

DEFINITIVE COURSE RECORD

Course Title	PgC Advanced Practice and Reporting 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 (CoR)
Credit Structure ²	60 credits at level 7
Mode of Attendance	Part-time
Standard Length of Course ³	1 year part-time
Intended Award	PgC Advanced Practice and Reporting in Computed Tomography Colonography
Named Exit Awards	None
Entry Requirements ⁴	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Holder of a BSc (Hons) Degree in Diagnostic Radiography/ Diploma of the College of Radiographers (Diagnostic Radiography) or be able to evidence the ability to study at level 7 • Current registration with the Health and Care Professions Council (HCPC) • Currently working in the field of diagnostic radiography for a minimum of one year <p>A reference is required from the employing clinical department</p>
Delivering Institution	University of Suffolk

This definitive record sets out the essential features and characteristics of the PgC Advanced Practice and Reporting in Computed Tomography Colonography course. The information provided is accurate for students entering level 7 in the 2023-24 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 \(2014\)](#)

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 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

This provision is designed to support the advancing practice of radiographers in the field of CTC. CTC has replaced barium enemas as the gold standard for imaging of the large bowel. Following the results of the SIGGAR trials (Atkin et al., 2013; Taylor et al., 2005) CTC has been deemed to be equivalent in diagnostic capability to optical colonoscopy. Conducting and reporting barium enemas has become an established area of advanced practice for radiographers, who provide a safe, cost-effective and responsive service for patients. The introduction of CTC has, until relatively recently, been managed by radiologists but the unique skills set offered by radiographers places them in an ideal position to conduct and report on CTC in order to meet the rapidly growing demand for such investigations.

This course consists of mandatory modules only. These are modules that you must take and pass in order to meet the requirements for your award. The course is structured as follows:

Postgraduate Certificate Advanced Practice and Reporting in Computed Tomography Colonography (CTC)		
Term 1	Term 2	Term 3
Computed Tomography Colonography Practice	Computed Tomography Colonography Reporting	Computed Tomography Colonography Service Development
20 credits	20 credits	20 credits
Mandatory Module	Mandatory Module	Mandatory Module

Course Aims

This course will provide students with:

- Knowledge, competence and understanding to achieve the level of expertise associated with the role of advanced practitioner in CTC.
- Intellectual and practical skills for research and enquiry, to develop an analytical, evaluative and reflexive approach to professional practice enabling effective career planning.
- Interpersonal and communication skills, in order to effectively lead intraprofessional and interprofessional teams to provide optimum patient care and service to a range of service users.
- Knowledge, skills and understanding to lead, teach, develop and motivate others in their area of expertise.
- Underpinning principles to develop a set of core values and beliefs which embrace, reflect and promote the NHS constitution.

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Course Learning Outcomes

The following statements define what students graduating from the PgC Advanced Practice and Reporting 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.

On completion of the Postgraduate Certificate programme, the student will be able to:

1. Demonstrate a comprehensive knowledge and understanding of the anatomy, physiology and pathological processes of the large bowel.
2. Translate and embed the theoretical knowledge and practical skills in their role as an advanced practitioner in CTC and demonstrate practice and procedural independence.
3. To assimilate relevant contemporary research to ensure the provision of evidence-based practice at all times.
4. Demonstrate an approved standard of image interpretation to evidence independent practice and produce a written radiological report.
5. Critically appraise clinical governance, policies and procedures in relation to CTC.
6. Demonstrate a systematic understanding and critical awareness of cancer pathways, together with an in-depth consideration of the complexities affecting patient-centred care and CTC service provision.
7. Identify the scope and limitations of their role, including a critical evaluation of the ethical issues and challenges faced by advanced practitioners.
8. Actively contribute to the multi-disciplinary team, taking a lead role when appropriate and critically evaluating their performance within the team.
9. Show initiative, autonomy, leadership and responsibility in promoting and applying scholarship in their role as an advanced practitioner.

Course Design

The design of this course has been guided by the following:

- Quality Assurance Agency. The UK Quality Code for Higher Education. Available at <http://www.qaa.ac.uk/assuring-standards-and-quality/the-quality-code>. (2015).
- The British Society of Gastrointestinal and Abdominal Radiology (BSGAR) and the RCR guidance on the use of CTC in suspected colorectal cancer (2014).
- Guidance from the European Society of Gastro-intestinal Radiologists (ESGAR) (2013)

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

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- NHSBSCP. NHS Bowel Cancer Screening Programme. Guidelines for the use of imaging in the bowel cancer screening programme: second edition. NHSBSCP5 (2012).
- National Institute of Clinical Excellence (NICE). Computed Tomography Colonoscopy (Virtual Colonoscopy) Interventional Procedure Guidance (IPG129). Available at: <https://www.nice.org.uk/guidance/ipg129> (2005).

The successful delivery of the PGC Advanced Practice and Reporting in Computed Tomography Colonography (CTC) relies on an effective partnership between the University of Suffolk and Peterborough City Hospital which is part of the North West Anglia NHS Foundation Trust. The support of students during their clinical experience is crucial to effective learning and it is recognised that partnership working results in increased ownership of and accountability for the quality of student learning experience across the partnership (QAA, 2015).

Course Structure

The PgC Advanced Practice and Reporting in Computed Tomography Colonography 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			
	Computed Tomography Colonography Practice	20	Mandatory
	Computed Tomography Colonography Reporting	20	Mandatory
	Computed Tomography Colonography Service Development	20	Mandatory

Awards

On successful completion of the course, students will be awarded a PgC Advanced Practice and Reporting in Computed Tomography Colonography.

Course Delivery

The course is delivered at Peterborough City Hospital for the first module, online for the second and then at the University of Suffolk, Ipswich campus for the third module. Students studying part-time on PgC Advanced Practice and Reporting in Computed Tomography Colonography are likely to have approximately 30 tutor structured learning hours per module. Tutor structured learning will be a mix of lecture, group work, informal tutorials, practical activity, virtual learning and students will also be required to participate in 3 days of work

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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placement at Peterborough City Hospital. Placements will be arranged by the University in discussion with the students. However, the students will be expected to find undertake additional practical experience at their own Trust hospital. Students will normally be expected to undertake between 160-170 hours of independent study per module, but should be prepared for this to vary based on assignment deadlines. Students will be expected to provide confirmation and agreement from an experienced GI practitioner or radiologist who is willing to act as a mentor for the practice and reporting elements of the course.

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 include one piece of coursework (e.g. critical reflection, case study), a Practice Assessment Document for the first two modules, a viva voce examination in module two and an online audit tool in module three.

Special Features

This course has been approved by the College of Radiographers and is delivered in partnership with Peterborough City Hospital, which is part of the North West Anglia NHS Foundation Trust.

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 HCPC.

Course Costs

Students undertaking PgC Advanced Practice and Reporting in Computed Tomography Colonography will be charged tuition fees as detailed below.

Student Group	Tuition Fees
Full-time UK	Not applicable
Part-time UK	£972 per 20 credit module
Full-time EU/International	Not applicable
Part-time EU/International	£1,555 per 20 credit module*

*International students on health courses may also incur a placement fee. For information please contact the Admissions Department on 01473 338348 or via email admissions@uos.ac.uk.

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](#).