

DEFINITIVE COURSE RECORD

Course Title	Postgraduate Certificate in Computed Tomography Colonography
Awarding Bodies	University of Suffolk
Level of Award ¹	FHEQ Level 7
Professional, Statutory and Regulatory Bodies Recognition	College of Radiographers
Credit Structure ²	60 Credits at level 7
Mode of Attendance	Part-time
Standard Length of Course ³	1 year part-time
Intended Award	Postgraduate Certificate in Computed Tomography Colonography
Named Exit Awards	None
Entry Requirements ⁴	The programme is open to the following clinical staff groups, practicing within the UK, who either currently perform CT Colonography Examinations or who wish to train to perform CT Colonography: • Health and Care Professions Council (HCPC) registered Diagnostic Radiographers • Consultant Radiologists • Radiology Registrars All candidates will need the support of their employer to register for the programme. Both the trainees and employers will be required to sign a clinical learning agreement outlining the time and support required to undertake the programme.
Delivering Institution	University of Suffolk

This definitive record sets out the essential features and characteristics of the Postgraduate Certificate in Computed Tomography Colonography course. The information provided is accurate for trainees entering level 7 in the 2027/28 academic year⁵.

¹ For an explanation of the levels of higher education study, see the [QAA Frameworks for Higher Education Qualifications of UK Degree-Awarding Bodies \(2024\)](#)

² All academic credit awarded as a result of study at the University adheres to the [Higher education credit framework for England](#).

³ Where the course is delivered both full-time and part-time, the standard length of course is provided for the full-time mode of attendance only. The length of the part-time course is variable and dependent upon the intensity of study. Further information about mode of study and maximum registration periods can be found in the [Framework and Regulations for Taught Postgraduate Awards](#).

⁴ Details of standard entry requirements can be found in the [Admissions Policy](#) and further details about Disclosure and Barring Checks (DBS) can be found on the [University's DBS webpage](#).

⁵ The University reserves the right to make changes to course content, structure, teaching and assessment as outlined in the [Admissions Policy](#).

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Course Summary

The PgC CTC is offered within the School of Allied Health Sciences and is co-delivered with the National CT Colonography Academy (NCTCA).

The NCTCA was established in 2020 to encourage dedicated CTC training for Radiographers, drive improvement in CTC practice and ensure CTC examinations are safe and effective. It aims to introduce a best practice benchmark assessment for CTC practice, in line with current UK CTC best practice guidelines. The aim of the programme is to increase the overall quality of CTC examinations within England and therefore narrow the performance gaps that exist between centres. It utilises online training, in house mentorship and external examination to assess and drive improvements in CTC practice. The University of Suffolk will be co-delivering this programme to ensure academic rigour and quality.

Course Aims

This course aims to support trainees to develop the:

1. Knowledge, competence and understanding to achieve the level of expertise associated with the role of enhanced practitioner in CTC
2. Intellectual and practical skills for research and enquiry, to develop an analytical, evaluative and reflexive approach to professional practice.
3. Interpersonal and communication skills, in order to effectively participate in multidisciplinary teams to provide optimal person-centred care and service to a range of services users.

Course Learning Outcomes

The following statements define what trainees graduating from the Post Graduate Certificate in Computed Tomography Colonography course will have been judged to have demonstrated in order to achieve the award. These statements, known as learning outcomes, have been formally approved as aligned with the generic qualification descriptor for level 7 awards as set out by the UK Quality Assurance Agency (QAA)⁶.

1. Demonstrate a comprehensive knowledge and understanding of the anatomy, physiology and pathological processes of the large bowel.
2. Demonstrate efficient, safe practice and procedural independence during CTC examinations.
3. Formulate written reports which meet the required legal, ethical and professional standards.
4. Critically appraise policies and procedures in relation to CTC.
5. Critically evaluate your own performance to ensure that best practice is achieved.
6. Actively contribute to the multidisciplinary team.

⁶ As set out in the [QAA Frameworks for Higher Education Qualifications of UK Degree-Awarding Bodies \(2024\)](#)
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Course Design

The design of this course has been guided by the following QAA Benchmarks / Professional Standards / College of Radiographers Competency Frameworks:

- NHSE Bowel Cancer Screen Programme Guidelines; Standards of practice for computed tomography colonography (CTC) - Joint guidance from the British Society of Gastrointestinal and Abdominal Radiology and The Royal College of Radiologists

Course Structure

The Postgraduate Certificate in Computed Tomography Colonography comprises two modules at level 7.

Module Specifications for each of these modules is included within the course handbook, available to trainees online at the beginning of each academic year.

	Module	Credits	Module Type ⁷
Level 7			
	Module A: CTC Technique	30	M
	Module B: CTC Interpretation	30	M

Awards

On successful completion of the course, trainees will be awarded a Postgraduate Certificate in Computed Tomography Colonography.

Course Delivery

The course is delivered online. Trainees studying part-time on Postgraduate Certificate in Computed Tomography Colonography are likely to have approximately 300 study hours per module. The contact hours will be a mix of online learning, online synchronous teaching and practical sessions at a Centre of Excellence. Trainees will normally be expected to undertake 260 hours of work-based learning and 110 hours of independent study, but should be prepared for this to vary during assessment periods.

A range of techniques based on blended-learning are employed, for example interactive virtual learning environments, work-based practice learning and assessment, reflection and professional discussions. Trainees are actively encouraged throughout the programme to connect theory with practice, which is crucial in any vocational programme.

Course Assessment

A variety of assessments will be used on the course to enable trainees to experience and adapt to different assessment styles. The assessment methods used will be appropriate to assess each module's intended learning outcomes. Assessment on the course overall will include but not limited to e-portfolios, viva voce, online examinations and practical assessment.

Special Features

On successful completion of the Postgraduate Certificate in Computed Tomography Colonography trainees are eligible for Enhanced Practitioner status as stated within the College of Radiographers Education and Career Framework (2022). This course is co-delivered with the National CT Colonography Academy (NCTCA).

⁷ Modules are designated as either mandatory (M), requisite (R) or optional (O). For definitions, see the [Framework and Regulations for Taught Postgraduate Awards](#)

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Course Team

The academic staff delivering this course are drawn from a team that includes teaching specialists and current practitioners. All staff are qualified in their subjects with their own specialist knowledge to contribute and are registered with the appropriate professional body.

Course Costs

Trainees undertaking the Postgraduate Certificate in Computed Tomography Colonography will have their tuition fees paid by NHSE.

Academic Framework and Regulations

This course is delivered according to the Framework and Regulations for Taught Postgraduate Awards and other academic policies and procedures of the University and published on the [website](#).