semester. The second year classes include technical and clinical experience in a variety of health-care settings where the student performs selected clinical procedures under the supervision of a Physical Therapist or Physical Therapist Assistant.

See program webpage for accreditation information. Graduates will be eligible to apply to sit for the National Licensing Examination for the Physical Therapist Assistant, administered by the Federation of State Boards of Physical Therapy. After successful completion of this exam, the individual will be a Licensed Physical Therapist Assistant.

**Acceptance to Wallace State College does not guarantee admission to the Physical Therapist Program.**

**General Required Courses to be Completed at Northwest-Shoals Community College.**

**Entering students are required to complete ORI 101. Transfer students are exempt from this requirement.**

	<b>Semester Hours</b>
*BIO 201-202 Human Anatomy and Physiology I and II .....	8
ENG 101 English Composition I .....	3
**Humanities/Fine Art Elective .....	3
MTH 100 Intermediate College Algebra .....	3
OAD 211 Medical Terminology .....	3
PSY 200 General Psychology .....	3
PSY 210 Human Growth and Development .....	3
SPH 107 Fundamentals of Public Speaking .....	3
<b>Total Semester Hours .....</b>	<b>29</b>

**\*Biology 103 highly recommended**

**\*\*Ethics in the Health Science or Spanish is recommended.**

Students must complete specialized courses at Wallace State to receive this degree. Wallace State enrolls students in this program competitively and only in certain terms. See your advisor.

## **Respiratory Therapy** **510899 RT** **Career Degree** - Wallace Linkage

Available: Phil Campbell and Shoals Campuses  
 Advisors: J. Frederick (6294/5494) [jfrederick@nwscce.edu](mailto:jfrederick@nwscce.edu)  
 A. Lyndon (5319/6235) [lyndon@nwscce.edu](mailto:lyndon@nwscce.edu)  
 W. Rhodes (5458) [wrhodes@nwscce.edu](mailto:wrhodes@nwscce.edu)  
 K. Ricketts (5331) [kricketts@nwscce.edu](mailto:kricketts@nwscce.edu)  
 B. Smith (5379) [bsmith@nwscce.edu](mailto:bsmith@nwscce.edu)  
 S. Watson (6253) [sberrian@nwscce.edu](mailto:sberrian@nwscce.edu)

This program is designed to provide training necessary for successful completion of the requirements for the advanced practitioner level as defined by the National Board for Respiratory Care (NBRC). A respiratory therapist is responsible for administering under a physician's prescription many types of breathing therapeutics and utilizing specialized breathing, aerosol, and humidification equipment. The respiratory therapist works closely with the physician and also directly with the patient in the treatment situation.

The Respiratory Therapy program is accredited by the Commission of Accreditation of Allied Health Education Programs in association with the Committee on Accreditation for Respiratory Care (CoARC). Upon graduation, the student is eligible to take the registry examination of the National Board of Respiratory Care.

**General Required Courses to be Completed at Northwest-Shoals Community College.**

**Entering students are required to complete ORI 101. Transfer students are exempt from this requirement.**

### **Semester Hours**

*BIO 201-202 Human Anatomy and Physiology I and II ....	8
ENG 101-102 English Composition I and II .....	6
MTH 100 Intermediate College Algebra .....	3
PSY 200 General Psychology .....	3
Humanities/Fine Art Elective .....	3
<b>Total Semester Hours .....</b>	<b>23</b>

### **\*Biology 103 highly recommended**

BIO 201, ENG 101, and MTH 100 must be completed by the June 15 application deadline. The other courses may be completed at Wallace.

Students must complete specialized courses at Wallace State to receive this degree. Wallace State enrolls students in this program competitively beginning in fall semester. See your advisor.