

DEFINITIVE COURSE RECORD

Course Title	Dental Radiography [short course]
Awarding Bodies	University of Suffolk
Level of Award ¹	FHEQ Level 4
Professional, Statutory and Regulatory Bodies Recognition	Society and College of Radiographers (SCoR)
Credit Structure ²	20 Credits
Mode of Attendance	Part-time
Standard Length of Course ³	13 weeks part-time
Intended Award	Dental Radiography [short course]
Named Exit Awards	None
Entry Requirements ⁴	<p>Typical offer: Students must have a professional qualification as a:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dental Nurse • Dental Hygienist • Dental Technician • General Dental Practitioner • Diagnostic Radiographer • Assistant Practitioner • Diagnostic Radiographer <p>All students must be employed and have access to patients requiring dental radiographs as part of their employment</p>
Delivering Institution(s)	University of Suffolk
UCAS Code	N/A

This definitive record sets out the essential features and characteristics of the Dental Radiography [short course]. The information provided is accurate for students entering level 4 in the 2019-20 academic year.⁵

Course Summary

This programme will enable students to develop the appropriate knowledge required to physically direct dental X-ray exposures. All students must have a professional qualification as either a Dental Nurse, Dental Hygienist, Dental Technician, General Dental Practitioner, Diagnostic Radiographer or Assistant Practitioner in Diagnostic Radiography.

¹ For an explanation of the levels of higher education study, see the [QAA Frameworks for Higher Education Qualifications of UK Degree-Awarding Bodies \(2014\)](#)

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 Undergraduate Awards](#).

⁴ Details of standard entry requirements can be found in the [Admissions Policy](#)

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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Students will be enabled to act as operators, safely performing procedures related to dental X-ray imaging under the Ionising Radiation (Medical Exposure) Regulations 2000.

Course Aims

1. To provide a module in dental radiography which will enable the successful participant to use ionising radiation safely and produce diagnostic dental radiographic images
2. To provide adequate training as required by the Ionising Radiation (Medical Exposure) Regulations (IR(ME)R 2000) for operators

Course Learning Outcomes

The following statements define what students graduating from the Dental Radiography [short 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 4 awards as set out by the UK Quality Assurance Agency (QAA).⁶

On successful completion of the module the student will be able to:

1. Carry out common dental radiographic techniques safely under supervision or direction within defined guidelines
2. Identify dental anatomy on radiographic images
3. Describe the positioning of the patient using precise terminology
4. Use ionising radiation safely and work as an operator under IR(ME)R 2000 demonstrating dose and image optimisation
5. Identify the major component parts of X-ray equipment used for dental radiography
6. Demonstrate an awareness of patient care issues and the needs of the individual while acknowledging the ethical issues that may arise from these
7. Demonstrate an ability to reflect on practice
8. Evaluate the quality of the resultant radiographic image

Course Design

The design of this course has been guided by the following Professional Standards

- Provision of adequate training as an operator under the Ionising Radiation (Medical Exposure) Regulations (IR(ME)R 2000)
- Skills for Health National Occupational Standards
- Oral Health: Contribute to the production of dental images – OH 4, NHS KSF HWB6
- Allied Health Professions Support: Prepare and produce permanent images – AHP 10, NHS KSF HWB6

⁶ As set out in the [QAA Frameworks for Higher Education Qualifications of UK Degree-Awarding Bodies \(2014\)](#)

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- Allied Health Professions Support: Assure the effective functioning of image processing equipment – AHP 11, NHS KSF EF1

Course Structure

The Dental Radiography [short course] comprises of a module at level 4

Module Specifications for this module is included within the course handbook, available to students on-line at the beginning of each academic year.

	Module	Credits	Module Type ⁷
Level 4			
	Dental Radiography	20	M

Awards

On successful completion of the course, students will be awarded a level 4 certificate in Dental Radiography [short course].

Course Delivery

The course is delivered at Ipswich. Students studying on Dental Radiography [short course] are likely to have approximately 36 contact hours for level 4 and 2 hours tutorial time. The contact hours will be a mix of lectures, seminars/discussion and practical activity. Students will also be required to participate in 114 hours of work placement at their places of employment. Students will be expected to find their own placement. Students must be employed and have access to patients requiring dental radiographs as part of their employment. Students will normally be expected to undertake 24 hours of independent study and 24 hours VLE, but 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 the module's intended learning outcomes. Assessment on the course overall will be approximately 50% coursework (student portfolio) and 50% examination.

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.

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

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Course Costs

Students undertaking Dental Radiography [short course] will be charged tuition fees as detailed below:

	Tuition Fees
20 credit module	£870

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 Undergraduate Awards and other academic policies and procedures of the University and published on the [website](#).