**University of Suffolk**

# DEFINITIVE COURSE RECORD

| | |
|---|---|
| Course Title | **Postgraduate Certificate in Computed Tomography** |
| Awarding Bodies | **University of Suffolk** |
| Level of Award[1] | **FHEQ Level 7** |
| Professional, Statutory and Regulatory Bodies Recognition | **Health and Care Professions Council (HCPC)**<br><br>**College of Radiographers (CoR) (approval pending)** |
| 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** |
| Named Exit Awards | **None** |
| Entry Requirements[4] | **BSc (Hons) Diagnostic Radiography/ BSc (Hons) Therapeutic Radiography or equivalent and Registration with the Health & Care Professions Council (HCPC)**<br><br>All applications will be reviewed for their suitability by the course lead.<br>This course is not open to visa sponsored students (those students sponsored by the University under the student route) |
| Delivering Institution | **University of Suffolk** |

This definitive record sets out the essential features and characteristics of the Postgraduate Certificate in Computed Tomography course. The information provided is accurate for students entering level 7 in the 2026-2027 academic year[5].

## Course Summary

The Postgraduate Certificate in Computed Tomography (CT) is designed to develop enhanced, practice-focussed expertise for radiographers working in one of the most demanding and technologically complex areas of modern imaging. As CT continues to expand in scope, capability and clinical demand, practitioners are not only required to demonstrate deep technological competence, but also to navigate the wider organisational, ethical and interpersonal dimensions of contemporary service delivery. This course provides a cohesive, postgraduate curriculum framework that brings these strands together, equipping students to become confident, critically informed and forward-thinking contributors to their departments and the wider health and care community.

[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.

This course recognises that CT practice has undergone significant transformation since its inception. The increasing use of complex multiphase protocols, advanced reconstruction algorithms and dose reduction strategies require radiographers to possess a solid theoretical foundation. The first module, Fundamentals of Computed Tomography, ensures that students gain an in depth understanding necessary to make informed, safe and context-sensitive decisions in the clinical environment. By linking scientific concepts with clinical applications, the module builds the capability to critically evaluate scanning parameters, recognise and troubleshoot artefacts and optimise protocols in response to specific service user needs and clinical questions.

While technical mastery remains essential, high-quality CT services depend equally on effective organisation, compassionate practice, and the ability to adapt to changing clinical and operational pressures. The second module, Service Delivery, addresses these broader dimensions. It explores the complex interplay between person-centred care, workforce capacity, service design and clinical priorities. Radiographers must not only manage service pressures but also support service user experience and participate in quality improvement and workflow decisions. This module therefore encourages learners to critically examine service delivery models, evaluate resource allocation and reflect on how organisational choices impact service user wellbeing.

This programme's design acknowledges the need for imaging and therapy services to remain adaptable and resilient. Healthcare settings are increasingly characterised by rising service user volumes, resource constraints and the integration of digital technologies in a setting of multidisciplinary care. The course aims to develop reflective, autonomous and critically engaged practitioners. It cultivates reflective thinking, clinical reasoning and evidence appraisal as students are encouraged to examine their own practice, analyse processes and engage with literature. Through authentic assessment and scenario-based learning, the course is directly applicable to real-world settings, meaning graduates can confidently contribute to service enhancement of quality services.

### Course Aims

- Develop enhanced knowledge and critical understanding of the theoretical, physical and technological foundations that underpin contemporary Computed Tomography practice
- Enable critical and reflective evaluation of the structures, process and policies that shape safe, effective, person-centred CT service delivery
- Cultivate autonomous, reflexive practitioners, able to synthesise evidence, optimise resources and lead change across cross-sectional imaging services

### Course Learning Outcomes

The following statements define what students graduating from the Postgraduate Certificate in Computed Tomography 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. Critically analyse and apply the physical principles, acquisition methodologies and reconstruction techniques that underpin CT imaging
2. Critically evaluate factors affecting image quality, articulate technological risk, and optimise protocols in response to contextual clinical need
3. Critically examine and apply legislative, governance and safety frameworks relevant to CT practice and service delivery

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

4. Critically evaluate, debate and evidence-inform strategies to improve person-centred care, service management and operational performance within CT
5. Synthesise evidence to propose, justify and lead adaptive service developments and change within cross sectional imaging services

## Course Design

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

- CoR Education and Career Framework for the Radiography Workforce (CoR, 2022)
- CoR Research Strategy 2021-26 (CoR, 2020)
- AHP Enhanced Level Practice Schemas (NHS England, 2024)

## Course Structure

The Postgraduate Certificate in Computed Tomography comprises modules at level 7. Module Specifications for each of these modules is included within the course handbook, available to students on-line at the beginning of each academic year.

| | Module | Credits | Module Type[7] |
|---|---|---|---|
| Level 7 | | | |
| | Fundamentals of Computed Tomography | 30 | M |
| | Service Delivery | 30 | M |

## Awards

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

## Course Delivery

Students studying on the Postgraduate Certificate in Computed Tomography are likely to have approximately 600 study hours in total for the duration of the 60-credit course. The contact hours will be a mix of synchronous and asynchronous activities. These will primarily be delivered virtually, synchronously consisting of traditional lectures, tutorials and workshops and activities hosted in the online learning environment, including quizzes, guided reading and engagement with multi-media tasks (asynchronous). There is no expectation for students to attend campus for teaching sessions, other than the one day induction at the beginning of the course. However, students will have full access to resources and learning spaces such as the library, should they wish to utilise them. Students will normally be expected to undertake independent study and should be prepared for this to vary based on assignment deadlines and class exercises.

## Course Assessment

A variety of assessments will be used on the course to enable students 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 be approximately 2/3 coursework (including an academic poster and a narrated presentation or written case study) and 1/3 examinations. There is a requirement for students to attend campus for a summative assessment.

## Special Features

On successful completion of the Postgraduate Certificate in Computed Tomography, students will demonstrate the skills and knowledge contributing to all four pillars of practice at an

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

Enhanced Practitioner level, as outlined in the College of Radiographers (CoR) Education and Career Framework (ECF) (CoR, 2022).

**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 as diagnostic radiographers with the HCPC.

**Course Costs**
Students undertaking Postgraduate Certificate in Computed Tomography will be charged tuition fees as detailed below.

| Student Group | Tuition Fees |
|---|---|
| Part-time UK | £1,665 per 30 credit module |
| Part-time International/EU | £2,670 per 30 credit module |

Payment of tuition fees is due at the time of enrolment and is managed in accordance with the Tuition Fee Policy.

**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.